



CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM (CCF)

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



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## Who We Are

Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited (CCF) is a non-governmental organisation based in Suva with more than 20 years experience in community education and advocacy on Fiji's Constitution, democracy, human rights and multiculturalism.

CCF also works with other local and international non-government organisations to share experiences and lessons learned on peace building, participatory democracy, human rights and social justice.

Two independent reviews in 2006 found that CCF is known for its dedication and effectiveness and confirmed the organisations standing as a leader in civil society in Fiji.

CCF is not aligned with any political party.

## History of CCF

The seeds of CCF were sown in the aftermath of Fiji's first military coup d'etat in May 1987, which exposed deep divisions in Fiji Society.

A group of concerned citizens established the "Back to Early May Movement" and called for re-instatement of the pre-coup Government. Several members of the same group were instrumental in organizing an informal forum for discussion of constitutional issues.

Participants in this forum came from academia, the public service, faith-based organisations, trade unions and professional associations, as well as other civil society groups.

Over a series of meetings in 1991, they agreed to adopt the name "Citizens' Constitutional Forum".

## Vision

To build a nation in which Fiji's people live together in equality, justice and peace, respecting the rule of law, under a Constitution that guarantees democracy and human rights.

## Purpose

To empower the people of Fiji to participate in and demand good governance, democracy, human rights and multiculturalism.

**Information** **Consensus Oriented** **Active Citizenship**  
**Education** **Fair** **Non Discriminatory**  
**Tolerance** **Transparent**  
**Diversity** **Justice**  
**Empowerment** **Free**  
**Freedom** **Togetherness**  
**Accountable** **Participatory**  
**Equitable & Inclusive** **Community**  
**Multiculturalism** **Rule of Law**  
**Democracy** **Community** **Equality**  
**Human Rights** **Religion**



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# Chief Executive Officer's Report

# Board Chairperson Report



# Pillar One

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## Empowering Citizens Through Education on Good Governance, Human Rights and Citizenship

This pillar embraces the overall work of the Citizens' Constitutional Forum, which is to promote and demand good governance, active citizenship, democracy, rule of law and human rights in Fiji. In 2014 we worked in more than 20 rural communities, villages and town councils throughout Fiji equipping citizens with good governance principles, training them how to write funding proposals, taking

minutes at meetings and preparing acquittals. CCF's workshops/trainings also encourages good leadership at all levels and presents a human rights approach to development. CCF strongly believes that good leadership and good governance practices is curial to achieving development. Citizens are also made aware and empowered of their rights as enshrined in the Bill of Rights.

The biggest achievement for CCF under this pillar was taking the lead role in the compilation of the Fiji NGO Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Report, which was presented in Geneva, Switzerland in October. Undertaking the Open Budget Survey in August with the International Budget Partnership (IBP) also another landmark achievement for the organisation.

# Good Governance and Leadership Training for Rural Communities in Fiji

In the effort to develop leadership qualities of villagers, community leaders' women and young people, the Citizens' Constitutional Forum's Education Team conducted 15 Community Leaders Workshops throughout the country in 2014.

The workshops were attended by Mata ni Tikinas, Turaga ni Koros, men, women and youth.

Workshop participants went through intense sessions on the thirty-one articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the eight principles of Good Governance and Leadership. Sessions on the Constitution were also conducted, which focused on educating the people about their rights and responsibilities as enshrined in the Bill of Rights section of the 2013 Constitution.

The participants welcomed such workshops as it provided them with the skills to bring positive change in their communities, especially at decision-making levels.

The Assistant Roko Tui of Gau advised during the workshop that community leaders should use the 8 principles in their decision making, as this will bring about good decision.

"A good training, it had me realize that good leadership does have an effect on people's life. As a new leader, I have come to learn a lot to help me in my leadership role." said the Assistant Roko of Gau.

The workshop was conducted in these areas:

- i) Tikina Cicia Lau
- ii) Namosi Indo Fijian
- iii) Tikina Savusavu, Cakaudrove
- iv) Tikina Naweni, Cakaudrove



*A major aspect of our Community Education Workshops is to empower communities to initiate development and change in their own communities. Our workshops present a human rights approach to development.*

*We train and provide skills to leaders to conduct their own participation in needs analysis with their communities to identify development needs.*

- v) Tikina Seaqaqa, Macuata
- vi) Tikina Sawaieke, Gau Lomaiviti
- vii) Tikina Navukailagi & Vanuaso, Gau, Lomaiviti
- viii) Tikina Navatu, Cakaudrove
- ix) Tikina Savusavu, Cakaudrove
- x) Tikina Koroalau, Cakaudrove
- xi) Tikina Navitilevu, Ra
- xii) Tikina Moturiki, Lomaiviti
- xiii) Tikina Wai, Nadroga
- xiv) Tikina Malomalo, Nadroga
- xv) Tikina Nayavu, Tailevu

## Achievements

### Leadership and Good Governance

- Increased understanding of the good governance and leadership principles

- Understanding of the effects on the communities if leaders do not respect these principles

### Human Rights

- Misconceptions about Human Rights were clarified. Human Rights is seen as a foreign concept in the villagers, but many people agreed that many issues of human rights in their communities were due to the lack of understanding, the importance of being aware that rights come with responsibilities, the government protecting and promoting our rights.
- Increased awareness of human rights and these rights can be used to bring about development.



# Budget Advocacy Workshops for Rural Communities

To create awareness and empower the grassroots people and communities to actively participate in the national budget processes by making submissions to the 2015 national budget, the Education arm of the Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) conducted 3 National Budget Advocacy workshops in collaboration with the Budget Division of the Ministry of Finance, Integrated Human Resources Development Project (IHRDP), Ministry of Women and Ministry of Agriculture in 2014.

The workshops were conducted in Levuka, Cakaudrove and Naitasiri and included District representatives (Mata-ni-Tikina's), Chiefs (Turaga-ni Koro's), Women and youth leaders.

The inclusion of the government ministries enabled workshop participants to understand the framework and how they could engage in budget process.

Workshop facilitator, Sereima Lutubula, said it was evident from the workshops that more workshops on budget was needed on grassroots people due to the lack of knowledge on the budget processes at the community and grassroots level.

"There should be more workshops conducted to empower and inform grassroots people of their responsibilities towards the budget processes. It is important that people's voices are being heard in government's decision making process," said Lutubula.

For majority of the participants the workshop was something new, as they did not have representatives from either the government or the Civil Society Organisations (CSO) carry out a workshop on budget previously and this workshop provided them with the vital information on the budget process and how they could make their budget submissions for the national budgets.

After the workshop village heads decided that they would be making their submissions to government based on the top three development agendas on their village development plans.

## Achievements

- Increase understanding of the national budget process; different economic opportunities within various governments departments; employment to participate in taking up such opportunities.
- Realization of the importance of community participation timeline, and meeting deadlines; channels of making submissions to national budget.
- Increased confidence to participate in bringing development; a great exposure to have the knowledge of how the respective government ministries.



# Voter Education for Youth

Thirty-three young people from around the country engaged in an informative and interactive voter education session with the Fijian Elections Office representatives at the National Youth Forum convened by the Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) in July 2014.

CCF invited the Fijian Elections Office to conduct voter education with young people at the National Youth Forum 2014, which was funded by the European Union and Conciliation Resources in early July.

The young people welcomed the visit, stating that the session had immensely helped them to better understand the elections process and how they can vote.

Chief Executive Officer, Rev Akuila Yabaki said with a new system of voting; one person, one vote, one value working in partnership with the Elections Office is critically important in assisting young people to learn how to vote. The bulk of voters being young people under 30 years and voting for the first time, CCF regards this as a great achievement.

He further said the September 17 marks an important day; a milestone in Fiji's history when citizens are to vote for the return to constitutional democracy and CCF believe it's a day of

celebration when power is returned to the people of Fiji.

The Elections Office also facilitated a mock voting session with the youth participants to assist their understanding of how to cast their votes on 17th September.



# Educating Citizens of their Constitutional Rights



In the effort to create greater understanding of the 2013 Constitution and the electoral system in the lead-up to the 2014 national elections amongst young people, the Citizens' Constitutional Forum's Education Team facilitated 6 workshops in rural communities in 2014.

The workshops also included human rights and responsibilities, good governance and development training.

These workshops were funded by the British High Commission and conducted in:

- i) Vunaniu, Serua
- ii) Waidradra, Navua

- iii) Mabula, Cicia, Lau
- iv) Lomaji, Cicia, Lau
- v) Tikina Wai Youth, Nadroga
- vi) Makosoi, Navua

## Achievements:

- Greater awareness of the 2013 Constitution and the electoral system and process
- Young people realized the importance to take part in election
- Increased awareness of the importance of choosing good leaders in election
- Human rights, being a new concept to the majority; its application to everyday life made it clearer with

the emphasis on responsibilities to their rights. Created awareness of the Bill of Rights in the 2013 Constitution.

- Majority of the young population voted during elections.

# Promoting National Constitutional Engagement Workshops

To help rural citizens understand their rights as enshrined in 2013 Constitution, the constitution making process and the significance of the Constitution, the Citizens' Constitutional Forum facilitated a total of 10 workshops.

The two-day workshop were carried out in diverse rural communities in the country and focused on teaching citizens the Bill of Rights, elections and good governance.

The workshops were facilitated in:

- i) Lapanoni Serua
- ii) Soa, Ra
- iii) Bavu, Nadroga
- iv) Baba, Ovalau, Lomaiviti
- v) Grampani, Ba
- vi) Golf Link Ba
- vii) Savusavu, Cakaudrove
- viii) Labasa, Macuata
- ix) Wailevu, Tailevu
- x) Dugavatu, Rakiraki, Ra

## Achievement

### • CONSTITUTION:

Created awareness of the 2013 Constitution; as majority had not seen or read the 2013 constitution and as a result were not aware of the relevance of the constitution

### • HUMAN RIGHTS: BILL OF RIGHTS 2013 CONSTITUTION:

Increased awareness and understanding of their rights are in the constitution as majority were not aware of the Bill of Rights, why it is in the Constitution and how it applies to them as individuals and the community at large.



Prior to the Workshop, these communities were not aware of the Bill of Rights, but on the conclusion of the workshop participants became knowledgeable on the 35 articles in Bill of Rights and how it relates to them.

### • RIGHT TO ELECTION:

There was evidence of lack of knowledge on the elections process and how voting would take place. Though the Elections Office had started voter education on television; however most of these families do not have access to TV and even if they have television, it is still not enough to effectively educate voters on how to cast a valid vote.

Increased understanding of the election on who can vote, one day

voting, voting day and date, voting age, one constituency

Encouragement /Determination to vote; as people recognized the importance of voting to choose good leaders who will be making decisions on their behalf; awareness that the Parliament will be made up from the results of the election and their roles in parliament is very important.

### • RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT

Increased ability to identify community problems and ways to attempt to solve and manage them using the human rights approach to development in the communities.

Village /community groups more organized and strengthened to access development

# International Budget Survey

In August 2014, the Citizens' Constitutional Forum's Research Team in collaboration with the International Budget Partnership (IBP) commenced work on an international budget survey, which measures national budget transparency.

The Open Budget Survey (OBS) is the only independent, regular and comparative assessment of budget

transparency and participation worldwide, and assesses over 100 countries. The OBS included two components, an Open Budget Index (the Index), and an Open Budget Tracker (the Tracker).

The OBS Tracker monitors the availability of budget documents on a monthly basis, and provides monthly updates of 30 countries

across different regions. This assesses the timeliness of publishing each of the key budget documents, as per international standards.

The 8 key documents that the Tracker monitors are the Pre-Budget Statement, Executive Budget Proposal, Enacted Budget, Citizens Budget, In-Year Budget, Mid-Year Review, Year-End Report and Audit Report.

# Strategic Planning Meeting

In October 2014, CCF's Board, Management and Staff met at the Leleuvia Island Resort to develop plans and strategies for their programs and the management of CCF in 2015. CCF reconfirmed its commitment to its Vision and set out 4 key areas of focus for the New Year.

The 4 focus areas for 2015 were:

1. CCF intends to see civil servants in Fiji adhere to the law and appointed in an equitable and transparent manner, responsiveness, efficiency and effectiveness in their service delivery and be accountable to the citizens of Fiji;
2. CCF intends to see Parliamentarians who represent Fiji and its citizens' work to strengthen the constitutional, legislative, and institutional framework of Fiji to protect Human Rights;
3. CCF intends to see young people in the provinces of Bua, Navosa



and Ba and peri-urban areas within the Suva-Nausori corridor in key decision making positions and become active agents of change in promoting and practicing active citizenship and democracy;

4. CCF intends to see community members in Bua, Navosa and Ba,

who are actively participating in their own community governance and development, practice and demand good leadership, and promote multiculturalism.

# CCF Commemorated World Human Rights Day



On 10th December 2014, the Citizens' Constitutional Forum with other non-governmental and civil society organisations in Suva celebrated World Human Rights Day. Civil society and supporters marched from Suva's Flea Market to the Civic Centre to mark the occasion. The event was an initiative by the NGO Coalition on Human Rights including, for which Fiji Women's Crisis Centre, Fiji Women Rights Movement and CCF are the Secretariat.

The march provided a platform for NGO's, civil society, activists and the general public to participate and celebrate Human Rights Day as well as reminding the government to uphold and respect human rights in Fiji.

The Chief Executive Officer than, Reverend Akuila Yabaki who was recently part of the NGO Coalition on Human Rights delegation to the Universal Periodic Review in Geneva, Switzerland commended the government's acceptance of the 98 recommendations in his Human Rights Day address at Suva's Civic Centre.

"We would like to thank the government, led by the Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum. The Coalition further welcomes the assurances from the Government regarding the commitment to engage with civil society" said Reverend Yabaki.

"The Coalition agrees that the 2014 UPR was largely constructive and for that we applaud the Government for accepting 98 of the 137 recommendations and we look forward to engaging with the Government in building a better Fiji" said Yabaki, adding that it was a positive step taken to improve human rights in Fiji.

However, Reverend Yabaki expressed some disappointment at the indication that government will not review the 2013 Constitution a recommendation put to Fiji by Estonia and Namibia at the UPR review session.

# Pillar Two

## Facilitating a Pathway to Sustainable Democracy

Below this pillar CCF works to an agreed pathway towards a fair, representative and sustainable democracy, based on inclusivity and respect for the rule of law. With the general elections scheduled for September 2014, there was a lot of excitement and hope for the restoration of democracy in Fiji, but for CCF, like previous years, 2014 offered a challenging political environment to effectively facilitate its activities under this pillar. A specific challenge to CCF's work was the introduction of the Electoral Decree. Section 115 of the Decree outlined severe

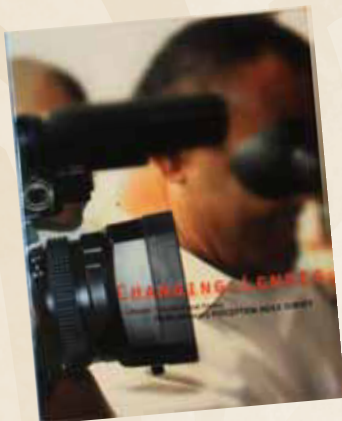
implications and placed restrictions on elections-related education and advocacy activities. Harsh penalties were also put in place for those found in breach of the Decree. The Electoral Decree also makes provision for voter education materials or activities to have the approval of the Electoral Commission or the Supervisor of Elections. However, despite the challenges faced in 2014, CCF managed to remain positive and focused to implement its work in collaboration with key stakeholders to help Fiji towards a sustainable democracy.

The biggest achievements for CCF under this pillar was conducting voter education, facilitating a public discussion on international benchmarks of free and fair elections and publishing the book "Fiji in Transition: Towards a Sustainable Constitutional Democracy". The publication of the reports titled "Young People and Democratic Participation in Fiji", Changing Lens and the Role of the Media in Constitution Making Process was other milestone under this pillar for 2014.

# Changing Lens-role of the media in organizational activities

A research aimed at reviewing the strategy and the role of the CCF's Communications Team is

disseminating information and creating advocacy for public knowledge was released in February. The research titled "Changing Lens" was a monitoring and evaluation



tool of the organisation's communications strategy pre and post elections. The findings discussed views from the mainstream media personnels and partner human rights CSO's and NGO's that associate with CCF in its advocacy.



The findings were shared in dialogue setting at a workshop. The workshop picked out key areas of concern and these were perception of media censorship, CCF communication strategy with mainstream media and factors that contributed to news worthy coverage from NGOs/CSOs.

The research provided a platform for CCF to apprehend a communications strategy, which was required for human rights advocacy. The strategy was to ensure the CCF was working towards the organizations' goals.

## Young People and Democratic Participation in Fiji Report

In June 2014, the Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) launched its commissioned research report on 'young people and political participation in Fiji'. The research was conducted to inform CCF's work with young people particularly in the context of socio-political transformation taking place in Fiji. Some of these changes include; the introduction of a new Constitution, a new electoral system and the related provision that sees the voting age

reduced from 21 to 18 years. This change has propelled young people into the political limelight, specially the discourse that young people will make up about 40 percent of the electorate in the September 2014 general elections.

The report was the culmination of two months of field research in Labasa, Levuka, Nadi and Suva. Approximately 300 young people between the ages of 18 and 35 years participated in

the study. Of this number, 200 young people answered a questionnaire survey and about 100 participated in focus group discussions. The research was guided by the concept of 'generation'. This conceptual framework offered a chance to explore the situation and experiences of Fiji's current generation of young people, commonly referred to as 'coup babies', loosely used to refer to individuals born between 1979 and 1996 or those between 17 and



35 years of age. The study was of the view that his generation and their political participation offers a window to understanding the future of Fiji's democracy.

The findings of the report are presented around four general areas. The first, explored the definitions of young people. It was found that age, in particular 18 to 35 is preferred as a way of defining youth. The over 40 age category commonly used in village and community settings is least popular with young people. The second section looked at young people's participation and found that whilst young people are highly involved in ordinary activities this has not translated into political involvement.

The third section presents findings on young people's involvement with the constitutional and electoral process. The study found that young people's interest in democratic processes is growing. This is reflected in the large number of respondents who indicated to have registered as voters. Many have argued that the youth vote will determine the balance of power in September elections. This is however difficult to predict because there appears to be no unified voice. The fourth section discusses young people's access to information. It identified that much of young people's participation depends on their access to information. Traditional media in the form of radio, newspaper and television are preferred by the majority of young people.

The internet and social media are gaining popularity but access and affordability are challenges to their widespread use by young people.

Whilst the study may have offered a glimpse of the situation of young people's democratic participation in Fiji, many questions arise. These



include; are young people's growing interest in democratic processes driven by their belief in democratic principles or is it because the election has become a feel good term, the panacea in coup prone Fiji? Will young people display political tendencies that are linked to identity and issues based on politics played out in loose and informal organisations or be influenced by and involved party politics, a mainstay of Fiji's political history? How will young people mobilize themselves, how and who best represents their interests particularly the marginalised?

As Fiji manoeuvre's its way towards 'democracy' the involvement of young people and an investment in their democratic contributions should go beyond voting. Emphasis needs to be placed on developing a democratic culture that meaningfully involves young people. Part of this includes acknowledgement of ordinary youth involvement and how young people and an environment where decision makers owe young people the equal opportunity and provision of resources to enable their participation at every level of society.

Table: Democratic activities by young people		
Activity	Frequency	Percentage
Joining youth groups	97	48
Voting	94	47
None of the above	41	20
Signing petitions	37	18
Joining human rights organisation	21	11
Online voting	19	10
Activism	19	10
Protest march	14	7
Distributing political literature	9	5
Boycott	8	4

# National Youth Forum

Thirty enthusiastic young people from various sectors in the country gathered at the Centre for Appropriate Technology & Development in Nadave in the beginning of 2014 to empower and educate themselves towards building Fiji's democracy.

CCF's Youth Programme with the funding from European Union (EU) and Conciliation Resources (CR) held three days National Youth Forum that was attended by young people from Non Government Organizations (NGO's), religious leaders, educational institutions, community workers and political parties.

Challenges faced by young people, men, women, and persons with disability on mental health, environment, education, human rights, leadership and meaningful participation were discussed at the forum.

The general feedback from the forum was that young people are eager to participate in political spaces, but need to have more access to information. At the time of the forum, young people were unaware of the elections system as the Electoral Decree was yet to be released, but were looking forward to cast for the first time.

A united voice that came across from the forum was the importance of including persons from the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Intersexual Queer (LGBTIQ) community and young persons living with disability in the decision-making processes. The Transgender woman presented at the



forum mentioned persons in authority position leaving them vulnerable in the community and having no faith in the justice violate their human rights. When persons holding authority positions violate your rights, you have little faith in seeking justice leave alone demand for justice. A solution brought forward was for human rights training (respect with these rights) to be conducted with law enforces.

During the mock election session, the participants played roles of active campaigners, polling officers, independent observers etc. For some of the participants this was the first time for them to participate in a process such and one of the young woman said she was really excited.

Another participant at the forum mentioned that she is going to exercise her right to vote and she is

glad the voting age is 18 now.

"It is great that the voting age is down to 18 because if I can make a life decision to get married at 18 why can't I decide who will make policies for me? So 18 is a great age to vote. It also puts some more responsibility on youth and teenage youth."

At the end of the three day workshop, participants received a certificate of participation which was then concluded by an evening dinner.

The workshop included history walk, panel discussions with political party youth wings, panel discussion with persons (currently in or previously were) in media (Television, Radio and Newspaper) and mock elections. The next National Youth Forum will be conducted in July of this year.

# CCF's Voter Education Programme for Rural Communities

After getting the approval from Elections Office in mid June to conduct voter education, CCF undertook the important role to educate voters in the lead-up to elections.

Funded by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) CCF's Education Team facilitated a total of thirteen (13) workshops around the country in less three month.

The main objective of this program was to educate the greater public about the 2013 Fiji Constitution in particular their rights enshrined in the constitution, political rights in the lead up to the September 2014 election, the new election process and how to vote in the 17th September elections in order to develop, empower and encourage attitudes and behavior to make informed decisions in the elections to promote peace, justice, equality, and respecting the rule of law at all times.

According to the Supervisor of Elections, Mohammed Saneem, the total number of invalid votes recorded in these elections was 0.75 percentage compared to 6 percentage in the 2006 elections. This achievement not only reflects the hard work put in by the Fijian Elections Office in educating voters, but also the commitment put into this exercise by Civil Society Organisations like CCF who invested a lot of time and effort to educate voters at the grassroots communities.

Although the communities welcomed the voter education workshops, they felt it was a bit too late to conduct voter education one month before elections because the new electoral

system required more time for them to understand.

One of the workshop participants said "with this new election system, we in the rural areas should be given a lot of time on the education ourselves about the system, because it takes time for us to understand new things like this, we only know and understand and are familiar with the old way of voting."

Another participant shared while he hopes the international observers has done a good job, he questioned if the number of international observers was sufficient to observe all the 2028 polling venues and accessing these areas.

There were a lot of questions posed to the facilitator regarding the Secular State. Explanation was

given with references made to the 2013 Constitution then the people understood better.

Chapter 1 (4) of the 2013 Constitution states that Fiji is a Secular State. A secular state treats all its citizens equally regardless of religion, and does not favour a citizen from a particular religion over other religions. The State does not associate itself with any specific faith and therefore allows all faiths and beliefs to be practiced equally and without favour by the State.



The table below shows the communities in which CCF conducted the Voter Education Workshops

#	Date	Community
1	August 21st	District of Nayau
2	August 27th	Naqia & Waito Lodoni Communities
3	August 27th	Nasibitu, Namoka & Nalidi
4	September 4th	Waivola, Nananu, Namena & Korovou
5	September 4th	District of Nasau I Wati
6	September 5th	Vunivesa, Vunileba & Navaravidoko
8	September 5th	Navulase & Natila
9	September 6th	Vunivau Settlement, Samabula & Jittu Estate
10	September 6th	Kasavu & Koronivia
11	September 10th	Dugavatu, Rakiraki
12	September 10th	Mulau & Colasi
13	September 13th	Nananu

# Research Paper & Public Conversation on International Benchmarks of “Free and Fair Elections”

To strengthen the public and civil society’s understanding of the international indicators of “free and fair” elections, the Citizens’ Constitutional Forum (CCF) published a research paper on international benchmarks of free and fair elections and held a public conversation event on the same topic in late July, 2014.

The event which was hosted at the University of the South Pacific’s (USP) ICT Building, presented the public with the opportunity to also learn to what extent did Fiji’s Constitution ensures “free and fair elections” and the possible repercussions of any shorting-coming in the 2013 Constitution.

The research paper positively rated Fiji’s elections, but noted that there was room for improvement in some areas.

CCF strongly believed that in order for this research paper to generate informed national debate it was important to provide a platform for political parties, CSOs, academics, students, young people, women, those outside of Suva and other members of the public to engage critically with the research and participate in informed debate in a safe, non-political environment.

Thus a panel discussion was facilitated, which consisted of United Nation Parliamentary Development Expert, Dyfan Jones, Suva Lawyer, Richard Naidu and Fiji Women’s Rights Movement, Tara Chetty.

CCF had also decided to publish three other research papers- Separation of Power, Bill of Rights and Transition Process, but had to cancel these publications and conversation events

due an investigation carried out by the Fiji Independent Commission against Corruption (FICAC) alleging CCF had breached the Electoral Decree.



# Fiji in Transition: Towards a Sustainable Constitutional Democracy

Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) launched its new book titled "Fiji in Transition: Towards a Sustainable Constitutional Democracy" on 10th December 2014.

The book intends to allow Fijians to have a better understanding of the 2013 Constitution and Fiji's return to parliamentary democracy.

This publication contains a substantive analysis of parts of the 2013 Constitution, and we hope it will inspire informed and open debate directed towards active citizenship and a vibrant democracy.

The publication includes three discussion papers that provide substantive expert analysis on technical constitutional issues. The first, on the Transitional Process, describes international and comparative best practice for nations emerging from military-backed rule to civilian rule. In this paper, the transitional provisions in the 2013 Constitution are assessed against international and comparative best practice. It also provides some suggestions on ways in which the 2013 Constitution can better support a successful transition back to civilians rule.

The second discussion paper tackles the constitutional issues surrounding the doctrine of Separation of Powers. It highlights the importance of appropriate checks and balances on the executive power, including strong oversight powers in the legislature and an independent judiciary. This is discussed in the context of the importance of the Separation of Powers in nations emerging from

military-backed rule.

The third discussion paper explores the 2013 Constitution's Bill of Rights. It highlights the importance of a strong Bill of Rights in protecting citizens during a period of transition. The paper analyses the latent application of the limitation clauses contained in the Bill of Rights, and suggests key actions for Parliament and civil society to better protect these exhaustive rights and freedoms.

The publication also investigates the Fijian public's understanding of the 2013 Constitution through a Constitutional Perception Survey involving 275 participants. This survey documents a small portion of Fiji citizen's thoughts and opinions of the Constitution, and assesses their sense of ownership over the document. The publication concludes with a Constitutional Monitoring Report, which monitored and documented the implementation of the transitional provisions in the 2013 Constitution.

CCF presents these papers and recommendations as a starting point to encourage informed discussion and debate. It takes international and comparative best practice and applies this to a Fiji context, taking into account the unique history, culture and political environment. CCF hopes this publication is well received by all, and inspires Fiji's people to ask fundamental critical questions.



"We have an elected government and a functioning Parliament for the first time in eight years: how can we further improve these advancements to achieve full democratic governance?"

CCF's Chief Executive Officer, Reverend Akuila Yabaki, said the publication and the launch was in line with Article 17 of the Constitution on freedom of speech and expression, which every person has the right to.

Mr Yabaki said the CCF publication was timely since Fiji had just witnessed parliamentary elections and the first Parliamentary sitting in eight years and CCF wanted to share the excitement with Fijians about the new democracy.

"CCF recognises the progressive steps Fiji has taken towards a sustainable democracy, and in an attempt to continue with this progress, CCF has released the publication," Mr Yabaki said.

The publication is available on CCF's website: [www.ccf.org.fj](http://www.ccf.org.fj)

# Media Advocacy

## Direct Media Engagement

As in previous years, in 2014, CCF continued to utilize the media to communicate and advocate for key issues that concerned CCF. We directly engaged with the media through press releases and statements. CCF also called in on numerous occasions by the local and international media to provide our stance or comments on pressing issues relating to elections, human rights and democracy in Fiji.

## Newsletter (Tutaka)



Two high quality CCF's Quarterly Newsletters (Tutaka) were produced in 2014. The first issue of 2014 was released in July. This was a bumper issue and had articles that covered 3 quarters because CCF was not in position to release the Tutaka for 2

quarters, due to the departure of the then Communications Officer Roneel Lal. The second issue of 2014 was released in October.

Tutaka contains articles of CCF's activities, the organisation's position on issues relating to human rights, good governance, democracy, constitutional issues, racial discrimination and leadership. It also contains CCF's success stories in the community alongside opinions from prominent figures.

A total of 1000 copies of each were printed and distributed to CCF donors, NGO's and CSO's, media, stakeholder, partners and CCF workshop participants. Copies were also handed to foreign embassies in Fiji and placed at key education intuitions and libraries in Suva.



## Paid Media Advocacy

Apart from media engagements through press release, press statements and interviews, CCF also had paid media advertisements in the local media to effectively communicate important human rights messages across to citizens.

In September, a full page and full color newspaper supplement, which contained CCF's Peace Day 2014 message was printed in the Fiji Times newspaper.

Furthermore, CCF aired a radio jingle with FBC's radio stations to empower people to stand by for their rights as enshrined in the Constitution. The jingle also encouraged Fijians to promote a culture of religious tolerance in the country. The jingle was aired in 3 vernacular

languages (English, Fijian and Hindi) across FBC's 5 radio stations over a 3-week period. In addition, a full page newspaper supplement, which contained CCF's Fiji Day message for Fijians was printed in the Fiji Times newspaper.

In the lead-up to the Human Rights Day 2014, CCF aired a 30 second TV Advert on Fiji One Television. The advert was on UNDHR and focused on educating and empowering citizens that human rights is means human dignity, equality, right to education, and the right to food, water and shelter. The advert was aired for 4 weeks.

## Other Advocacy Materials

- Peace Day T-Shirts
- Fiji Day T- Shirts
- Human Rights T-Shirts
- Human Rights, Good Governance brochures and flyers
- Advocacy banners
- Event flyers
- Event folders
- 2015 Calendars
- Seasons Greeting Cards



# Universal Periodic Review



The universal periodic review (UPR) is a key mechanism of Human Rights Council to review the human rights situation of all United Nations Member States in a four and a half year cycle. The review of each country is based on three reports. One is a national report prepared by the Government, while the other two are a compilation of United Nations information and a summary of stakeholders' information, both produced by OHCHR. United Nations agencies and programmes, civil society organisation and others participate in the process by submitting information, which is then

included in the reports prepared by OHCHR and discussed during the review. The review is a cooperative mechanism based on an interactive dialogue between the State reviewed and the Human Rights Council. It provides an opportunity for each State to declare what actions it has taken to improve the human rights situation and to fulfill its human rights obligations.

The Research arm of CCF led the compilation of the Fiji NGO's Human Rights Report 2014, which was presented to the human rights officer and diplomatic mission in Geneva on

October 2014. Ten CSO's and NGO's were part of the Fiji NGO Human Rights Report and it focused on:  
Women's rights  
Constitutional rights  
Rule of law  
Children's rights  
Environment rights  
Labour rights  
Freedom of media  
Protection of human rights defenders

The UPR 2014 reporting for Fiji was a success and CCF continues to be the secretariat and driving body of the UPR NGO Fiji Group.

# Role of media in Constitution Making Process

A research report to measure the role of the media in Fiji's fourth Constitution Making Process (FFCMP) was compiled by CCF in 2014. The results of the research are to develop an advocacy tool to generate discussion and debate with key stakeholders involved in Constitution making.

The sample targeted a balanced demographic with 113 interviewed on their views on the role of media during the Constitution Making process. The

research allowed the CCF advocacy to recognize that mainstream media will always impact the opinions of the public.

During the Yash Ghai constitution process, a platform was provided for all Fijians to make submissions for the Constitution of Fiji. There were approximately 7000 submissions that included groups and individuals.

These submissions via the Yash Ghai constitution process was

later abolished and the interim administration put the 2013 Government constitution together.

The research discussed that 'all opinions' that were made by the people, were shaped by mainstream media reports and discussions. The television, newspapers, and radio were the main sources of influence regarding submissions and priority areas that were discussed in those submissions.

# Concerned Citizens for Credible Elections

In August, the Concerned Citizens for Credible Elections (CCCE) was established to conduct unique and valuable research on the September 17th election which would provide information that may help strengthen electoral processes in the future.

CCCE consisted of 16 Civil Society Organisation around Fiji and was administratively led by CCCE Secretariat and host-the Citizens Constitutional Forum.

Total of 100 representatives from the 16 CSO's were trained by CCF in the lead-up to the elections on how to collect information from polling stations and observe the elections.

On elections day these representatives collected data from



147 polling stations from around the country. These researchers also collected data on the personal voting experience of more than 500 voters from across Fiji.

The report, which was published and

launched in January 2015, concluded that the September 17th elections were credible, but there was room for improvement.

This project was supported by Bread for the World (Brot Fur Die Welt).

## CCF Helps Young People Develop Advocacy Skills

Forty young people from around the country underwent an advocacy skills training facilitated by CCF in July.

Two workshops- one each in Suva and Nadi- were conducted by CCF's Youth Programme to allow youth leaders the opportunity to enhance their existing knowledge on advocacy and boost their confidence to carry out advocacy campaigns in their respective communities and to equip them with the skills and knowledge required to carry out successful advocacy campaigns.

After the completion of the workshop

the participants were allocated a NGO for internships to help them utilise the skills gained from the training and further develop them.

The workshop coordinator Dr Vanisha Vakaoti who said "Advocacy isn't about just standing up and talking about an issue you are passionate about, it's about encouraging change or trying to move people towards change."





# Pillar Three

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## Countering Racism and Promoting Multiculturalism

Racial discrimination is one of the major causes of social and political conflict in Fiji. For the past two decades CCF has worked and continues to promote increased understand and acceptance of Fiji's

ethnic and diversity. Although racial discrimination is less apparent in Fiji than in the past, CCF believes strongly feels more work is needed in this area to build respect for our differences and to diversity positively.

# International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) calls on the people of Fiji to promote a culture of peace, tolerance and coexistence among ethnic groups as it marks the International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21, 2014. Racial intolerance continues to divide our nation and has been one of the main causes of the social and political conflict that has disrupted Fiji. In this instrumental year of elections, let our nation be reconciled and move forward to a united Fiji.

We have taken some positive steps toward this in recent times. For the first time in Fiji's history we have removed race-based voting. We have removed reservation to the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination and are now fully accountable to our international obligations under this Convention.

We have introduced a Bill of Rights which enshrines the right to equality and freedom from discrimination. We are able to celebrate a common equal citizenry, a secular state and proportional representation. However, we do still have an important challenge ahead of us. In moving forward, it is essential that these rights are protected and promoted without limitation. It is crucial that the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission be strengthened and have

capacity to function independently and with integrity, as well as review concerns arising from existing or proposed laws and actions which may operate with prejudice.

The disestablishment of ethnic based institutions was a step in the right direction, but the greater feat will be to challenge forces of hate, ignorance and fear in the deeply seated beliefs of many Fijian people. Each one of us has a role to play in breaking down racial prejudice. CCF calls on the political, religious and civil society leaders of Fiji to support reconciliation amongst communities and condemn racial discrimination and intolerance.

Also during the celebration last year, the world commemorated the day for the first time following the death of former South African President Nelson Mandela. This Day was established to pay tribute to the

1960 Sharpeville massacre, in which 69 people were killed and many injured as police opened fire on a peaceful protest against apartheid. The Sharpeville tragedy is a stark reminder of the dangers of racial prejudice and on this Day, we honor those that have been victims of racial hatred and take inspiration from President Mandela to overcome the injustice of racial intolerance.

It is the responsibility of the political leaders to promote a diverse and unified nation, for religious leaders to strengthen messages of forgiveness and reconciliation, for civil society leaders to advocate for racial tolerance and awareness, and last but not the least, for each Fijian to embrace and celebrate multiculturalism. Let us recognize the threat of racial discrimination in Fiji, defend the rich diversity in our society, and celebrate Fiji as a united nation.



# International Peace Day Celebration 2014



## *Promotion of peace is vital for the full enjoyment of all human right*

CCF used songs, poems, dances, and drama with fine arts also presented to commemorate international peace day, 2014. This allowed young people to express why human rights and peace cannot be separated.

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The United Nations General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.

To mark the 30th anniversary of the General Assembly Declaration International Peace Day 2014, the theme of the International Day of

Peace was "Right of Peoples to Peace".

The Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace recognizes that the promotion of peace is vital for the full enjoyment of all human rights.

The Citizens' Constitutional Forum commemorated International Peace Day on the 22nd September at the University of the South Pacific's Oceania Centre.

The objective of celebrating Peace Day 2014 was to create awareness and understating of peace day and why Human Rights play's an essential role in maintaining peace.

The event also presented the perfect opportunity to showcase a video produced by CCF's strong partner, Conciliation Resources, a London based NGO.

The video, which was titled "Conflict-look Closer' was released three days before peace day and it called for a commitment to investing in peace building alternatives to prevent and resolve violent conflict.

"Conflicts in Ukraine, Iraq, Syria and the Middle East may claim the media headlines today but beyond the media spotlight, millions live every day with violent and intractable conflicts and their consequences." said Conciliation Resources.

## CCF Board

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Teresa Mackenzie	Chairperson
Aisake Casimira	Board Member
Tara Chetty	Board Member
Aman Ravindra Singh	Board Member
Holger Szesnat	Board Member
Ratu Meli Vesikula	Board Member

## CCF Staff

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Rev. Akuila Yabaki	CEO
Ken Cokanasiga	Programme Manager
Talei Tuinamuana	Project Support Officer
Valerie Lum	Finance and Administration Manager
Lucrisha Nair	Administration
Sereima Lutubula	Community and Field Officer
Sionlelei Mario	Research Officer
Vilisi Gadolo	Research Support Officer
Bhavana Dhanasar	Legal Officer
Rajjeli Tuivaga	Legal Researcher
Nazeem Kasim	Communications & Media Advocacy Officer
Sandra Fong	Project Coordinator
Analaisa Nacola	Education Support Officer
Viniana Cakau	Education Support Officer
Marly Batenburg	Civic Education Advisor

# Acknowledgements

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Citizens' Constitutional Forum would like to acknowledge and distinguish our donors, without whose support and funding, CCF would not be able to be the agents of change in the community, society and in the nation.

In the 2014 financial year CCF monetary support were received from the following donors towards our programmes and activities.

Australian Government

Bread for the World

British High Commission Suva

Conciliation Resources

European Union

United Nations Development Program

International Foundation for Electoral Systems

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Citizens' Constitutional Forum would like to acknowledge the contribution of the following Government Ministries, Institutions and Media who assisted CCF deliver its work in 2014.

Commissioner Central

Commissioner Northern

Ministry of iTaukei affairs

Ministry of Youth and Sports

Ministry of Finance and National Planning

Ministry of Elections

Ministry of Education

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Fiji Sun

The Fiji Times

Fiji Television Limited

Fiji Live

Fiji Broadcasting Corporation

Mai Life Magazine

Mai TV

University of the South School of Governances and International Affairs

Fiji National University

Radio Australia

ABC Television

Pacific Islands News Association

Islands Business

Ra Provincial Office

Serau Provincial Office

Nadroga Provincial Office

Namosi Provincial Office

Lomaiviti Provincial Office

Naitasiri Provincial Office

Rewa Provincial Office

Tailevu Provincial Office

Cakaudrove Provincial Office

Bua Provincial Office

Macuata Provincial Office

USP Journalism

# Acknowledging our CSO and International Partners

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**Citizens' Constitutional Forum would also like to acknowledge and thank the contribution of our CSO partners and International organisations.**

Fiji Women's Crisis Centre (FWCC)

Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM)

Transparency International Fiji (TI Fiji)

Ecumenical Centre for Research, Education and Advocacy (ECEA)

Social and Economic Empowerment Programme (SEEP)

Dialogue Fiji (DF)

Pacific Dialogue (PD)

Fiji Disabled People's Forum

Femlink Pacific

World Association for Christian Communication (WACC)

Fiji Council of Churches (FCC)

Drodrolagi Movement

National Council of Women (NCW)

Aspire Network

Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF)

Fiji Community Development Program (FCDP)

Amnesty International

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Human Right Watch (HRW)

United Nations Human Rights (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) and

Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT)

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

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# Directors' Report

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In accordance with a resolution of the board of directors, the directors herewith submit the statement of financial position of Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited ("the company") as at 31 December 2014, the related statement of comprehensive income and statement of cash flows for the year then ended on that date and report as follows:

## Establishment of Forum

Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) was initially incorporated under the provisions of The Charitable Trusts Act on 11 September 1996.

Subsequently, on 10 July 2003, the entity was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1983 as a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

## Directors

The names of the directors in office at the date of this report are:

Cynara Teresa Mary Mackenzie – Chairperson

Vijay Naidu

Aisake Casimira

Tara Chetty

Holger Szesnat

Ratu Meli Vesikula (Appointed on 23 April 2014)

## Principal Activities

The principal activities of the company during the year were:

- To raise public awareness of the issues on human rights, good governance and multiculturalism.
- To promote cross-cultural and inter-ethnic dialogue with a view to reach consensus on issues affecting the whole community.
- To provide for public consultation and debate so as to minimize tension and prevent violent conflict.
- To carry out everything necessary, desirable or incidental to the accomplishment of any of the above objectives.

There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the financial year.

## Results

The company recorded an excess of revenue over the expenditure of \$29,572 for the year ended 31 December 2014 (2013 - restated: \$102,678).

## Dividends

In accordance with the Memorandum of Association of the company, payment of dividends to the members is prohibited.

## Reserves

It is proposed that no amounts be transferred to reserves within the meaning of the Seventh Schedule of the Companies Act, 1983.



### Current and Non-Current Assets

Prior to the completion of the financial statements of the company, the directors took reasonable steps to ascertain whether any 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 company. Where necessary, these assets have been written down or adequate provision 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 directors are not aware of any circumstances, which would render the values attributed to current and non-current assets in the company's financial statements misleading.

### Unusual Transactions

In the opinion of the directors, the results of the operations of the company during the financial year were not substantially affected by any item, transaction or event of an abnormal character, nor has there arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of an abnormal character, likely, in the opinion of the directors, to affect substantially the results of the operations of the company in the current financial year.

### Events Subsequent to Balance Date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

### Other Circumstances

As at the date of this report:

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

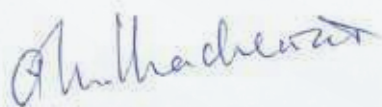
As at the date of this report, the directors are not aware of any circumstances that have arisen, not otherwise dealt with in this report or the company's financial statements, which would make adherence to the existing method of valuation of assets or liabilities of the company misleading or inappropriate.

### Directors' Benefits

Since the end of the previous financial year, no director has received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than those included in the aggregate amount of emoluments received or due and receivable by directors shown in the financial statements or received as the fixed salary of a full-time employee of the company or a related corporation) by reason of a contract made by the company or by a related corporation with the director or with a firm of which he/she is a member, or with a company in which he/she has a substantial financial interest.

Signed for and on behalf of the board and in accordance with a resolution of the directors.

Dated this 25th day of June, 2015.



Director



Director

## Statement By Directors

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In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited, we state that in the opinion of the directors:

- [i] the accompanying statement of comprehensive income of the company is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results of the company for the year ended 31 December 2014;
- [ii] the accompanying statement of financial position of the company is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 December 2014;
- [iii] the accompanying statement of cash flows of the company is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the cash flows of the company for the year ended 31 December 2014;
- [iv] the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium Sized Entities;
- [v] at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due; and
- [vi] all related party transactions have been adequately recorded in the books of the company.

For and on behalf of the board and in accordance with a resolution of the directors.

Dated this 25th day of June, 2015.



Director



Director



Tel: +679 331 4300  
Fax: +679 330 1841  
Email: info@bdo.com.fj  
Offices in Suva and Lautoka

BDO  
Chartered Accountants  
Level 10, FNPF Place  
343 Victoria Parade  
GPO Box 855  
Suva, Fiji

# Independent Auditor's Report

TO THE MEMBERS OF CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM LIMITED

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited (the company), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2014, and the statement of comprehensive income and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information as set out on pages 34 to 43.

## Director's and Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Directors and management are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium sized Entities and with the requirements of the Companies Act, 1983, and for such internal control as the directors and management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the financial position of the company as at 31 December 2014, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium- Sized Entities.

## Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In our opinion:

- a) proper books of account have been kept by the company, so far as it appears from our examination of those books;
- b) the financial statements are in agreement with the books of account; and
- c) to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statements give the information required by the Companies Act, 1983 in the manner so required.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit.

SUVA, FIJI

25 JUNE 2015

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

# Statement of Comprehensive Income

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

	Notes	2014	Restated 2013
<b>Income</b>			
Grants	14	\$ 1,101,002	1,070,746
Grants -Dialogue Fiji		210,963	365,178
Administration charge		19,869	37,492
Amortization of deferred income		11,099	11,099
Interest		5,397	5,541
Gain on disposal of plant and equipment		46	-
Sale of books		-	20
Others		13,624	9,471
		1,362,000	1,499,547
<b>Expenses</b>			
Audit fees - Annual audit		4,485	4,485
- Project audit		7,212	16,555
Court fine and costs	13	-	27,000
Depreciation		37,888	38,261
Dialogue Fiji expenses		206,575	339,449
Legal and other related expenses		2,875	81,656
Projects		102,522	127,749
Rent		41,400	41,400
Salaries, wages, FNPF and training levy		388,559	362,893
Travel and per diems		61,700	21,860
Workshop expenses		339,046	211,163
Others		140,166	124,398
		1,332,428	1,396,869
Surplus for the year		29,572	102,678
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>Surplus of income over expenditure</b>		<b>29,572</b>	<b>102,678</b>
Accumulated funds at the beginning of the financial year	4	323,570	220,892
<b>Accumulated funds at the end of the financial year</b>		<b>\$ 353,142</b>	<b>323,570</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this statement of comprehensive income.

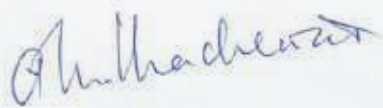
# Statement of Financial Position

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014

	Notes	2014	Restated 2013
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on hand and at bank 319,823		\$	761,099
Receivables	5	11,744	14,970
Financial assets	6	136,722	131,325
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>909,565</b>	<b>466,118</b>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial assets	6	10,282	10,282
Plant and equipment	7	47,400	68,264
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>57,682</b>	<b>78,546</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>967,247</b>	<b>544,664</b>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors and accruals	8	65,537	67,972
Deferred income	9	536,161	134,260
Provision for employee entitlements	10	12,407	18,862
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>614,105</b>	<b>221,094</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>614,105</b>	<b>221,094</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>353,142</b>	<b>323,570</b>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Share capital	11	-	-
Accumulated funds		353,142	323,570
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<b>\$ 353,142</b>	<b>323,570</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this statement of financial position.

For and on behalf of the board and in accordance with a resolution of the directors.



Director



Director

# Statement of Cash Flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

		<b>2014</b> <b>Inflows/ (Outflows)</b>	<b>Restated</b> <b>2013</b> <b>Inflows/ (Outflows)</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from donors and contributors	\$	1,778,225	1,307,208
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,319,971)	(1,306,542)
<hr/>			
Cash generated from operations		458,254	666
Interest received		-	2,133
<hr/>			
Net cash provided by operating activities		458,254	2,799
<hr/>			
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment		1,000	-
Payments for plant and equipment		(17,978)	(12,565)
Proceeds from investments in financial assets		-	60,107
<hr/>			
Net cash (used in)/ provided by investing activities		(16,978)	47,542
<hr/>			
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>441,276</b>	<b>50,341</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		319,823	269,482
<hr/>			
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year [Note 15]</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>761,099</b>	<b>319,823</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this statement of cash flows.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

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## NOTE 1. INCORPORATION AND PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) was initially incorporated under the provisions of The Charitable Trusts Act on 11 September 1996.

On 10 July 2003, Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1983 as a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

### Principal Activities

The principal activities of the company during the year were:

- To raise public awareness of the issues on human rights, good governance and multiculturalism.
- To promote cross-cultural and inter-ethnic dialogue with a view to reach consensus on issues affecting the whole community.
- To provide for public consultation and debate so as to minimize tension and prevent violent conflict.
- To carry out everything necessary, desirable or incidental to the accomplishment of any of the above objectives.

## NOTE 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs). They have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

### a) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs) and with requirements of Companies Act, 1983. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

All amounts are stated in Fijian currency.

### b) Comparatives

For 2013 re-stated balances, refer note 4 for further details. Furthermore, where necessary, comparative figures have been re-grouped to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

## NOTE 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted by the company are stated to assist in a general understanding of these financial statements. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year except as stated otherwise.

### a) Foreign Currency Transactions

Foreign currency transactions during the year are recorded in the books using the rate of exchange prevailing at the date of transaction. All profits and losses arising from fluctuations in exchange rates have been brought to account in determining the results for the year.

# Notes to the Financial Statements (cont'd)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## NOTE 3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

### b) Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment is measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment loss. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. Depreciation is computed on a straight line basis at rates sufficient to depreciate the cost over its estimated economic useful lives of the assets.

Plant and equipment is depreciated using the following rates:

Furniture and fittings	–	20%
Computer and office equipment	–	20% - 25%

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amounts and are taken into account in determining the results for the year.

### c) Income Tax

Income of the company is exempt from income tax in accordance with the provisions of section 17 (24) of the Income Tax Act.

### d) Financial Assets

Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the company has positive intention and ability to hold to maturity.

Held-to-maturity investments are measured at subsequent reporting dates at amortised costs.

Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets comprise of units in Unit Trust of Fiji, and are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the statement of financial position date.

Units are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs. Financial assets are de-recognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the company has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

Changes in the fair value of monetary and non-monetary securities classified as available-for-sale are recognised in equity. When securities classified as available for sale are sold or impaired, the accumulated fair value adjustments recognised in equity are included in the statement of comprehensive income as 'gains and losses from investment securities'.

Dividends on available-for-sale equity instruments are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as part of other income when the company's right to receive payments is established.

The company assesses at each statement of financial position date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired.

### e) Provision for Employee Entitlements

Provision is made for the company's liability to employees for annual leave on the basis of statutory or contractual requirements.



# Notes to the Financial Statements (cont'd)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## NOTE 3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

### f) Grant Income

Grants are generally recognized as income over the periods necessary to match them with the related costs which they are intended to compensate.

Grants received as part of a package of financial or fiscal aids to which a number of conditions are attached or that requires the fulfillment of certain obligations are recognized as income over the periods which bear the cost of meeting the conditions and obligations.

The cost of assets funded by AusAID, European Union and Conciliation Resources has been capitalized to plant and equipment and the corresponding credit to deferred income. The deferred grant is being amortised over the useful life of these assets.

However, grants received as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving ongoing financial support to the company with no specific future related costs are recognized as income upon receipt.

## NOTE 4. RESTATEMENT OF BALANCES

In prior year, funds used to purchase plant and equipment had been erroneously expensed. In the current year, balances have been restated to correct the error which has been explained below:

Particulars	Before Restatement (\$)	After Restatement (\$)	Difference (\$)
Plant and Equipment	64,973	68,264	3,291
Expenses	1,400,160	1,396,869	(3,291)
Surplus for the year (31 December 2013)	99,387	102,678	3,291

## NOTE 5. RECEIVABLES

	2014	2013
Cost recovery receivables	\$ 1,667	3,674
Bonds and deposits	5,000	4,500
Prepayments	3,450	5,169
Other receivables	1,627	1,627
Total receivables	11,744	14,970

## NOTE 6. FINANCIAL ASSETS

### Current

#### Held-to-maturity investments

Term deposits	136,722	131,325
Total current financial assets	136,722	131,325

### Non - Current

#### Available-for-sale investments

Units in Unit Trust of Fiji	10,282	10,282
Total non - current financial assets	\$ 10,282	10,282

# Notes to the Financial Statements (cont'd)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

**NOTE 7. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Furniture and fittings	\$ 68,159	68,159
Less: accumulated depreciation	(63,706)	(52,168)
	4,453	15,991
Computer and office equipment	143,731	127,744
Less: accumulated depreciation	(100,784)	(75,471)
	42,947	52,273
Total plant and equipment, net	47,400	68,264

**Movements in Carrying Amounts**

Movements in the carrying amounts for each class of plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year are as follows:

	<b>Furniture and fittings</b>	<b>Computer and office equipment</b>	<b>Total 2014</b>	<b>Total 2013</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Opening balance - Restated	15,991	52,273	68,264	93,960
Additions	-	17,978	17,978	12,565
Depreciation expense	(11,538)	(26,350)	(37,888)	(38,261)
Disposals	-	(954)	(954)	-
Closing balance	4,453	42,947	47,400	68,264

**NOTE 8. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Trade payables	1,668	20,165
Other payables and accrued liabilities	63,869	47,807
	65,537	67,972

**NOTE 9. DEFERRED INCOME**

*Deferred income relating to operating grants received from:*

AusAID	-	39,162
Bread for the World (formerly known as Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V)	284,394	41,678
Conciliation Resources	51,407	-
British High Commission	81,927	34,325
Open Budget Survey	15,368	-
United Nations Development Program	51,548	-
European Union- Dialogue Fiji	5,785	-
Conciliation Resources- Dialogue Fiji	16,802	-
Administration Charges	20,934	-
	528,165	115,165

*Deferred income relating to furniture and fittings funded by:*

AusAID	1,223	1,223
European Union	4,071	4,071
Less: Accumulated amortization	(3,965)	(2,907)
	\$ 1,329	2,387

# Notes to the Financial Statements (cont'd)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## NOTE 9. DEFERRED INCOME (CONT'D)

<i>Deferred income relating to computer and office equipment funded by:</i>	2014	2013
AusAID	\$ 21,565	21,565
European Union	12,759	12,759
Conciliation Resources	5,295	5,295
Less: Accumulated amortization	(32,952)	(22,911)
	6,667	16,708
Total deferred income	536,161	134,260

## NOTE 10. PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENT

Current		
Annual leave	12,407	18,862
	12,407	18,862

## NOTE 11. SHARE CAPITAL

Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited is a private company limited by guarantee and accordingly, the paid up capital as at balance date was \$Nil.

If the company is wound up, the Memorandum of Association states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company.

As at 31 December 2014, the number of members was 6. Furthermore, the Memorandum of Association states that any property whatsoever which remains upon winding up or dissolution of the company and after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities will not be paid to or distributed among the members of the company, but will be given or transferred to some other body which has objects similar to the objects of the company and prohibits the distribution of its income and property among its members.

In accordance with the Memorandum of Association, payment of dividends to members is prohibited.

## NOTE 12. COMMITMENTS

- Capital commitments as at 31 December 2014 amounted to \$Nil (2013: \$Nil).
- Operating lease commitments contracted for rental is payable as follows:

Not later than one year	41,400	41,400
Later than one year but not later than five years	89,700	3,450
Total operating lease commitments	131,100	44,850

## NOTE 13. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Litigation (a)	-	12,000
Total contingent liabilities	\$ -	12,000

# Notes to the Financial Statements (cont'd)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## NOTE 13. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES (CONT'D)

- a) The company had been cited by the Attorney-General for contempt of court for an article published in the company's Tutaka newsletter. In prior year, the Court held the company and its chief executive officer guilty, and the company was fined \$20,000 and was ordered to pay \$2,500 as court cost to the Attorney-General. Also, the executive was fined \$2,000 and was ordered to pay \$2,500 as court cost to the Attorney-General. These fines and court costs were paid by the company and two appeals were lodged with the Court of Appeal.

If the appeals by the company are unsuccessful, an estimated litigation cost of \$12,000 was expected to be paid as legal cost and fees to the Attorney-General.

However, in current year, the company has decided to withdraw the appeals that were lodged with the Court of Appeal.

## NOTE 14. GRANTS

	2014	2013
Donor		
American Bar Association	\$ -	29,904
AusAID	39,162	112,027
Bischofliches Hilfswerk Misereor e.V	-	92,971
Bread for the World (formerly known as Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V)		
419,908		
312,994		
British High Commission	85,853	14,579
Conciliation Resources	332,248	200,595
European Union	186,975	279,408
International Federation for Electoral System (IFES)	27,572	-
Minority Rights Group	-	22,915
Open Budget Survey	994	-
United Nation Development Program	8,290	-
World Association for Christian Communication	-	5,353
Total grant income	1,101,002	1,070,746

## NOTE 15. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and balance. Cash and cash equivalents included in the cash flows statement comprise the following statement of financial position amounts:

Cash on hand and with banks	761,099	319,823
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ 761,099	319,823

## NOTE 16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

### (a) Directors

The names of persons who were directors of the company at any time during the financial year are as follows:

Cynara Teresa Mary Mackenzie – Chairperson

Vijay Naidu

# Notes to the Financial Statements (cont'd)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## NOTE 16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONT'D)

### (a) Directors (cont'd)

Aisake Casimira  
 Tara Chetty  
 Aman Ravindra Singh (Resigned on 4 March 2014)  
 Holger Szesnat  
 Ratu Meli Vesikula (Appointed on 23 April 2014)

### (b) Transactions with Related Parties

Key management personnel remuneration:

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

During the year, the chief executive officer was identified as key management personnel. The remuneration paid during the year is as follows:

		2014	2013
Gross salary	\$	68,040	68,540

## NOTE 17. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

## NOTE 18. COMPANY DETAILS

### Company Incorporation

The company was incorporated in Fiji under the Companies Act, 1983 as a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. Refer to note 11 in relation to share capital and restriction on distribution to members including prohibition of dividend payments to members.

Registered Office and the Principal Place of Business

The registered office and the principal place of business of the company are located at:

23 Denison Road

SUVA

## NOTE 19. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorized for issue on 25 June 2015.

CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM LIMITED

# Disclaimer on Additional Financial Information

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

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## DISCLAIMER

The additional financial information presented on page 18 does not form part of the statutory financial statements. The additional financial information is in accordance with the books and records of Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our statutory audit of the company for the year ended 31 December 2014. Our statutory audit did not cover all details of the additional financial information. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the additional financial information and no warranty of accuracy and 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 company) in respect of such information.

SUVA, FIJI

25 JUNE 2015

The logo for BDO Chartered Accountants, featuring the letters 'B', 'D', and 'O' in a stylized, handwritten font.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

## CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM LIMITED

# Detailed Income Statement

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

INCOME	2014	Restated 2013
Grants - AusAID	\$ 39,162	112,027
- British High Commission	85,853	14,579
- Conciliation Resources	332,248	200,595
- Bread for the World ( formerly known as Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V)	419,908	312,994
- European Union	186,975	279,408
- Minority Rights Group	-	22,915
- Bischofliches Hilfswerk Misereor e.V	-	92,971
- American Bar Association	-	29,904
- United Nation Development Program	8,290	-
- World Association of Christians	-	5,353
- Open Budget Survey	994	-
- International Federation for Electoral System (IFES)	27,572	-
Grants -Dialogue Fiji		
- Conciliation Resources	166,690	185,408
- East West Management Institute	-	79,600
- European Union	44,273	100,170
Administration charges	19,869	37,492
Amortization of deferred Income	11,099	11,099
Interest	5,397	5,541
Gain on disposal of plant and equipment	46	-
Sale of books	-	20
Miscellaneous income	13,324	5,505
Other income	300	3,966
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,362,000</b>	<b>1,499,547</b>
DEDUCT EXPENSES		
Audit fees – Annual audit	4,485	4,485
– Project audit	7,212	16,555
Bank fees and charges	959	749
Court fine and costs	-	27,000
Depreciation	37,888	38,261
Dialogue Fiji expenses	206,575	339,449
Electricity and water	9,228	8,972
Hospitality and entertainment	4,562	3,721
General expenses	16,282	12,376
Insurance	1,719	3,290
Legal and other related expenses	2,875	81,656
Monitoring and evaluation	7,996	30,734
Other staffing costs	67,535	31,174
Postage and stationery	1,085	727
Printing and publication	13,918	17,572
Project expenses	102,522	127,749
Rent	41,400	41,400
Repairs and maintenance	2,429	2,338
Salaries, wages, FNPF and training levy	388,559	362,893
Telephone and internet	14,453	12,745
Travel and per diems	61,700	21,860
Workshop expenses	339,046	211,163
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,332,428</b>	<b>1,396,869</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 29,572</b>	<b>102,678</b>

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