



HELP PEOPLE
FIJI ISLANDS
PEACE SCHOOL
DEVELOPMENT
REWA
TRY
NAUSORI
EDUCATION
TALK
PROGRESS
LIFE
CHILDREN
HUMAN
RIGHTS
CITIZENS
VISION POWER SLAVE
WAR
INFORMATION
RESPECT JUSTICE
TREATY
IDENTITY
CARE
ACTIVIST
TIME
OPINION CIVIC
PERSON
CRIME
PACIFIC ISLANDS
WANT
LEKUTULEVU
NADI
SPEAK
EQUALITY
DECIDE
UNITY LEADER
ABUSE OPPORTUNITY
FORUM
SECURITY STRENGTH
HOPE
RESPONSIBILITY
SUVA
VOTE
RISK
DEMOCRACY Freedom
CONSTITUTIONAL
CHANGE
BUILD
HOME
ACCOUNTABILITY
ANALYSIS
EQUAL
NAVOSA
BUDGET
DEVELOPMENT
OTHERS
MINORITY
SOCIAL CHOOSE
HUMANITY
ACTION

CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



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.

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'état in May 1987, which exposed deep divisions in Fijian 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.

Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF)
23 Denison Road
P.O.Box 12350, Suva, Fiji.
Ph: (679) 3308 379
Fax: (679) 3308 380
Website: www.ccf.org.fj
Email: ccf@kidanet.net.fj
Facebook: Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF)
Twitter: @ccf_fiji

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**You will need to install a QR code scanner app*



Chief Executive Officer's Report



CCF CEO Sara Bulutani Mataitawakilai/CCF Communications

Greetings from the Citizens' Constitutional Forum. I am pleased to present the 2015 Annual Report, reflecting the work of CCF, including the first five months in my tenure as CEO.

2015 was significant in CCF history after the retirement of longest serving CEO and founder Reverend Akuila Yabaki in March. This left a leadership vacuum and staff held on to the fort until my appointment as the new CEO in July. We also welcome a new Finance & Administration Manager Navinesh Yenkanha and a Research Officer Aman Nath, while we bid farewell to hardworking Communication Officer Kasim Nazeem who joined the EU Delegation before the end of the year.

Six months after the 2014 General Elections, we started the year with a series of Townhall meetings in the Ra Province, Lautoka and Labasa in partnership with the International Republican Institute (IRI) through International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES). These townhall meetings were an opportunity for Government Members and Opposition to meet with community members and to discuss on the functions and roles of Parliament, and to discuss issues raised by the citizens outside the Parliament complex. Despite some setbacks, especially when particular members of parliament were pulled out from the last meeting; CCF is adamant to create such a space for citizens to meet their representatives in parliament and dialogue on issues of national interest.

The Grassroots National Budget Workshop and Open Budget Survey (OBS) and Tracker work remains a core CCF work as continue to collaborate in this area with Government through the Ministry of Finance, and other government stakeholders. In June, we organized a follow up National Budget Workshop in Suva bringing in participants representatives from different sectors in the various provinces in Fiji. This Workshop was well received with the presence of the Minister of Finance Honorable Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum as Guest Speaker, and the then Public Accounts Committee member Honorable Balmindar Singh who presented on the role of the committee. Later in September, we released the OBS Survey 2015 which revealed Fiji's score in relation to the three essential pillars: budget transparency; Citizens participation; and Independent Oversight Institutions ranked Fiji well below the global average score.

Despite the conclusion of several community outreach projects, we continue to reach out through various means. We collaborated with the Ministry of Youth & Sports to teach out to the young people in Rewa, and were invited as a session speaker on "With Rights Comes Responsibilities" during the 2015 National Youth Conference in September. In December, we celebrated the International Anti-Corruption Day with more than 100 young men and women from the different villages in the northern part of Tailevu Province who are also part of the Bau Methodist Church Circuit with one day awareness training at the Ratu Kadavulevu School.

Our partnership with the Fiji Community Development Programme (FCDP) has brought another dimension into CCF's activities working with rural and disadvantaged communities. Using our Civic Education component as an entry point, we worked closely with Nasama Settlement, in Naitasiri and Welagi Village in Taveuni in optimising their knowledge of human rights and good governance to practically carry out their community needs assessment to develop a Community Action Plan. As of date, the Welagi WASH Project was successfully implemented with a new water dam and piping system for each household while the Nasama Community Fish Pond Project is currently underway. The FCDP project has helped to build the capacity of our project staffs, and also build our relationship with other stakeholders such as government agencies and other CSOs.

From mid-2015 onwards, CCF has been quiet on the public domain as well with our community outreach, as most projects have ended as well. One thing that stands out from the leadership transition

“The journey ahead is not going to be calm but CCF will be here to stay and we will pick up from where we are now to remain as the premier organization in Fiji -advocating on human rights, good governance, multiculturalism for a sustainable constitutional democracy and a better Fiji for all.”

CCF CEO Sara Bulutani Mataitawakilai

was obvious silence of CCF in several key moments compared to the time of Reverend Yabaki. This led to lots of interesting speculations on the new leadership and questioning of the new leadership and of CCF's position in Fiji's current democratic state especially from partners, donors, and critics.

However, this is a mark of a new chapter for CCF as we try to strategically pick our way cautiously in an interesting political environment where we need to build trust with the government, and continue to weave our way smartly through a constricting democratic spaces where the freedom of expression, political dialogue and active participation of CSOs and citizens in political discourse is still a challenge.

During the year, we also commissioned three Research projects namely Indigenous Institutions Monitoring; Racism, Sacrilege, and Hate Crimes; and Lands Policy Reform. The findings from these research projects will be used for our advocacy work and shared among partners.

One of the highlights last year was the confirmation of our annual Public Lecture Series. The lecture on *Implementing Constitution: Challenges and Opportunities* was presented by our keynote speaker and Constitutional expert Professor Cheryl Saunders. This was followed by a Panel Discussion with constitutional lawyer John Apted, the Attorney-General Aiyaz Saiyed-Khaiyum, women's rights advocate and Director of Fiji Womens Rights Movement Tara Chetty, and former CCF CEO Reverend Akuila Yabaki. Two years after the assenting of the 2013 Fijian Constitution, CCF took the opportunity to reflect on the implementation of the constitution and

discuss the opportunities for further constitutional implementation and development in Fiji. It proved to be successful space for citizens to raise issues and questions to the Panelists.

The year 2015 would not have been a success without the ever-present support and continuous collaboration with CSO partners, NGO Coalition on Human Rights, Government stakeholders, communities that we worked with, and especially from our donors and partners and not forgetting the hard working staff of CCF.

With the year coming to an end, CCF is looking forward to 2016 and beyond. The journey ahead is not going to be calm but CCF will be here to stay and we will pick up from where we are now to remain as the premier organization in Fiji -advocating on human rights, good governance, multiculturalism for a sustainable constitutional democracy and a better Fiji for all.

Sara Bulutani Mataitawakilai
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Director's Report



Teresa MacKenzie / CCF Communications

2015 was not a very easy year either for CCF or for the nation. Our "return to democracy" following the 2014 September elections revealed some teething problems in Parliament. With their huge majority the government pushed through legislation with little time or no opportunity for serious debate.

There were some disturbing incidents such as the sudden departure of the Police Commissioner brought in from South Africa to improve police performance. His replacement brought another military man into high office, namely the then Land Force Commander Brigadier Sitiveni Qiliho. Other disturbing incidents included charges of sedition brought against a large number of people, some for allegedly conducting military style training in the bush in Ra and others for trying to form a mini Christian State in Nadroga. Perhaps dialogue could be used to resolve such issues instead of court action.

Designs made public

following a national competition for a new National Flag were disappointing, and 40,000 entries for the current flag showing the will of a large proportion of the population were disallowed. However a final decision on the issue has yet to be reached. For CCF, 2015 brought in a major change with the completion of Rev Akuila Yabaki's final contract in May after 16 years at the head of the organisation. A grand Farewell/Thank You function was held for Rev Akuila, that included a Fijian ceremony and a video of tributes from former staff and colleagues who had been associated with him through the years.

In July we were happy to welcome Sara Bulutani Mataitawakilai as the new CEO. Bulu had been a member of the Education Team with CCF before spending the last three years with the Provincial Administration in Vanua Levu. There were other staff changes. The Finance Officer left after only 20 months with CCF and was replaced by Navinesh

Yenkanna. We also gained a new Research Officer Aman Nath.

The highlight of the year was the annual Constitutional Public Lecture and Panel Discussion on 8th October. We were delighted that Laureate Professor Emeritus Cheryl Saunders was able to deliver the lecture "Implementing Fiji's Constitution: Challenges and Opportunities". Professor Saunders is no stranger to CCF and Fiji and her expertise is much valued. Her lecture was followed by presentations from a panel consisting of the Honourable Minister and Attorney General Aiyaz Saiyed-Khaiyum, Tara Chetty, Director FWRM, Rev Yabaki and Munro Leys' Lawyer Jon Apted. Questions and comments from the audience were an opportunity for the public voice to be heard. The proceedings of the evening have been published and is available from CCF.

Efforts have been made to improve internal organisation within CCF. The Office Manual was substantially revised and made available. In October Conciliation Resources organised a series of institutional strengthening workshops on leadership and governance for Management and Boards of CCF and CR's other Fiji partner organisations.

I extend my gratitude to our Board members for their attendance at monthly Board meetings and their valuable contribution to policy matters. To our wonderful and dedicated team of staff, I and the Board members extend our great appreciation for their dedication and commitment towards the work of the CCF.

Tessa Mackenzie
Chairperson

CCF 2015 Board of Directors



Teresa MacKenzie
(Chairperson)



Aisake Casimira



Tara Chetty



Dr. Holger Szesnat



Ratu Meli Vesikula



Prof. Vijay Naidu



Acknowledgements

Citizens' Constitutional Forum would like to acknowledge and thank our hard working staff for their commitment and dedication, for without whose efforts CCF would not be able to carry out its work throughout the community, society and the nation.

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 2015 CCF engaged with the following donors towards our programmes and activities.

AusAID
Australian Volunteers International
Bread for the World (formerly known as Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V)
British High Commission
European Union
Fiji Community Development Program
International Federation for Electoral System
International Budget Partnership
United Nation Development Program

Citizens' Constitutional Forum would like to acknowledge the contribution of the following Government Ministries, Institutions and Media who assisted CCF deliver its work in 2015.

Commissioner Central	The Fiji Times
Radio Australia	Lomaiviti Provincial Office
Commissioner Northern	Fiji Television Limited
USP Journalism	Naitasiri Provincial Office
Commissioner Western	Fiji Live
ABC Television	Rewa Provincial Office
Ministry of iTaukei affairs	Fiji Broadcasting Corporation
Pacific Islands News Association	Tailevu Provincial Office
Ministry of Youth and Sports	Mai TV
Islands Business	Cakaudrove Provincial Office
Ministry of Finance and National Planning	Mai Life Magazine
Ra Provincial Office	Bua Provincial Office
Ministry of Elections	Fiji Sun
Serau Provincial Office	Macuata Provincial Office
Ministry of Education	University of the South School of Governances and
Nadroga Provincial Office	International Affairs
Ministry for Foreign Affairs	Fiji National University
Namosi Provincial Office	Radio New Zealand

Acknowledging our CSO and International Partners.....

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 (ECREA)

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

Haus of Khameleon

Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF)

Fiji Community Development Program (FCDP)

Amnesty International

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Human Rights Watch (HRW)

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

Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT)

Conciliation Resources (CR)

CCF Staff 2015

CEO



**Rev. Akuila
Yabaki**
Outgoing CEO



**Sara Bulutani
Mataitawakilai**
Incoming CEO

EDUCATION



Sereima Lutubula
Community and
Field Officer



Viniana Cakau
Education
Support Officer



Ana Nacola
Education
Support Officer



**Marley
Batenburg**
Education
Volunteer



**Losevati
Naidike**
FCDP Project
Support
Officer

LEGAL



Bhavana Dhanasar
Outgoing Legal
Officer



Supreena Naidu
Legal Officer



Krisheel Chang
Temporary Legal
Researcher

COMMUNICATIONS



Nazeem Kasim
Outgoing
Communications
Officer



**Varanisese
Nasilasila**
Communications
Support Officer

PROGRAMMES



Ken Cokanasiga
Programme
Manager



Talei Tuinamuana
Outgoing
Programme
Support Officer



Loucrisha Hussain
Programme
Support Officer

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION



Valerie Lum
Outgoing Finance
Manager



Navinesh Yenkanha
Incoming Finance
Manager



Lucrisha Nair
Administration
Officer



**Nanise Marama
Vakaloloma**
Housekeeping

RESEARCH



Sina Mario
Outgoing
Research Officer



Aman Nath
Incoming
Research Officer



Vilisi Gadolo
Research
Support Officer

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights



1. We Are All Born Free & Equal. We are all born free. We all have our own thoughts and ideas. We should all be treated in the same way.



2. Don't Discriminate. These rights belong to everybody, whatever our differences.



3. The Right to Life. We all have the right to life, and to live in freedom and safety.



4. No Slavery. Nobody has any right to make us a slave. We cannot make anyone our slave.



5. No Torture. Nobody has any right to hurt us or to torture us.



6. You Have Rights No Matter Where You Go. I am a person just like you!



7. We're All Equal Before the Law. The law is the same for everyone. It must treat us all fairly.



8. Your Human Rights Are Protected by Law. We can all ask for the law to help us when we are not treated fairly.



9. No Unfair Detainment. Nobody has the right to put us in prison without good reason and keep us there, or to send us away from our country.



10. The Right to Trial. If we are put on trial this should be in public. The people who try us should not let anyone tell them what to do.



11. We're Always Innocent Till Proven Guilty. Nobody should be blamed for doing something until it is proven. When people say we did a bad thing we have the right to show it is not true.



12. The Right to Privacy. Nobody should try to harm our good name. Nobody has the right to come into our home, open our letters, or bother us or our family without a good reason.



13. Freedom to Move. We all have the right to go where we want in our own country and to travel as we wish.



14. The Right to Seek a Safe Place to Live. If we are frightened of being badly treated in our own country, we all have the right to run away to another country to be safe.



15. Right to a Nationality. We all have the right to belong to a country.



16. Marriage and Family. Every grown-up has the right to marry and have a family if they want to. Men and women have the same rights when they are married, and when they are separated.



17. The Right to Your Own Things. Everyone has the right to own things or share them. Nobody should take our things from us without a good reason.



18. Freedom of Thought. We all have the right to believe in what we want to believe, to have a religion, or to change it if we want.



19. Freedom of Expression. We all have the right to make up our own minds, to think what we like, to say what we think, and to share our ideas with other people.



20. The Right to Public Assembly. We all have the right to meet our friends and to work together in peace to defend our rights. Nobody can make us join a group if we don't want to.



21. The Right to Democracy. We all have the right to take part in the government of our country. Every grown-up should be allowed to choose their own leaders.



22. Social Security. We all have the right to affordable housing, medicine, education, and childcare, enough money to live on and medical help if we are ill or old.



23. Workers' Rights. Every grown-up has the right to do a job, to a fair wage for their work, and to join a trade union.



24. The Right to Play. We all have the right to rest from work and to relax.



25. Food and Shelter for All. We all have the right to a good life. Mothers and children, people who are old, unemployed or disabled, and all people have the right to be cared for.



26. The Right to Education. Education is a right. Primary school should be free. We should learn about the United Nations and how to get on with others. Our parents can choose what we learn.



27. Copyright. Copyright is a special law that protects one's own artistic creations and writings; others cannot make copies without permission. We all have the right to our own way of life and to enjoy the good things that art, science and learning bring.



28. A Fair and Free World. There must be proper order so we can all enjoy rights and freedoms in our own country and all over the world.



29. Responsibility. We have a duty to other people, and we should protect their rights and freedoms.



30. No One Can Take Away Your Human Rights.

Team Reports

Community Education Program

Team: Education

Outgoing/Incoming staff: Losevati Naidike joined CCF during the duration of the project for FCDP – 6 months

Members: Sereima Lutubula, Analaisa Nacola, Viniana Cakau

Donors:

United Nations Development Plan – Strengthening Citizen Engagement in Fiji Initiative,
Australian Aid – Fiji Community Development Plan

2015 Projects:

Strengthening Citizen Engagement in Fiji Initiative (SCEFI) and Fiji Community Development Plan (FCDP)

Projects that started in 2015:

For the education team most projects were ongoing, whether it was a follow up workshop or visiting a new site. The two main projects are as mentioned above SCEFI and FCDP.

SCEFI:

Strengthening Citizen Engagement in Fiji Initiative that was introduced in 2014 continued with Round 3 for 2015. The first round took place for 2015 from the month of February to March, extension from May to June and was concluded by a follow up on April.

SCEFI ACTIVITIES 2015

Total Number of Workshops 11

Total Number of Villages in Attendance 19

FCDP

Fiji Community Development Plan was a continuation project from 2014; some were completed in 2015 while others continued in 2016. This project allowed participants to be more engaged with the community and government also, developed participatory and inclusive community development planning.

Projects that ended in 2015:

-FCDP Wailagi; Water And Sanitation Hygiene (WASH) project was completed in November

Month	Tikina	Villages	Venue	Date	No of Participants
FEB	Noikoro	Nakoro	Nakoro	2nd - 3rd Feb	39
		Navitilevu	Nakoro	4th - 5th Feb	35
		Vatubalavu	Vatubalavu	16th - 17th Feb	41
		Namoli	Namoli	18th - 19th Feb	43
March	Namataku	Keiyasi Edrau Navula	Keiyasi	5th - 6th March	33
	Namataku	Draiba Sawene	Draiba	17th - 18th March	41
	Namataku	Nasauco Wauwosi	Nasauco	19th - 20th March	40

SCEFI EXTENTION PROGRAM					
Month	Tikina	Villages	Venue	Date	
May	Bemana	Tuvu Vuinagerua Tonuve	Tuvu	May 13th - 14th	41
	Naqalimare	Toga Natawatawadi	Toga	May 27th - 28th	43
		Vunaqoru Koroua	Vunaqoru	June 3rd - 4th	37
JUNE	Waicoba	Vunarewa	Vunarewa	June 10th - 11th	34
				TOTAL	155

FOLOW UPS					
APRIL	NOIKORO	Nakoro	Nakoro	14th April	22
		Navitilevu	Navitilevu	15th April	21
	NAMATUKU	Draiba	Draiba	21st April	22
	NOIKORO	NAMOLI	Namoli	22nd April	21
				TOTAL	86

SCEFI project sites



Follow up workshop findings

The following observations and accounts were documented from the villages that were identified for follow up workshops. The villages were Nakoro and Namoli village in the district of Noikoro in the Province of Navosa.

Leadership Changes in the community groups

Senitieli Rida

Turaga ni Koro of Namoli Village

"The training has increased my capacity as a leader; in village meetings he is now able to get the views of the people before decisions were made; unlike before the decisions of the elders are usually considered; I lacked the confidence to be inclusive. Village meetings minutes are well written now as I did not know how to prepare minutes but now I am good at it."

Venina Toutou

President of the Matababani Women's Club

"After the first CCF workshop there was a change of leadership in the organisation. The former President who also attended the workshop testified that she had been using the club's money; and therefore stepped down as the leader. I was then elected to be the President. The CCF training gave me the ability to take on this leadership role."

Citizens Participation

- It was noted that there is an increased self-confidence and the personal motivation to become actively involved in the village affairs;
- Increased citizen involvement was cited by community leaders eg. Increased attendance in village and club meetings; possible link to changes of leadership styles; increased participation in village and club activities

Youths

- Some changes have been made and observed such as more youths attending meetings and also made a year work plan of activities although they did not follow the plan.
- There was an Increase in participation in village activities; a member of the village also mentioned that sometimes they were fully occupied five days a week with village work and that it has affected their personal farming activities.
- Youths experienced that sometimes their decisions are overruled by the village leaders, such as planned activities that were brought up in the village meeting were told to be put on hold by the Youth Advisor who is the Turaga Ni Koro. It showed the need to have a stronger based organisations, to be more organised and more capable of taking action.

Youths are still contemplating on what was learnt from the first workshop; they are still talking about it but not much action taken.
Changes in the various groups and village organisations

Women's group Nakoro Village

- The group now have a club constitution; they are taking further steps to register their organization.
- They also have an annual activity plan.
- The Secretary for the Women's group is happy as she now knows how to prepare minutes using hand-outs given in the 1st workshop.
- They displayed improved time management with planned 2 hours meetings and would impose fines of \$0.50 for late comers.
- The group managed to implement club activities. The women met and decided to sell food once a month, everybody buys, so there was no cooking for the family for lunch. There were plans to also have a Handicraft show on 10th October.
- There is a noted shift in the club organization; focus is on activities that will have more impact on the club and village as a whole, eg. implementing development strategies, strengthening organizations and successfully working with others.

Village: Namoli

- It was reported by the Turaga ni Koro; that now there are clear reports given by the different village organisations presented in the village meetings.
- Building Partnerships /building capacity. There was an increase in networking among the people and the village groups. The line of communication in the village had been adhered to resulting in stronger link between groups eg. Turaga ni Koro receiving good reports from village groups.
- It was indicated by the Turaga ni Koro that participating in the first CCF Leadership workshop had improved his leadership skills and practices eg: taking on a new leadership role of connecting /networking more with women and youth leaders; making inclusive decisions by hearing from the leaders representing members of the different groups; potential benefit to accessing development for the good of all. He had assisted in the registration of the Village Youth group, project proposal writing and corresponding with the relevant authorities.

SUMMARY

- It was observed that as a result of the first workshop by CCF, villagers were empowered now with knowledge, confidence, skills, a developed sense of active citizenship and commitment to achieving their collective goals.
- The villagers have a better understanding of their rights and that development is their right and they should seek it through the proper channels.
- The learning from the workshop mobilised and empowered the community (the leaders, community organisations and the people). There are now good leaders, strong community organisations and committed members.
- Villagers are now able to identify their needs and problems, write letters to higher authorities and have improved report writing skills. They also prepare a project paper and directing it to the relevant authorities.
- The villagers do have the capacity to network and identify development partners.
- Therefore people are equipped to bring about change and now they can make their voices heard.



Members of the audience during the annual public lecture which was led by the Legal Team/ CCF Communications team

Team: Legal

Outgoing/incoming staff:

In 2015, Supreema Naidu joined CCF's Legal Team as Legal Officer. She was coached by Bhavana Dhanasar, AVI Volunteer, who joined CCF's Legal Team as the Legal Officer in 2014. In November 2015, CCF employed Krisheel Chang as Temporary Legal Research Officer till February 2016.

Members:

Throughout 2015, the Legal Team comprised of Bhavana Dhanasar and Supreema Naidu. From November 2015 till February 2016, Krisheel Chang was specifically hired as Temporary Legal Research Officer to conduct research for two BfdW/EED projects - Constitution Newsletter Decrees and Legal Reforms and Rule of Law and Justice Monitoring and Report.

Donors: Brot fur die Welt (BfdW), Planet Wheeler and the Australian Volunteers International (AVI)

2015 Projects:

1. Planet Wheeler and the Australian Volunteers International (AVI) partnered with CCF on the Community Grants Scheme (CGS) Funding Agreement for the Educating Citizens on the Constitution project. This project resulted in an education resource booklet *Your Guide to the Fiji Constitution: Our Nation Our Rights* which is a simplified version of the Constitution. The booklet is

simply written with illustrations that assists all Fijians to understand the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

2. The BfdW funded Towards Sustainable Constitutional Democracy ran through from 2012-2014. In 2015, CCF received extension to complete the remaining projects and as such the Legal team concluded three final projects under this agreement:-

a. Public Lecture Constitutional Issues Series
The Annual Public Lecture series is a platform to address varying Constitutional issues in Fiji's constitutional and political environment. These issues are addressed as an academic issue jointly with the University of the South Pacific. After a hiccup in 2014, the 10th Public Lecture in the series was revived in October 2015 with a lecture on Implementing Fiji's Constitution: Challenges and Opportunities presented by Laureate Professor Emeritus Cheryl Saunders. The Lecture was a precursor to a Panel Discussion with panellists like the Attorney-General Honourable Mr. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, Director of Fiji Women's Rights Movement, Ms. Tara Chetty, Reverend Akuila Yabaki, the then Deputy Chair of the NGO Coalition for Human Rights, and Constitutional Lawyer, Jon Apted. The panellist provided remarks on the lecture and engaged with the audience for some tricky areas for constitutional implementation. The event was hosted by the University of the South Pacific's School of Government, Development and International Affairs in partnership with Fiji Women's Rights Movement and CCF. It was held at the

University of the South Pacific's Laucala Campus in Suva. The event was recorded and transcribed into a publication and was distributed in November.

b. Rule of Law and Justice Monitoring and Report (2012-2014)

As a result of daily monitoring, a six monthly consolidated report monitored the performance of the Judiciary, instruments of the justice and the legal systems (including FICAC, Fiji Law Society, and the Human Rights Commission, later renamed in 2013 to Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission), appointments of the Judiciary, nature of and analysis of judgments and key cases. This project was completed by Bhavana Dhanasar with the assistance of Temporary Legal Research Officer Krisheel Chang. Given the sensitive contents of this project, the report will remain an internal resource for CCF.

c. Constitutional Newsletter Decrees and Legal Reforms (2012-2014)

The newsletter are monthly reports that reflect all the legal reforms including the decrees promulgated and analysing their application and the anticipated impact they will have on the sectors they bear imposition on. This project was completed by Supreena Naidu with the assistance of Temporary Legal Research Officer Krisheel Chang. The newsletters will be later designed into an e-newsletter format and made available on the CCF website later in 2016.

Projects that started in 2015:

1. Educating Citizens on the Constitution
2. Public Lecture Constitutional Issues Series
3. Rule of Law and Justice Monitoring and Report (2012-2014)
4. Constitutional Newsletter Decrees and Legal Reforms (2012-2014)

Projects that ended in 2015:

1. Public Lecture Constitutional Issues Series
2. CCCE Report

Completed Projects:

1. Educating Citizens on the Constitution
2. Public Lecture Constitutional Issues Series
3. Rule of Law and Justice Monitoring and Report (2012-2014)
4. Constitutional Newsletter Decrees and Legal Reforms (2012-2014)

Highlights of 2015:

1. Public Lecture Constitutional Issues Series on Implementing Fiji's Constitution: Challenges and Opportunities

Milestones of 2015:

1. Public Lecture Constitutional Issues Series on Implementing Fiji's Constitution: Challenges and Opportunities

Achievements and impact:

1. The Public Lecture Constitutional Issues

Series on Implementing Fiji's Constitution: Challenges and Opportunities created a great impact with over 700 attendees ranging from members of the civil society, government, diplomatic offices, academics and students. The lecture introduced attendees to the characteristics of constitutional implementation. It allowed participants to further understand implementation by putting questions to the panel members, most of which were directed at Professor Saunders and the AG. The event was highly successful in that it provided a forum for public scrutiny of the government in relation to Constitutional issues, a first of its kind since the assent of the 2013 Constitution. The lecture indirectly offered advice and options that were particularly relevant for Fiji with examples from various other jurisdictions. The paper produced provides a good starting point for further advocacy in this area.

2. CCF prepared and presented written submissions on the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman Or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT) to the Fiji Parliament Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence. Presentations were made by the then CEO of CCF Revered Akuila Yabaki and Supreena Naidu assisted by Bhavana Dhanasar. This too received wide coverage on both mainstream and social media and was well received by Parliament which later voted in favour of signing and ratifying the Convention. In 2016, Fiji signed and ratified the UNCAT.

3. CCF made written submissions in relation to the National Flag Protection Bill (No. 4 of 2015) and the Coat of Arms Bill (No. 5 of 2015) to the Fiji Parliament Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights. CCF submitted that the General Offences and Penalties sections in both Bills imposed heavy fines. This position was considered and the final Act substantially reduced penalty terms and fines from the initial hefty penalties.

Partners in 2015:

Fiji Parliament Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights
Fiji Parliament Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence
Office of the Attorney-General
Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission
Judicial Services Commission
University of the South Pacific's School of Government, Development and International Affairs
Fiji Women's Rights Movement
NGO Coalition for Human Rights
BFDW
Australian Volunteers International (AVI)

Communications



CCF Communications Officer Nazeem Kasim with CCF CEO Sara Bulutani Mataitawakilai before an interview/ CCF Communications

Team: Communications

Members:

Outgoing – Nazeem Kasim

Incoming – Varanise Nasilasila

Donors: European Union and
Bret fur die Welt

2015 Projects:

- International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) Day
- Tutaka
- Annual Report 2014
- Annual General Meeting
- International Day of Peace
- Fiji Day / Public Lecture
- 16 Days of Activism for Human Rights Day
- Human Rights Day

Projects from January – December: ICERD

For the Communications' team one of the projects that kick started 2015 off was the celebration of the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Day that was held on March 20th. The event provided a platform for citizens to express their views on eliminating racial discrimination through a number of competition including poetry, paintings, drawings, photos and videos. With the theme "Learning from historical tragedies to combat racial discrimination today" CCF received wide public interest with Fijians of all ages participating in the competition.

Tutaka

Our ongoing quarterly newsletter "Tutaka" has been a great mean of advocacy not only for the Communications team but for the organisation also. In 2015 the team managed to put together four issues where the third one was released early 2016. The content of the newsletter mainly focuses on the work of the organisation including workshops, press conference, public events and advocacy work for the different activities allocated by the teams (Legal, Research and Education).

International Day of Peace

Celebrated yearly on September 21st, 2015, the International Day of Peace was commemorated widely with the theme "Partnership for Peace – Dignity for All." The United Nations declared the event as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. CCF had put together a press release to also advocate on the importance of this event.

Human Rights Day

Human Rights Day was another of CCF's successful event that was conducted by the Communications team with the assistance of the staff from each department. Together with other civil societies the staff of CCF marched through the streets of Suva with over 100 participants promoting Human Rights. The theme this year "Our Rights, Our Freedoms, Always" focuses on the long campaign to mark the 50th anniversary of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Other Projects

Other projects that the Communications team focused on were the Open Budget Survey; Constitutional Public Lecture; Anti-Corruption Day; Fiji Day. Under the mentioned projects the Communications team heavily focused in creating public advocacy on the event and other necessary materials needed by the team responsible for the project.

Challenges and Achievements

Meeting timelines were one of the greatest challenges encountered by the Communications team but with the assistance of the staff, projects were successfully completed. One of our major achievements was hosting the annual Public Lecture where we received positive and constructive feedbacks. We also had positive turnout especially with the presence of our CSO leaders and the Attorney General. It has been a fruitful year for us and we look forward to 2016.

Research

Team: Research

Outgoing/incoming staff:

Outgoing – Sina Mario Incoming – Aman Nath

Vilisi Gadolo

Members: 2

Donors: European Union Lot 2 and Bret fur die Welt

2015 Projects:

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)

Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

Open Budget Survey (OBS)

Research Projects

Projects that started in 2015:**UPR**

The projects that started in 2015 include the Universal Periodic Review on human rights. Following the submission of the CSO Shadow Report in November 2014 in Geneva, the CCF commenced with the UPR activities for its next phase of the cycle, which includes the Mid-term Report which is due by November 2017 and the Shadow Report by November 2019. The UPR activities commenced with the establishment of the CSO Working Group and the subsequent meetings held thereafter.

ICERD

The Research Team commenced its ICERD reporting by holding its first wider CSO network meeting on October 30. A Working Group was later established and held its meeting on December 4. The Working Group comprised of partners from the Fiji Women's Rights Movement, Dialogue Fiji, Rainbow Pride Foundation, Pacific Community Network, SEEP and Pacific Centre for Peace-building. CCF was unanimously endorsed as the Secretariat for ICERD. The ICERD Working Group continues to hold monthly meetings to track progress of the formulation of the Shadow Report pertaining to information collation and research.

Research Projects

The Research Team commissioned three (3) Research Projects, namely Lands, Indigenous Institutions Monitoring (2012-2015) and Racism, Hate Crimes and Sacrilege, in 2015. The Lands research project was finalized with Directions Inc in June. Mr. Romitesh Kant, of USP, undertook Racism, Hate Crimes and Sacrilege research project whilst Ms. Alisi Daurewa, an Electoral Commissioner, did the Indigenous Institutions Monitoring (2012-2015) research project.

Open Budget Survey

The months of August and September saw the preparations and release of the Open Budget Survey. A dissemination plan strategy was put together by the Research and Communications teams. Fiji scores were released on September 9 with a press conference statement from CEO. News coverage of the scores was on Fiji One Television and Radio New Zealand. It was also in page 3 of the Fiji Times on September 11.

The OBS is an internationally acclaimed mechanism that determines the transparency of national budgets worldwide by ascertaining the availability of eight (8) key budget documents that a State needs to produce for public consumption.

Projects that ended in 2015:

Open Budget Survey

The OBS is the only project that was completed in 2015. The Open Budget Index completed its phase of survey in 2015 with the subsequent release of scores for Fiji.

Completed Projects:

The UPR, ICERD and Research Projects continue in 2016. The OBS also continued its next phase of survey in 2016.

Milestones of 2015:

The Research Team commenced with its CSO ICERD Shadow Report formulation via the establishment of a Working Group which comprised of respective NGO partners. The Research Team also secured the



Sina Mario CCF Research Officer during a group discussion at a workshop/ CCF Communications

support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) via facilitating a workshop on the fundamentals and tenets of ICERD which was held on November 10 at the OHCHR Conference Room. The Team also committed to successfully building partnership with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Achievements and impact:

The Research Support Officer attended the Dissemination Plan Workshop in Washington DC in July. It was a 3-day workshop with 16 different countries represented. The OBS Workshop was hosted by the International Budget Partnership (IBP) and the purpose of the workshop was to discuss the dissemination plan for each country pertaining to the scores.

ICERD

The purpose and objective of the workshop was for the wider CSO members to familiarize with the doctrines of ICERD as we commence the formulation of the Shadow Report. Rev. Akuila Yabaki, the former CEO of CCF, delivered a presentation on his experience and journey pertaining to ICERD during his stint at CCF especially during the submission of the ICERD Shadow Reports in Geneva in 2008 and 2012 respectively. Participants who attended the workshop included the wider CSO members and representatives from the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission (FHRADC).

Open Budget Survey

The Research Support Officer attended the International Budget Partnership organized Dissemination Plan Workshop in Washington DC, USA in July. The 3-day workshop saw 16 countries being represented. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the dissemination plan for each country pertaining to the scores.

Challenges

Some of the pertinent challenges that the Research Team had to grapple with include the timeline of commissioning of research projects. It is only prudent and wise to expand the duration of the research projects between six months to a year instead of the three months allocated towards Racism and Indigenous Institutions Monitoring projects.

Secondly, the lesson learnt is that the potential consultants engaged to undertake the research projects must be thoroughly scrutinized. A classic example is the case of Lands Research undertaken by Directions Inc.



Pillar 1

Empowering citizens through education on good governance, human rights and citizenship.

Empowering Communities to Initiate Development



Womens group of Nakoro Village discuss with CCF Education Officer Analaisa Nacola on the progress for the workshop/ CCF Communications

In the effort to empower rural communities in Fiji to initiate development through strong leadership skills and strengthening community organisation, the Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) facilitated 8 workshops on good leadership and good governance in the province of Nadroga & Navosa in the months of February, March and April 2015.

The workshops were conducted in the villages of Nakoro, Navitilevu, Vatulevu, Namoli, Keyasi, Draiba & Sawane, Nasaucoko and Wauwosi and are a major part of CCF's Community Education Program, presenting a human rights based approach to development.

CCF imparts knowledge

and skills to leaders to conduct their own participatory needs analysis with their communities to identify development projects. "We educate and build capacity of the community leaders with information on good governance and leadership so they have a good governance and leadership so they have a participatory approach to their projects and avoid top down tactics," said CCF's Education Field Officer, Sereima Lutubula.

"We provide practical project writing skills and information so they learn how to access funds for development projects by identifying and utilizing various strengths in their community," added Ms. Lutubula. Ms. Lutubula says these

workshops empower communities to be a part of their own development through mobilising the community to take an active role in their development, understanding how they can identify their needs and problems and steps or processes to follow to develop their organisations and communities.

"These workshops also empower young leaders and community leaders to gain equal understanding of perspective on issues that affect their communities," said Lutubula.

The United Nations Strengthening Citizens and Engagement in Fiji Initiative (SCEFI) funded these workshops and were attended by a total of 350 people from eight villages.



8 workshops on good leadership and good governance were conducted



from 8 villages attended the workshops



The workshops were conducted in the villages of Nakoro, Navitilevu, Vatulevu, Namoli, Keyasi, Draiba & Sawane, Nasaucoko and Wauwosi

Constitutional Public Lecture

Implementing the Constitution: Challenges and Opportunities



Jon Apted, Cheryl Saunders, Honorable Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, Tara Chetty and Rev. Akuila Yabaki / CCF Communications

After a chaotic and controversial drafting process, the President assented to the 2013 Constitution of the Republic of Fiji in September 2013. Two years on, CCF took the opportunity to reflect on constitutional progress so far and discuss the direction for constitutional governance and development in Fiji.

Hosted by USP's School of Government, Development and International Affairs, in partnership with CCF and Fiji Women's Rights Movement, the Constitutional Public Lecture was held on 7 October 2015 and addressed the theme Implementing the Fiji Constitution- Challenges and Opportunities. Immediate targets of implementation have been carried out. Electoral laws have been made, parliament re-established, and commissioners appointed to the Constitutional Office Commission. Human rights organisations welcomed the appointment of a Chairperson and members to the Human Rights and AntiDiscrimination Commission, the first steps towards re-establishing the Commission to its former vitality and bringing the institution in compliance with the Paris Principles.

Full implementation of the Constitution will take time,

and we are eagerly awaiting the introduction of freedom of information legislation, a Code of Conduct for public service officials and the establishment of the Accountability and Transparency Commission, amongst other things. We have seen that the transition to parliamentary processes has been challenging, with the government steamrolling decisions and resorting all too quickly to exceptional procedures provided in s 47(3) of the Constitution, allowing for legislation to be rushed through parliament without due deliberation, bypassing substantive debate and public scrutiny. It should now be a priority of the government, opposition and policymakers to bring life to the Constitution. The legislative, executive and judicial arms of government in particular are tasked with the primary responsibility of giving effect to the Constitution in a way that maximises the opportunities it can offer. In relation to implementation of the Bill of Rights, the judiciary bears great responsibility to develop common law consistent with values and principles that underlie a democratic society. The legal profession and progressive judicial interpretation can, over

time, develop precedent that provides important boundaries to the broad limitation clauses contained throughout the Bill of Rights.

At this point, the greatest challenge seems to be the need to establish a constitutional culture, in which constitutional requirements are understood, and both the letter and the spirit of the Constitution are observed. A Constitution must attract natural support from a wide sector of citizens as uniform approval is essential for a uniform agreement of the direction of the country. In this way, legitimacy of the constitution-making process is essential.

As Professor Cheryl Saunders has pointed out in her 2011 lecture on Constitution in the 21st Century, 'the constitutionmaking process must not only be inclusive, but must also engender trust between segments of the community and critically, between their leaders'. This national ownership plays a critical role in transitioning to constitutional democracy and post-conflict peace building.

Rewa Youths receive better understanding on Human Rights and Good Governance

CCF's Education Team representative Viniana Cakau attended a workshop hosted by the Ministry of Youth and Sports which enabled youths to be more aware of human rights. The workshop that was held in Nabua Village in the Rewa Province created a platform for CCF to advocate for and create a better understanding of not only human rights but also the importance of good governance. "With the help of CCF brochures and flyers and the short session that I conducted regarding human rights and good governance, the participants managed to better understand their rights and had cleared out misconceptions on the subject," said CCF's Education Support Officer, Viniana Cakau. The participants were also taken through the 8 principles of Good

The 8 Principles of Good Governance are:

1. Consensus Oriented
2. Participatory
3. Follows the Rule of Law
4. Equitable & Inclusive
5. Accountable
6. Transparent
7. Responsive
8. Effective and Efficient

Governance and case studies which relate principles of good governance to everyday living or organisational governance.

"The youths responded well to the concepts and suggested that this would be the best way of avoiding corruption, creating better leadership, decision making and better governance of organisations," said Ms Cakau. According to Ms Cakau many were misinformed about human rights and would abuse the concept and use it as their right "to do whatever they want to do". But after the session, participants were well informed on how to put the concept into better practice. CCF believes that everyone is entitled to enjoy their rights without any discrimination and it is important for people to know their rights as citizens of the country.

Korova receives first ever awareness

Residents of Korova settlement along the Laucala corridor in Suva received their first ever workshop from any organisation regarding ways to improve their standard of living. The Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) made the initiative to conduct their awareness program on Human Rights and Good Governance only to discover that the community had not received any form of awareness program on the topic. CCF Education Officer Viniana Cakau said that they were glad to have chosen Korova settlement as as a community to participate in FCDP's Community Action Plan as it will assist the community to identify their essential need and work towards them. This included discussions with the participants on ways to seek assistance to meet their needs.

"Despite living near the city Korova surprised us when they mentioned that we were the first NGO to visit their community. Working with them was a real privilege. We managed to come up with an action plan to assist the community to identify their



Participants from Korova during the workshop / CCF Education team

everyday need like water," she said.

After consecutive trips to the settlement CCF's Community Education Team realised the much needed awareness to the community.

"Whilst conducting our workshop we were very happy with the turnout of participants and the fact that they were very interested

in the workshop and now the women and youth group are trying to register with the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Women and Poverty Alleviation.," said Cakau.

The project is a CCF initiative that was funded by Australian Aid through the Fiji Community Development Program (FCDP).

CCF commemorates Anti-Corruption Day



Youth participants during the international Anti-Corruption Day at Ratu Kadavulevu School in Tailevu / Communications Team

Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) was excited to contribute positively to the global commemoration of the International Anti-Corruption Day. Celebrated on 9th December 2015. The global theme was "Break the Corruption Chain".

To celebrate, CCF hosted its inaugural Anti-Corruption Awareness Youth Workshop with more than 100 youth participants at the Ratu Kadavulevu School hall with the theme Stop Corruption, It's our Duty addressing the worldwide need to put an end to corruption.

The issue with corruption is that it spreads and changes form which makes it difficult to identify in a plain setting. It is a crime that is not only committed by people in high position's or with power but also at the grassroots level.

This phenomenon is imbedded in principles of dishonesty and fraud and includes acts of bribery. Because it is so widespread, understanding the real effect of corruption on the social, political and economic life of a country is not as simple. It undermines democratic institutions, hinders economic development and jeopardizes

good governance. There is a need to put a stop to corruption and to do this it starts with us. CCF believes that creating more awareness at all levels can greatly influence rejection and reduction of corruption in Fiji. To practice good governance means to practice good decision making processes which also means that leaders need to be accountable and transparent in all their dealings.

Over the past decade, CCF's education team conducted workshops in several provinces around Fiji on good governance, democracy and human rights. Their experience with communities revealed that there is a need for citizens to have meaningful participation in political affairs whereby people were informed about government processes. There is a common understanding that to have a proper check and balance system all people must be aware of development or any sort of activity that is happening around them.

"People need to understand the importance of not having corrupt practices in their community or in their country for that matter. We have chosen to work with youth

groups as it can greatly contribute to moulding our future leaders who will continue to fight corruption," said Chief Executive Officer, Sara Bulutani Mataitawakilai.

There was also an expressed need to have leaders to account for decisions made and transparency within related processes. Since leaders are accountable to the people they are also responsible for the overall public good.

For example the release of the Auditor-General's Reports this year after a lapse of eight years indicated positive signs to keep citizens informed about the use, expenditure and control of public monies and public properties. However, there is still room for improvement in making this information accessible and simplified for all Fijians to understand.

CCF calls on the government, private sectors, civil society, media and the citizens of Fiji to join hands and fight corruption. Corruption is the absolute theft of democracy.

Human Rights Day

Our Rights, Our Freedoms, Always



CCF team during the World Human Rights Day 2015 at Civic Centre / CCF Communications team

On December 10, 2015 CCF was pleased to be part of yet another World Human Rights Day celebration representing the wider civil society.

This year's theme 'Our Rights, Our Freedoms, Always' especially focuses on the year-long campaign to mark the 50th anniversary of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

"Both these covenants are of importance to Fiji where much work needs to be done. The theme recognizes that since the inception of this international Bill of Rights framework, the world is still struggling to progressively achieve some of these fundamental rights," CCF Chief Executive Officer Sara Mataitawakilai said.

"Since signing onto the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in

"It was a good day for all civil society organizations and I urge everyone to stand in solidarity to recommit ourselves for the protection of our rights and freedoms in order to build a better Fiji,"

CCF CEO Sara Bulutani Mataitawakilai

1968, Fiji has witnessed a turbulent history of political instability, destabilization of governments, slow economic growth and social injustices," he said.

The Citizens' Constitutional Forum together with other civil societies marched through the streets of Suva from the Suva bus stand to the Suva Civic Center, with over 100 participants promoting Human Rights.

"We had activities where people from all walks of life came in to write their views on human rights and distributed t-shirts as prizes

for them with our publications made available to everyone," Mr Mataitawakilai said. He said that it was a productive day for everyone and hoped that we will continue to advocate on the principles of human rights.

"It was a good day for all civil society organizations and I urge everyone to stand in solidarity to recommit ourselves for the protection of our rights and freedoms in order to build a better Fiji," the CEO said.

Lekutulevu undergo Community Action Plan Training



Participants from Lekutulevu during the FCDP training / CCF Education team

Community Action Plan training had an immense positive impact in communities that were identified by CCF in partnership with the Fiji Community Development Program. One such community is Lekutulevu village, Tikina Vaturova, Cakaudrove

gave people assurance that they also had Government support, it was good to see how the village members valued this trip by making time to attend the workshop and participating in activities,” said Education Support Officer, Viniana Cakau.

“We were able to complete all our activities as planned and gathered all the desired information and now we look forward to the implementation phase which we hope to complete soon,” said Viniana.

This project was a CCF initiative

“The presence of the Cakaudrove Provincial Office representatives played a vital role because it gave people assurance that they also had Government support, it was good to see how the village members valued this trip by making time to attend the workshop and participating in activities,”

CCF Education Officer Viniana Cakau

Province in Vanua Levu.

The Citizens’ Constitutional Forum Education Team together with the Cakaudrove Provincial Office representative’s made a site visit for scoping and community profiling.

“The presence of the Cakaudrove Provincial Office representatives played a vital role because it

Seasonal diagrams along with several activities were conducted for the participants to appreciate the importance of understanding the principles of good governance and human rights. The CCF team also clarified their role as an organisation to the people, which is creating more awareness on daily issues.

funded by the Australian Aid through the Fiji Community Development Program (FCDP). The project phase will be completed in April, 2016.

The Welagi WASH Project

The Right to Water and Sanitation was recognized by the United Nations General Assembly on 28th July, 2010. In order to live a life in dignity while upholding human rights, access to clean drinking water and sanitation is central.

The villagers of Welagi on the Island of Taveuni have a reason to smile as they are now the beneficiaries of a Water and Sanitation Project initiated by the Citizens' Constitutional Forum.

55 year old village plumber Lote Duna said that they were very happy with the project.

"We are very happy that we now have a new water system. It is a relief for those of us living on the hilly region of the village. We used to face difficulties with the old water source especially during the dry season when the source would dry up and we would face water shortages. That would no longer be happening with this new water system in place," says Mr Duna.

Mr Duna is the village plumber and a member of the water committee. -

Also grateful for the project was 63-year-old Sakaraia Dusutoka, who is one among the 16 families benefitting from the project.

"When there is water shortage in the village, we would have to go to the river to get water. For the 17 years we have lived here, our toilet



Residents of Welagi try out their new water project/ CCF Research Team

can now flush. With two families in our household this project has made things easier for us," Mr Dusutoka said.

CCF Research Support Officer, Vilisi Gadolo said that the project has met a very important need for the villagers. She added that the project was conducted in three phases. The first phase was doing a Community Profile or Needs Assessment. The second phase was designing a Community Development Plan with the villagers and the final phase was the implementation of the project. The implementation phase also included Water And Sanitation Hygiene and Good Governance Trainings. All these phases

ensured that all the villagers participated in the process especially the marginalized groups in the community.

"We managed to install two 10,000 liter tanks and water pumped into these two tanks are from a new spring source called Korovou. This water source now feeds water to 11 households with 16 families," said Vilisi.

Australian Aid through the Fiji Community Development Program (FCDP) funded the project. The CCF worked in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Fiji (HFHF) for the technical aspects of the project.

Youth group undergo Human Rights Education

A group of youth participants gained better knowledge on human rights after attending the

Citizens' Constitutional Forum chaired session during the 2015 National Youth Conference.

CCF was invited by the Ministry of Youth and Sports to the conference to present on the topic 'With Rights Comes Responsibilities' at the National Gymnasium on September 9, 2015.

CEO Mr Sara Bulutani Mataitawakilai stressed on the importance of any individual to know their rights and

responsibilities. "With rights comes responsibility and it is important for people to know their rights to avoid conflicts and discrimination. It also prevents people from abusing their rights which lead to disrespecting other people's rights," said Mr Mataitawakilai.

Some of the topics shared were identifying basic human rights in daily life, how to exercise rights and their importance.

"Most of our youth in Fiji are not aware of Human Rights and how it relates to them and this is why it is important for them to be fully

aware so that they understand, avoiding any misinterpretations," said Mataitawakilai.

Youth groups are one of CCF's target groups in its advocacy and community workshops. The organisation believes that youths play a crucial role in community sustainability.

"We believe by targeting youths they will have the confidence in making decisions, holding leaders to account and also be accountable to their communities by participating in activities that will contribute to their well-being," said the CEO.



Pillar 2

.....
Facilitating a sustainable democracy
through active citizenship

Budget Workshop creates better interaction



Participants of the workshop with Honorable Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum/ CCF Communications team

On June 23rd, 2015 the Citizens' Constitutional Forum conducted a follow up Budget Workshop allowing participants to better understand the budget process. 57 year old participant Vika Rokotuinceva said that the workshop has assisted her abundantly. "In this workshop we get to understand better on how we can contribute to the National Budget," she said. Travelling from Lomaiviti, Ms Rokotuinceva said that it was important for people to know about the budget process. "As citizens of this country we have the right to know about the process of our budget in terms of National Development so that we can all benefit from it," she said. Ms Rokotuinceva said there has not been much awareness created regarding the budget process. "The workshop has also created more awareness to us and to people back in the village which is where I hope

"In this workshop we get to understand better on how we can contribute to the National Budget. As citizens of this country we have the right to know about the process of our budget in terms of National Development so that we can all benefit from it"

**57 year old participant
Vika Rokotuinceva**

to share this information," said Ms Rokotuinceva. The two day workshop that was held in Suva from the 23rd to the 24th of June made a positive impact to the various community representatives.

Representing the Nadroga Navosa Youth community 39 year old Kinivuwai Naba said that the workshop had empowered him. "Youth groups play an important role in any development in a country and it is important for us to know things like the budget process so that we can know how we can contribute to the development of the country," he said. The workshop included representatives from the Ministry of Finance, including the Honorable Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, and the Public Accounts Committee the Honorable Balmindar Singh.

Open Budget Training



First from left (sitting) Research Support Officer Vilisi Gadolo with other participants during the workshop. Photo: IBP

A three day planning workshop involving the Open Budget Survey (OBS) allowed participants to have a clear developed communication plan in preparation for the release of the OBS 2015 global rankings.

The workshop that was held in Washington DC from the 22nd to the 24th of July aimed at showing awareness on the International Budget Partnership's [SN1] dissemination strategy and to speak effectively about the survey results and methodology.

CCF's Research Support Officer Vilisi Gadolo was one of the 16

participants from around the world who contributed in the workshop. It was a first for CCF to take on the role of reporting on Fiji's budget transparency and was supported by the International Budget Partnership. "It was great to hear from the diverse group of participants about their experiences in budget advocacy and also about the political climates they work in," said Gadolo. Gadolo described the project as challenging when trying to talk on the OBS especially on methods and means to reach the public and influence decision makers.

"People have the right to know about where their country stands when it comes to budget transparency and it is important that we relate the message in a way where people will understand," said Gadolo.

Prior to the workshop, CCF partnered with stakeholders from the likes of government, community leaders and provincial officers, advocating the importance of citizens' partnership in the National Budget and Development consultations.

FIJI's SCORES for 2015



Source: International Budget Partnership

Fiji improves global ranking in budget transparency

The International Budget Partnerships Open Budget Survey (OBS) is the world's only independent, comparative, and regular measure of the three essential pillars for accountable budget systems; budget transparency, citizen participation, and independent oversight institutions. The survey released today revealed that Fiji's score in relation to budget transparency, the first pillar, had slightly improved from 6/100 in 2012 climbing to 15/100 in 2015. The 2015 score assessed Fiji based on data collected up till June 2014. Although the Fiji government has slightly improved the amount of budget information available to the public. The survey further reveals that Fiji still ranks among the world's worst on budget transparency, with the global average score being 45. This means that, although citizens have slightly more access to the information they need to participate in decision making and hold the government accountable, there is a strong need for this to improve greatly. This rating can be attributed to the publication of the 2013 Year-End report. It is important to highlight that, given the timeframe for the survey, the rating does not reflect some significant developments since June 2014, such as the scrutiny of the Auditor-General's reports from 2007 to 2013 by the Public Accounts Committee, or the 2015 Budget Estimates which were introduced and enacted in Parliament in December 2014. It is expected that we will see some improvement in Fiji's next ranking. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Bulutani Mataitawakilai said it was encouraging to note that Fiji's budget transparency had improved. This is an indication that we are headed in the right direction; however, there is much work that still needs to be done to enable citizens to understand and influence the use of public money. "CCF welcomes the improved budget ranking for Fiji and credits the government for achieving this, but as the survey notes this

ranking is significantly lower than the global average. We have seen some improvements since the survey, and we would like this to continue. Specifically, we would like to see the government make publicly available an In-Year Report and Mid-Year Review, as well as the introduction of a Citizens budget- a simpler and less technical version of budget documents that enables citizens to better understand public spending." said Chief Executive Officer, Bulutani Mataitawakilai. Fiji has scored 10/100 in the second essential pillar, Citizen Participation, indicating that the opportunity for the public to engage in the budget process is weak. Transparency itself is insufficient for improving governance. Public participation is essential for open budgeting. Fiji's score is lower than the global average score of 25, with Fiji ranked 10th in the Asia-Pacific Regional after Malaysia and Papua New Guinea. "We have seen the government provide some limited opportunities for public consultations, but this has been quite weak. Budget consultations are held and submissions are welcomed from the public, but there is little ongoing dialogue and we have yet to see submissions being reflected in the budget itself.

What would make public participation stronger is ongoing public engagement in budgeting and feedback as to what public submissions have been received and how they are being implemented, as well as opportunities in Parliament for public testimonials during budget hearings" said Mataitawakilai. "Public Budgets are the government's most powerful mechanism to support the lives and the livelihoods of all people in the country, but particularly those who are poor and marginalized. It's those citizens that depend most on the support that government provides from them," said Mataitawakilai. The third essential pillar, Independent Oversight Institutions, contains

two parts; oversight by Parliament and by the Supreme Audit Institution, the Auditor General's Office. During the year 2013 to 2014, the legislature had yet to be reinstated and Fiji scored a dismal 0/100. Being that this has since been restored, we expect to see a great improvement in this rating in the next survey. Finally, Fiji has scored 25/100 for oversight by the Auditor-General. The survey concludes that the Auditor-General's oversight is weak because, although it has some discretion to undertake audits as it sees fit, the Auditor-General can be removed without approval from Parliament or the judiciary, undermining its independence.

The survey also noted that the Auditor-General's office had insufficient resources to fulfill its mandate. Although transparency has improved in relation to the Auditor-General's reports being tabled in Parliament, unless we see improvements in resourcing and the removal procedures of the Auditor-General, it is unlikely this score would improve much further.

It is a constitutionally entrenched requirement that the Office of the Auditor-General have adequate funding and resources to independently and effectively exercise its powers, and we hope to see this reflected in future budgets.

In order to achieve Independent Budget Oversight, the government should ensure that the Budget Estimates are adequately and properly debated in parliament. This includes strengthening capacity to conduct budget analysis, having a formal pre-budget policy debate prior to tabling the Budget Estimates, and ensuring that this vital debate is allocated enough time within parliamentary procedures to be suitably deliberated.

CCF works in collaboration with the International Budget Partnership (IBP) on the OBS. Since 2008, Fiji has been engaged in this research, through monitoring government websites and liaising with government

officials on the availability of budget documents. "Budgets are the most essential vehicle through which governments can deliver on their promises to the people," said Mataitawakilai.

FACT SHEET ON FIJI



OPEN BUDGET SURVEY 2015 (OBS)

The Open Budget Survey (OBS) is the only independent, comparative, and regular measure of budget transparency, participation, and oversight in the world. It is the culmination of analyses conducted by a global network of hundreds of researchers over a two-year period. This year's survey examines 102 countries from around the world, measuring three aspects of how governments are managing public finances:

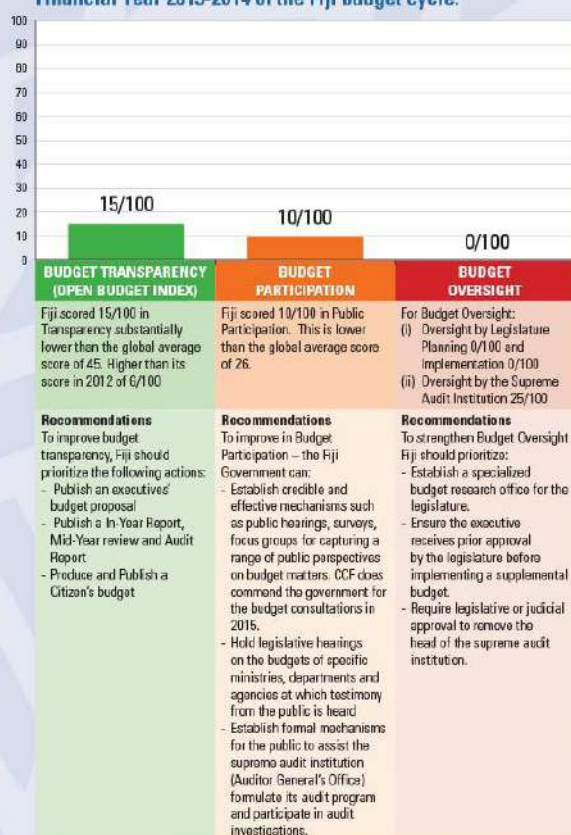
1. BUDGET TRANSPARENCY – the amount, level of detail, and timeliness of budget information governments are making publicly available. Each country is given a score between 0 and 100 that determines its ranking on the Open Budget Index.

2. BUDGET PARTICIPATION – the opportunities governments are providing to civil society and the general public to engage in decisions about how public resources are raised and spent.

3. BUDGET OVERSIGHT – the capacity and authority of formal institutions (such as legislatures and supreme audit institutions) to understand and influence how public resources are being raised and spent.

FIJI'S RANKING

Data collated for the following scores were from the Financial Year 2013-2014 of the Fiji budget cycle.



8 Key budget documents according to international standards

- 1. THE ENACTED BUDGET** – a document which was passed into law as the budget to be implemented for the upcoming fiscal year.
- 2. AUDIT REPORT** – A document issued by the country's Supreme Audit Institution on an annual basis that assesses the government's year-end final accounts.
- 3. IN-YEAR REPORT** – A document that is produced on a monthly or quarterly basis and reports on actual revenues and expenditures against original targets in the budget.
- 4. PRE-BUDGET STATEMENT** – A document that is produced during the first phase of the executive's formulation of the budget and that explains the key economic policy and assumptions used in the formulation of the budget for the upcoming year.
- 5. MID-YEAR REVIEW** – A document that is produced in the middle of the budget year and contains a comprehensive update on the implementation of the budget, including a review of the economic assumptions underlying the budget and an updated forecast of the budget outcome for the current budget year.
- 6. EXECUTIVES BUDGET PROPOSAL** – A document that is the government's major statement on fiscal issues and includes detailed revenue, expenditure and debt estimates, macroeconomic assumptions, historical and multi-year budget data and public policy information.
- 7. YEAR-END REPORT** – A document produced by the executive after the end of the fiscal year that reports extensively on the government's financial activities and its performance on implementing the budget during the entire fiscal year.
- 8. CITIZENS BUDGET** – A non-technical version of the budget that is explicitly developed for the public and that is accessible to the average person who does not already have budget knowledge and expertise.

For more information on the OBS 2015 contact CCF or visit survey.internationalbudget.org

23 Denison Road, Suva. P.O. Box 12584, Suva, Fiji
Phone: (679) 330 8379. Fax: (679) 330 8380
Email: ccf@kidenet.net.fj Website: www.ccf.org.fj
www.facebook.com/ccf.fiji @ccf_fiji

#OBS2015Fiji
#IBP

CCF Welcomes MOG Elections Report

Citizen's Constitutional Forum (CCF) welcomes the 2014 Fijian Elections Final Report of the Multinational Observer Group (MOG). The comprehensive report highlights some of the vital and challenging experiences during the 2014 national elections and makes practical recommendations to improve future elections in Fiji.

An elections report based on research collected from voters' perspective published by the Concerned Citizens for Credible Elections (CCCE) in January 2015, administratively led by CCF, drew similar conclusion and made comparable recommendations to improving future elections. CCF strongly supports the recommen-

dations in the MOG Report, that is, the need for the Fijian government to review all existing electoral laws and regulations governing elections prior to the 2018 elections to avoid confusion among stakeholders and increase confidence in the electoral processes.

As recommended in the MOG report, the CCF supports the revision of section 115 of the Electoral Decree 2014 to encourage civil society engagement in the elections process, including the removal of restrictions on foreign funded organisations allowing the government to further collaborate with the civil society to help support its civic education efforts.

As raised in the MOG report

and the CCCE report, CCF shares the views that accredited domestic elections observers are in vital in assuring a favourable environment for credible elections and is hopeful that the government will consider its inclusion for the 2018 elections. Domestic observer groups monitor pre-election processes and also field many more observers during the elections period enabling greater chances of detecting anomalies. Domestic observers are also equipped with local knowledge of geographic region, customs and practices, and are capable of observing elections.

Media Ranking

The 2015 World Press Freedom Index conducted by Reporters Without Borders for Freedom of Information established that Fiji has improved its ranking from 107 in 2014, to 93 this year. A total of 180 countries are assessed and ranked, with China, Korea and Vietnam scoring in the bottom 10, and Eritrea sitting at 180. Meanwhile, Scandinavian countries dominate the top 10, with New Zealand also amongst the best ranked for press freedom, and Finland ranking as number 1.

Fiji's climb 14 places in the ranking is welcome progress and an encouraging development for journalists and civil society. However this progress is only the first step towards free reporting and media integrity in Fiji.

Section 17 of the Constitution guarantees freedom of the press, including print, electronic and other media. The Media Industry Development Degree 2010, however, severely restricts media

freedom.

Among the deeply concerning clauses in the law is requirement that any printed article of a length greater than 50 words include a byline. The decree also mandates maximum penalties for journalists whose work is deemed against the "public interest or order". "A media organisation can be fined up to maximum of \$100,000 while an editor or publisher \$25,000 and a journalist \$1,000. A general penalty includes a maximum fine of \$10,000, a maximum imprisonment term of 2 years, or both."

It is likely that the repeal or review of the provisions in the Media Industry Development Decree 2010 that control and censor reporting would increase Fiji's chances of even further improving its ranking. In addition, amendments to the Public Order (Amendment) Decree 2012 and the Political Parties (Registration, Conduct, Funding and Disclosures) (Amendment) Decree

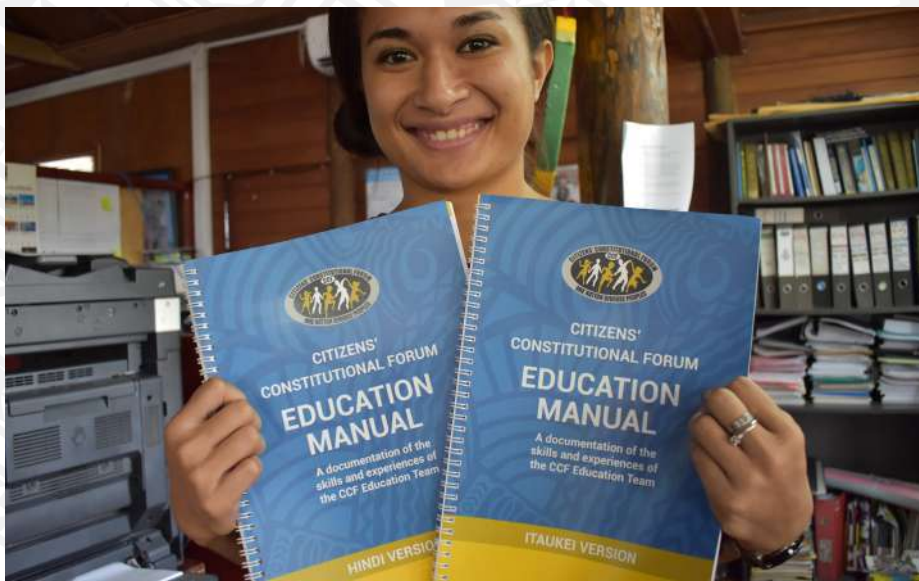
2013 to end restrictions and control over the right to freedom of expression and assembly are necessary amendments to bring Fiji's ranking down. This will foster the role of the media in free and balanced reporting, even in relation to government dissent, assist it in complying with international human rights standards.

These recommendations were also put to Fiji by Belgium, Switzerland, USA, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, Germany, Canada and Ireland at the Universal Periodic Review 2014 in Geneva.

The media plays a vital role in building a vibrant democracy and it is imperative that it is free to carry out its work without censorship or intimidation from executive authorities.

Pending a thorough review and amendment to legislation that governs media freedoms, CCF believes Fiji is far from enjoying a truly free and independent media.

New Civic Education Manual Published



CCF Communications Support Officer Varanisese Nasilasila with copies of the Education Manual in Hindi and iTaukei/ CCF Communications team

In May, the Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) published the CCF Civic Education Manual. The Manual is a facilitator's guide to the knowledge, skills and experience of the community education workshops that CCF has been conducting throughout Fiji.

The Education Team has implemented over 250 civic education workshops throughout Fiji from Nausori Highlands to Lautoka and Lau to Macuata, CCF have been educating citizens on the rights and responsibilities each person is entitled to under their human

rights for over 20 years.

The Manual captures the experience of CCF's work and formalises it in a structured modulated format with education resources attached to each section translated in three languages of Fiji.

The Manual is split into seven (7) modules and these include Human Rights, Citizenship, Good Governance & Leadership, Constitution, Human Rights Based Approach to Development, Voter Education and Budget Advocacy.

All CCF Education Workshops are conducted with a Hu-

man Rights Based Approach as the forefront of the content and methodologies and uses a participant centered learning approach to the activities. The learning approach that is used acknowledges that each person that attends a CCF workshop is at a different stage of their life; they have already developed their own individual strengths and have a range of experiences that have brought them to be in the workshop.

The CCF Civic Education Manual takes into account the history and experience of all participants and what they can bring into learning environment. The manual instructs the facilitator to relate the information to participant's experiences and demonstrate that the content can effect positive change in their life.

The Manual also includes new and innovative participatory methodologies that will improve the effectiveness of the community education programme.

CCF firmly believes that civic education enhances quality of life, and better equips people with the knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions to govern their own lives.

PEOPLES DIPLOMACY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) Fellows Program took place from the 7th till 25th of September 2015, at the University of New South Wales followed by a week in Canberra and finally returning to Sydney for a week.

DTP marked its 25-year anniversary since its foundation, which saw a congregation of 17 DTP Fellows from Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh, India and Fiji. The Australian Federal Government under its Australian Awards program funded the 3 week training program.

The theme Human rights and the private sector focused on new global policies and frameworks based on human rights responsibilities for businesses, and the related challenges in holding corporations and the private sector accountable for their actions.

The program included comprehensive and specialised training that matched the needs and experiences of participants, building skills and specialist knowledge necessary to engage with government and the private sector more effectively. It recognised the key role that enables civil society advocates to play. Participants shared their experiences, building the capacity to engage effectively with the private sector. DTP's selected program trainers were all highly experienced experts in civil society who were passionate in their respective human rights areas of work relating to the global policies and frameworks on human rights responsibilities for businesses. These involved discussions around national human rights institutions, the Unit-

ed Nations (UN) Human Rights Framework, the UN Guidelines of Business and Human Rights, the Global Compact Network, the Organisation for Economic Corporation and Development (OECD) Guidelines on Multi-National Enterprises, Human Rights, Business and Trade Unions: Workers Rights are human rights: Approaches to Organizing and Mobilizing.

The program provided an exposure to Australia's broader social change and development constituency. There were engagements with members of civil society, the private sector and government representatives in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne, which helped expand networks for longer-term support, developing valuable links with Australian NGOs, academia and the private sector.



Pillar 3

Countering Racial and other forms
of Discrimination & Promoting
Multiculturalism

CCF Supports the Ratification of the Torture Convention

In February 2015, the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense heard public submissions strongly supporting Fiji's ratification of the United Nations Convention Against Torture (UNCAT).

Citizens' Constitutional Forum's (CCF) Legal team joined in this support by presenting submissions before the Committee alongside the Republic of Fiji Military Forces, Fiji Police Force, Fiji Prisons and Correction Services, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Fiji Women's Rights Movement and Fiji Women's Crisis Centre, amongst many others.

UNCAT is a core international human rights instrument of instrumental importance to Fiji. Unfortunately, Fiji has witnessed a number of cases of torture by security force personnel in recent

history. The tragic death of Vilike-sa Soko while in police custody and the leaked video footage of the brutal torture of Iowane Benedito, are just two examples.

UNCAT ensures that there is domestic redress for acts of torture by public officials. Where the domestic framework does not adequately hold perpetrators responsible, full adoption of UNCAT ensures citizens are protected through the international Committee called for the Convention to be ratified without reservations allowing the full protection of the Convention and accepting the jurisdiction of the Committee Against Torture to hear individual complaints. The Parliamentary Committee's report comprehensively captured public submissions and put forward sound recommendations to parliament to ratify CAT without reservations.

Unfortunately, although parliament did vote unanimously to ratify CAT, broad reservations were proposed by the government and the Standing Committee's report was not endorsed. Of concern is that reservations were proposed to Article 1, the very definition of torture. This is incompatible with the objects and purpose of the Convention and not permitted under customary international law. Reservations were also proposed to Article 21 and 22, barring individuals from taking complaints of torture to the international Committee Against Torture when the domestic framework fails to provide justice. This raises doubts about the commitment of the government to fulfill its obligations under CAT and threatens the full endorsement and implementation of the Convention on the ground.

CCF Urges Government to Lift Reservations to UNCAT

The Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) welcomes the decision by the Parliament to unanimously endorse the ratification of the United Nations Convention Against Torture (UNCAT), which is a welcome step in Fiji's path toward democracy. However, "CCF is concerned about the broad reservations proposed by the government, and non-endorsement of the Parliamentary Standing Committee's comprehensive and progressive recommendations," said former CEO, Reverend Akula Yabaki.

"Reservations with respect to Article 1, the definition of torture, are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and impermissible in accordance with customary international law as codified in the Vienna Conven-

tion on the Law of Treaties. Article 1 of the Convention contains a clear and generally recognized definition of the concept of torture, and other States have raised objections to similar reservations made to Article 1," said Yabaki.

The government has expressed that Article 1 of the Convention will 'only be applicable to the extent as expressed under section 11 of the Constitution.' This means that the Convention does not limit the definition of torture in the Constitution in any way.

The reservations restrict the scope of application of the Convention and raises doubts as to the commitment of the government to fulfill its obligations under the Convention. The object and purpose of a treaty must

be respected and States must be prepared to undertake any legislative changes necessary to comply with obligations under the treaty. The intention of the government to 'reserve the right to formulate any reservations or declarations it may deem necessary in light of domestic laws or national policy' is contrary to the general principle of treaty interpretation in which party may not invoke the provisions of its internal law as justification for failure to perform a treaty.

"There reservations threaten to adequate enforcement and implementation of UNCAT in Fiji's domestic framework. CCF urges the Fiji government to remove all reservations to UNCAT, in particular Article 1," said Yabaki.

Youths Call on Citizens to Promote a Culture of Acceptance and Tolerance



Sharon Ading, Kaliova Naduma, Kaushik Ram and Maira Lutu / CCF Communications

Youths called on citizens to promote a culture of religious acceptance and tolerance in their communities to help eliminate racial discrimination for the commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (IDERD) hosted by the Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) on 20th March 2015 at the University of the South Pacific, Oceania Centre.

Racial discrimination is one of the major causes of social and political conflict in Fiji, the theme as set by the United Nations "Learning from historical tragedies to combat racial discrimination today" carries a great significance for Fiji as our past has witnessed social and political tragedies which were derived from racial discrimination.

The good news is that our Bill of Rights enshrines the right to equality and freedom from discrimination. Further, the Public Order (Amendment) Decree 2012 reprimands and criminalises acts that incite racial antagonism,

remarks or comments. These initiatives by government condemn such acts against the overall purpose to home into a bond that unites us in diversity and progressively overcomes racial barriers.

However, University of the South Pacific (USP) student, Kaushik Ram says that racial discrimination still remains a serious issue in the country and people need to pay attention and work towards eliminating it.

"Racial Discrimination is something that should never exist, but we need to be real because it is happening and it is important for people to fight it because it creates a lot of hate and limits people from communicating with each other," said Ram.

"We should be more responsible in our roles as good citizens of this nation and care for one another and to also be considerate of everyone," Ram added.

Ram says parents play a big role in advocating eliminating racial discrimination by educating their children to respect other

people's belief and religion.

USP student, Kaliova Nadumu said there is a need for acceptance in our community.

"In Fiji, it is still visible that there are some places where racial discrimination is still present, for example in the community I live in, if a Fijian of Indian descent marries and iTaukei person, people view them differently from the others, which is not good because no matter the religion or color we should still treat each other equally," he said.

Maira Lutu, student of USP said "Fiji is known for being multicultural country and we need to live by this statement and in order to do this we need to accept other people's culture.

"We should learn to be responsible citizens and respect other culture. As the saying goes, do unto others what you want them to do unto you," she said.

The IDERD Celebrations was supported by Bread for the World

The winning entry by Jadon Masivesi for the drawing competition as part of the IDERD celebrations in 2015./ CCF Communications



CCF Commemorates International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination



Saint Joseph's Secondary School student Nicole Powell holding up a message for the IDERD celebrations / CCF Communications

On 20th March, 2015 the Citizen's Constitutional Forum (CCF) celebrated International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination at the University of the South Pacific (USP), Oceania Centre in Suva.

This year's theme as set by the United Nations was "Learning from historical tragedies to combat racial discrimination today."

The event provided a platform for citizens to express their views on eliminating racial discrimination

through a competition including poetry, paintings, drawings, photos and videos. CCF received wide public interest with Fijians of all ages participating in the competition.

CCF advocates for the elimination of racial discrimination as it is one of the core pillars of the organisation - to promote multiculturalism and non-discrimination amongst Fijians.

In addressing guests, CCF's former Chief Executive Officer, Reverend Akuila Yabaki,

mentioned that people need to understand the damaging effects of racism and work together towards its elimination.

"We have a role to play in breaking down racial prejudice. CCF calls on all Fijians to promote and practice religious acceptance and respect for one another and to appreciate our unique and multicultural diversity," Reverend Yabaki said.

In an earlier statement Reverend Yabaki also acknowledged the initiative of the current government for establishing equal citizenry under the Constitution. However he said that much work was still needed to improve human rights.

"Yes we are into democracy but it is important that the recognition of rights is seen to be successfully implemented," he said.

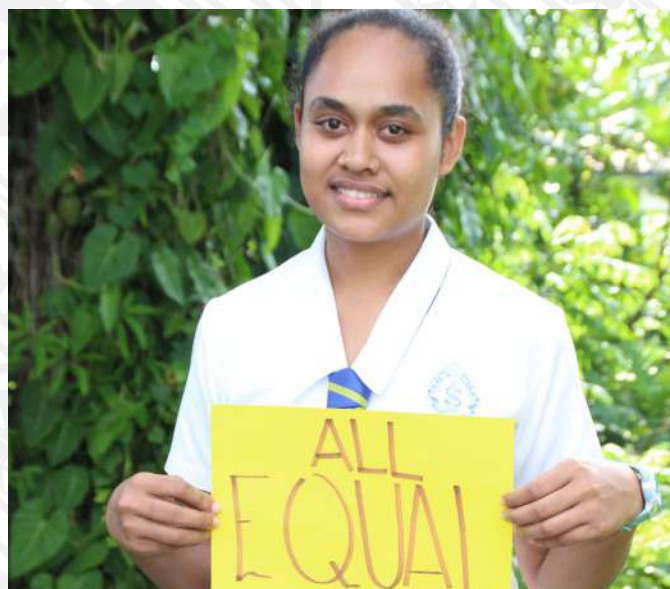
The ICERD campaign and celebrations was supported by Bread for the World.

"We have a role to play in breaking down racial prejudice. CCF calls on all Fijians to promote and practice religious acceptance and respect for one another and to appreciate our unique and multicultural diversity,"

CCF's former Chief Executive Officer, Reverend Akuila Yabaki



Saint Joseph's Secondary School students holding up messages during IDERD celebrations / CCF Communication



International Day of Peace

Partnership for Peace- Dignity for all

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The United Nations has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. The theme of this year's commemoration is "Partnerships for Peace - Dignity for All" which aims to highlight the importance of all segments of society to work together to strive for peace. As we celebrate International Day of Peace today, the UN has called on nations and all warring parties to lay down their weapons and observe a global ceasefire to avoid killing and destruction. In Fiji, we are lucky to enjoy a peaceful nation. To protect and maintain this peace it is very important that different sectors of society work together to

protect our peace and recognise the vital role it plays in nation building. Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) strongly values democracy, open society, respect for human rights, and equality as core elements to maintaining peace in any country. Last September's general elections introduced a new democracy in Fiji and this now gives a greater possibility to citizens of the country to be heard, represented and valued in society, which is very important in maintaining peace. Not only does this add to the peaceful resolution of conflict within a nation and society, but it promotes a diverse and vibrant society. For peace to flourish, human rights must be promoted and protected as outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and in the

Constitution.

The responsibility in working for peace rests equally with every citizen and our State representatives. Providing for equality under law, the UDHR states that everyone is entitled to equal rights and freedoms without discrimination of any kind. Peace and stability can be strengthened if diversity is celebrated and fundamental human rights are protected and promoted. In Fiji, we are fortunate to share a diverse range of cultures and traditions. There is strength in this diversity, and while we should nurture this, it is equally important to remember what we have in common. We are all part of humanity and we all deserve to live with dignity in a peaceful and prosperous nation, free from violence, suppression and discrimination.

CCF takes a Stand Against Racial Discrimination

Citizens' Constitutional Forum launched a nation-wide competition encouraging all Fijians to Take a Stand against Racial Discrimination in March.

CCF launched the competition was in mid February as part of its Take a Stand against Racial Discrimination campaign. The competition was intended to allow people to identify how to eliminate racial discrimination in Fiji by answering the question - How can I promote understanding amongst all races? CCF received a total of 35 entries in all categories, which included videos, poems, photos and drawings.

Saint Joseph Secondary School (SJSS) demonstrated their staunch stance against racial discrimination by winning three of the four categories.

Mary Jalal a year 12 student

of SJSS put her talent of writing poems to good use and won the 1st prize in the poem category, while her schoolmates in year 11, Seini Tabualevu and Nicole Powell took out the 1st prize in photo category.

"This is the first time I have participated in any poem competition during my secondary school level and it feels great to participate in this sort of competition that is very relevant to our community," said Jalal.

Joint photo winners Seini Tabualevu and Nicole Powell said their motivation to participate in CCF's Take a Stand against Racial Discrimination was to share the message of equality.

"We thought that we would come up with the idea of accepting different religious belief because inside of us there is no difference

between the bones we have and should our skin colour matter. So we came up with this idea COEXIST to show that despite religion and race we are still one," said Seini.

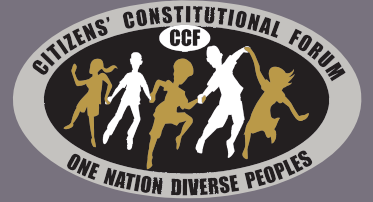
Year 12 students Talei Simpson and Talei Johns walked away as the video category winners.

Other winners were;

Deepal Kant from Sigatoka Andra Sangam College won the 2nd prize winner in the poem category.

Mahendra Jaimal from Labasa won the 3rd prize in the poem category.

Drawing category was won by 10 year old Jadon Masivesi from Nadi, while the special prize went to Joseva Naisau.



Financial Statements

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

**CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM LIMITED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

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DIRECTORS' REPORT

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 2015, 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
Tara Chetty
Vijay Naidu
Holger Szesnat
Aisake Casimira
Ratu Meli Vesikula

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 a deficit of \$57,020 for the year ended 31 December 2015 (2014: Surplus of \$29,572). No income tax was applicable pursuant to Section 17(24) of the Income Tax Act.

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.

DIRECTORS' REPORT [CONT'D]**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

Subsequent to balance date, on 31 March 2016, Dialogue Fiji has been registered as a separate independent organization. Thereafter, a separate book of accounts is maintained by Dialogue Fiji and management duties are performed by Dialogue Fiji. Prior to 31 March 2016, the books of accounts were recorded in the books of Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited and management duties were performed by Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited.

Apart from the above, no matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which would require adjustment to, or disclosure in, the financial statements.

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' REPORT [CONT'D]

Directors' Benefits

Since the end of the previous financial year, no director has received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than those disclosed in the financial statements and / or 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.

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

Dated this 27th day of July, 2016.



Director



Director

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

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

Dated this 27th day of July, 2016.

.....
Director

RMB Venkula
Director

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Page 6

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 2015, 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 8 to 17.

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 2015, 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.

To the Members of Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited (Cont'd)

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.

BDO

SUVA, FIJI
27 JULY 2016

BDO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM LIMITED
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

Page 8

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Income			
Grants	4	\$ 635,766	1,101,002
Grants -Dialogue Fiji		198,697	210,963
Events Management charges		28,148	19,869
Amortization of deferred income		12,209	11,099
Interest		3,404	5,397
Gain on disposal of furniture and equipment		-	46
Dividend Income		3,415	-
Miscellaneous Income		23,575	13,624
Total Income		905,214	1,362,000
Expenses			
Audit fees - Statutory audit		5,123	4,485
- Project audit		18,242	7,212
CCF's contribution as co-funder		22,475	-
Depreciation		27,712	37,888
Dialogue Fiji expenses		199,389	206,575
Legal and other related expenses		-	2,875
Project activities, events and workshop expenses		223,736	552,476
Rent		41,400	41,400
Employee remuneration and other costs		357,311	409,009
Overseas travel and other costs		12,285	16,996
Other administrative costs		54,561	53,512
Total Expenses		962,234	1,332,428
Net surplus / (deficit) for the year		(57,020)	29,572
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income / (loss) for the year		(57,020)	29,572
Accumulated funds at the beginning of the financial year		353,142	323,570
Accumulated funds at the end of the financial year		\$ 296,122	353,142

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

CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM LIMITED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

Page 9

	Notes	2015	2014
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on hand and at bank		\$ 486,332	761,099
Receivables	5	20,407	11,744
Held - to - maturity investments	6	74,676	136,722
Total current assets		581,415	909,565
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Available - for - sale financial assets	7	13,697	10,282
Furniture and equipment	8	34,815	47,400
Total non-current assets		48,512	57,682
TOTAL ASSETS		629,927	967,247
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	9	72,507	65,537
Deferred income	10	251,872	536,161
Provisions	11	9,426	12,407
Total current liabilities		333,805	614,105
TOTAL LIABILITIES		333,805	614,105
NET ASSETS		296,122	353,142
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Share capital	13	-	-
Accumulated funds		296,122	353,142
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		\$ 296,122	353,142

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

CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM LIMITED
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

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	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2015 Inflows/ (Outflows)</u>	<u>2014 Inflows/ (Outflows)</u>
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from donors and contributors		\$ 616,026	1,778,225
Payments to suppliers and employees		(940,696)	(1,319,971)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		(324,670)	458,254
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of furniture and equipment		-	1,000
Payments for furniture and equipment	8	(15,547)	(17,978)
Proceeds from withdrawal of term deposit		65,450	-
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		49,903	(16,978)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(274,767)	441,276
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		761,099	319,823
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	12	\$ <u>486,332</u>	<u>761,099</u>

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

NOTE 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

a) Company Details

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

Subsequently, 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.

The registered office and the principal place of business of the company is located at 23 Denison Road, Suva.

b) 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.

NOTE 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

a) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical cost.

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

b) Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs) and in compliance with the requirements of the Companies Act, 1983.

c) Presentation and functional currency

The company operates in Fiji and hence its financial statements are presented in Fiji dollars, which is the company's functional and presentation currency.

d) Comparatives

Where necessary, amounts relating to prior years have been reclassified to facilitate comparison and achieve consistency in disclosure with current year amounts.

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) Incoming Resources

(i) Grants

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 initially deferred and recognized as income over the periods which bear the cost of meeting the conditions and obligations.

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.

(ii) Interest

Interest is recognised as the interest accrues (taking into account the effective yield on the assets) unless collectability is in doubt.

(iii) Dividend

Dividend income from investments is recognised when the right to receive payment is established.

(iv) Events management charges

Events management charge relates to funds received from the donors which are kept aside for administrative costs of the projects after obtaining approval from the donors. This is mainly for projects which do not have explicit budget lines for administration cost.

The funds relating to Events management charge is initially deferred and recognized as income upon incurring administrative cost of the project.

b) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and cash in banks that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

c) Furniture and Equipment

Furniture 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.

Furniture and equipment is depreciated using the following rates:

Furniture and fittings	-	20% -25%
Computer and office equipment	-	12% - 50%

Profits and losses on disposals of Furniture and equipment are taken into account in determining the results for the year.

d) 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.

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

e) Financial Assets

The company's financial assets comprises of held-to-maturity investments and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the nature and purpose for which the financial assets were acquired and is determined at the time of initial recognition.

(i) Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the company's management has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity. Held-to-maturity investments are included in non-current assets, except for those with maturities less than 12 months from the balance sheet date, which is classified as current asset. Held-to-maturity investments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

(ii) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets relates to 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.

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

f) Deferred Income

Grant received in advance, relating to various projects are deferred and amortised over the periods to which the grant relates to or the periods during which the company received contracted benefits.

Assets acquired through capital grants are capitalised to furniture and equipment and the corresponding credit is taken as deferred income. Furniture and equipment are depreciated over their estimated useful lives. The benefit arising from the capital grants being the recoupment through depreciation is credited to income over the period of the useful lives of those assets.

g) Payables

Payables are recognised when the company becomes obliged to make future payments resulting from the purchase of goods and services.

h) Employee Benefits

Wages and salaries

Liabilities for wages and salaries expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are accrued up to the reporting date.

Annual leave

The liability for annual leave is recognized in the provision for employee entitlements. These liabilities are expected to be settled within 12 months and are measured at their nominal values using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of the settlement.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to Fiji National Provident Fund are expensed when incurred.

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

i) Leased assets

Company as lessee

Operating lease payments are recognized as an expense on a straight line basis over the lease term, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

NOTE 4. GRANTS	2015	2014
<u>Donor</u>		
AusAID	\$ -	39,162
Australian Volunteers International	2,206	-
Bread for the World (formerly known as Evangelisher Entwicklungsdienst e.V)	408,650	419,908
British High Commission	-	85,853
Conciliation Resources	263	332,248
European Union	78,930	186,975
Fiji Community Development Program	41,063	-
International Federation for Electoral System	9,529	27,572
International Budget Partnership	21,770	994
United Nation Development Program	73,355	8,290
Total grant income	<u>635,766</u>	<u>1,101,002</u>

NOTE 5. RECEIVABLES

Cost recovery receivables	167	1,667
Bonds and deposits	7,500	5,000
Prepayments	5,318	3,450
Other receivables	7,422	1,627
Total receivables	<u>20,407</u>	<u>11,744</u>

NOTE 6. HELD-TO-MATURITY INVESTMENTS

Current

Term deposits

ANZ Banking Group Limited	17,308	17,308
Credit Corporation (Fiji) Limited	57,368	119,414
Total current held-to-maturity investments	<u>74,676</u>	<u>136,722</u>

NOTE 7. AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE FINANCIAL ASSETS

Non - Current

Units in Unit Trust of Fiji	13,697	10,282
Total non - current available-for-sale financial assets	<u>\$ 13,697</u>	<u>10,282</u>

NOTE 8. FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT

	2015	2014
Furniture and fittings	\$ 69,452	68,159
Less: accumulated depreciation	(66,498)	(63,706)
	2,954	4,453
Computer and office equipment	143,587	143,731
Less: accumulated depreciation	(111,726)	(100,784)
	31,861	42,947
Total furniture and equipment, net	34,815	47,400

Movements in Carrying Amounts

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

	Furniture and fittings	Computer and office equipment	Total 2015	Total 2014
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Opening balance	4,453	42,947	47,400	68,264
Additions	2,735	12,812	15,547	17,978
Disposals	-	(420)	(420)	(954)
Depreciation expense	(4,234)	(23,478)	(27,712)	(37,888)
Closing balance	2,954	31,861	34,815	47,400

NOTE 9. PAYABLES

Trade payables	995	1,668
Other payables and accrued liabilities	71,512	63,869
	72,507	65,537

NOTE 10. DEFERRED INCOME

Deferred income relating to operating grants received from:

Australian Volunteers International	9,069	-
Bread for the World (formely known as Evangelisher Entwicklungsdienst e.V)	73,877	284,394
European Union	-	81,927
Conciliation Resources	51,145	51,407
Fiji Community Development Program	13,107	-
International Budget Partnership	-	15,368
United Nations Development Program	62,653	51,548
United Nations Development Program - Dialogue Fiji	18,788	-
European Union- Dialogue Fiji	-	5,785
Conciliation Resources- Dialogue Fiji	11,642	16,802
Events Management charges	676	20,934
	\$ 240,957	528,165

NOTE 10. DEFERRED INCOME (CONT'D)

<i>Deferred income relating to furniture and fittings funded by:</i>	2015	2014
AusAID	\$ 1,223	1,223
European Union	4,071	4,071
Bread for the World	2,735	-
Less: Accumulated amortization	(5,570)	(3,965)
	<u>2,459</u>	<u>1,329</u>
<i>Deferred income relating to computer and office equipment funded by:</i>		
AusAID	21,565	21,565
European Union	15,756	12,759
Conciliation Resources	3,896	5,295
Bread for the World	4,983	-
Conciliation Resources - Dialogue Fiji	2,304	-
European Union - Dialogue Fiji	2,528	-
Less: Accumulated amortization	(42,576)	(32,952)
	<u>8,456</u>	<u>6,667</u>
Total deferred income	<u>251,872</u>	<u>536,161</u>

NOTE 11. PROVISION

Current

Employee entitlements	<u>9,426</u>	<u>12,407</u>
	<u>9,426</u>	<u>12,407</u>

NOTE 12. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

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

Cash on hand and with banks	<u>486,332</u>	<u>761,099</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ <u>486,332</u>	<u>761,099</u>

NOTE 13. 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 2015, 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 14. COMMITMENTS

- a) Capital commitments as at 31 December 2015 amounted to \$Nil (2014: \$Nil).
b) Operating lease commitments contracted for rental is payable as follows:

		2015	2014
Not later than one year	\$	39,240	49,800
Later than one year but not later than five years		45,780	89,700
Total operating lease commitments		<u>85,020</u>	<u>139,500</u>

NOTE 15. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

Contingent liabilities as at 31 December 2015 amounted to \$Nil (2014: \$Nil).

NOTE 16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE

(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
Tara Chetty
Ratu Meli Vesikula
Holger Szesnat
Vijay Naidu
Aisake Casimira

(b) 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 and the Executive Director of Dialogue Fiji (2014: Chief Executive Officer) were identified as key management personnel with the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the company.

The remuneration paid to the key management personnel for the year ended 31 December 2015 and 2014 are as follows:

Salary and other benefits	\$	<u>91,442</u>	<u>74,844</u>
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NOTE 16. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

Subsequent to balance date, on 31 March 2016, Dialogue Fiji has been registered as a separate independent organization. Thereafter, a separate book of accounts is maintained by Dialogue Fiji and management duties are performed by Dialogue Fiji. Prior to 31 March 2016, the books of accounts were recorded in the books of Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited and management duties were performed by Citizens' Constitutional Forum Limited.

Apart from the above, no matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which would require adjustment to, or disclosure in, the financial statements.

NOTE 17. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorized for issue on 27 July 2016.

CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL FORUM LIMITED
DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

Page 18

Income	2015	2014
Grants - AusAID	\$ -	39,162
- Australian Volunteers International	2,206	-
- British High Commission	-	85,853
- Conciliation Resources	263	332,248
- Bread for the World (formerly known as Evangelisher Entwicklungsdienst e.V)	408,650	419,908
- European Union	78,930	186,975
- Fiji Community Development Program	41,063	-
- United Nation Development Program	73,355	8,290
- International Budget Partnership	21,770	994
- International Federation for Electoral System	9,529	27,572
Grants -Dialogue Fiji		
- Conciliation Resources	195,440	166,690
- European Union	3,257	44,273
Events Management charges	28,148	19,869
Amortization of deferred Income	12,209	11,099
Interest	3,404	5,397
Dividend Income	3,415	-
Gain on disposal of furniture and equipment	-	46
Miscellaneous income	23,575	13,624
Total income	905,214	1,362,000
Less expenses		
Audit fees - Statutory audit	5,123	4,485
- Project audit	18,242	7,212
Bank fees and charges	380	959
CCF's contribution as co-funder	22,475	-
Depreciation	27,712	37,888
Dialogue Fiji expenses	199,389	206,575
Electricity and water	7,104	9,228
Hospitality and entertainment	5,944	4,562
Other costs	22,016	19,077
Insurance	4,679	1,719
Legal and other related expenses	-	2,875
Postage and stationery	2,237	1,085
Project activities, events and workshop expenses	223,736	552,476
Rent	41,400	41,400
Repairs and maintenance	2,082	2,429
Employee remuneration and other costs	357,311	409,009
Telephone and internet	10,119	14,453
Overseas travel and other costs	12,285	16,996
Total expenses	962,234	1,332,428
Net surplus/ (deficit) for the year	\$ (57,020)	29,572

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