

**FLMMA**

*Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area Network*



*“Kedra Sasalu Tawa Mudu na Noda Kawa”*

**“Improving Locally Managed Marine Areas”**

**Coastal Fisheries Management Legal Development Forum**

**Tanoa Plaza Hotel, Suva**

**10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> February, 2016**



# **FLMMA Partners – Executive Committee**

- **Government Agencies**

- Department of Fisheries (DoF)
- Department of Environment (DoE)
- Ministry of iTaukei Affairs (MTA)

- **Conservation NGOs**

- World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
- Conservation International (CI)
- Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL)
- Mamanuca Environment Society (MES)
- Pacific Blue Foundation
- SeaWeb Asia Pacific

- **Private Sector**

- Resort Support
- Global Vision International

- **Academic Institutions** - Institute of Applied Science, USP

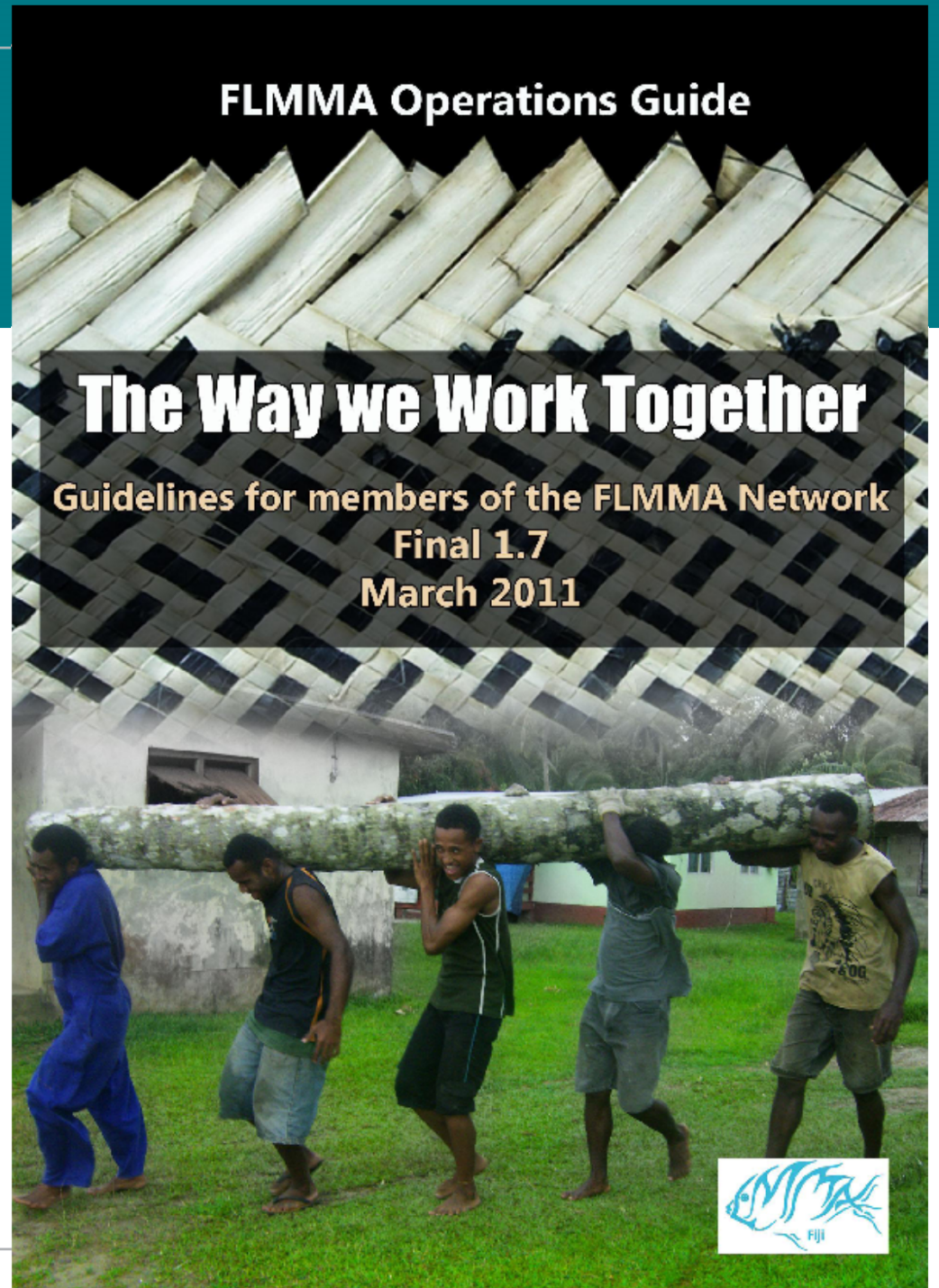
- **Local Communities** - Over 400 represented by 4 Divisional Reps



**Executive Chair  
Saimoni Waibuta  
Ministry of iTaukei Affairs**

# Way We Work

Available Online at:  
[www.LMMANetwork.org](http://www.LMMANetwork.org)





# FLMMA

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## Strategic Plan

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# 2014-2018

The Fiji Locally - Managed Marine Area (FLMMA) Network



Kedra Sasalu Tawamudu Na Noda Kawa

# *FLMMA's Shared Vision*



# 2014-2018 FLMMA Strategic Priorities

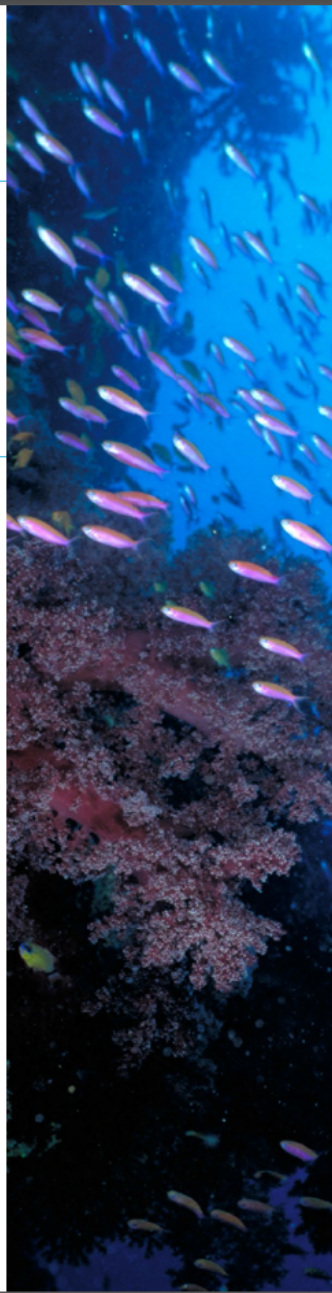
## FLMMA's Mission

- Ensuring everlasting resources for our future generations
- Building and promoting a resilient, effective and sustainable Locally Managed Marine Area Network for a wealthy Fiji
- Creating an enabling environment for sound stewardship of our natural resources with key stakeholders
- Promote learning and sharing best practices through effective Community-Based Adaptive Management (CBAM)
- Building a sustainable institution for natural resource management

## FLMMA's Core Values

The FLMMA network members will operate with this set of shared values:

- **Community Heart:** Means that communities' interests and well-being are central in our work.
- **Respect:** Respect between partners makes it possible to challenge each other without threatening our relationships.
- **Language:** The use of local dialect whenever possible or, failing that, Fijian.
- **Protocols and Procedures:** Appropriate protocol and procedure should be utilized when designing or implementing projects with communities.
- **Trust:** Avoid raising expectations beyond what we have evidence to suggest is achievable in Fiji.
- **Self-Reliance:** Avoid creating dependencies.
- **Decentralization:** supporting community management at the lowest appropriate level.
- **Teamwork:** we can achieve more working together than we can on our own.
- **Commitment:** as a way to stay focused on goals.
- **Transparency:** to promote open and honest sharing of information and experience.
- **Accountability:** in that each of us as individuals takes responsibility and is accountable carrying out our work to achieve and share results.
- **Quality:** in all that we do.



## FLMMA's Desired Outcomes

In order to achieve FLMMA's long term Vision and Mission, a series of short- and mid-term accomplishments and outputs were developed. These were organized into six priority areas that build on the network's strengths while also targeting the most critical areas of need.

Strategic Priority Area	Desired Short Term Outputs (2014-2018)	Long Term Vision & Mission (beyond 2018)
FLMMA Network Secretariat Structure and Function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Efficient and well-resourced secretariat, YMSTs and divisional officers</li> <li>• Funds raised to implement FLMMA SP</li> <li>• Endorsed and enforced FLMMA standard approaches</li> <li>• Improve enabling environment for achieving FLMMA vision</li> </ul>	Fully Resourced Secretariat implementing standardised approaches
Partnership & Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnerships with Government, donor, private sector, faith based and civil society to support FLMMA Vision established</li> <li>• Friends of FLMMA membership expanded</li> <li>• FLMMA Annual work plans well-resourced and implemented</li> </ul>	Effective coordination and networking amongst FLMMA partners
Leadership & Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective and efficient decision making by committees (village, district, islands and provinces, national)</li> <li>• Local capacity built and YMST teams expanded to islands and province-based decision and policy making throughout Fiji</li> <li>• Knowledge and capacity of traditional and church leaders in Yaubula management principles strengthened</li> <li>• Effective and efficient communication from ground level up</li> </ul>	Better decision-making leading to sustainable fisheries
Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective awareness and communication strategy reaches all parts of Fiji society</li> <li>• Effective monitoring strategies and databases for processing monitoring data</li> <li>• Best practices identified and disseminated throughout the FLMMA Network</li> </ul>	Adaptive management based on learning
Promoting effective scalable LMA Programs nationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YMSTs established in all Provinces</li> <li>• CBAM using a R2R approach established throughout Fiji</li> <li>• Expanded network of Active Community Sites in FLMMA Network</li> <li>• Innovative tools and approaches for improving Inshore Fisheries Management</li> </ul>	Well-supported ridge to reef (R2R) management of coastal resources throughout FLMMA Network
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable financing mechanisms secured</li> <li>• YMSTs sustainability ensured</li> <li>• Capacity building for next generation of Leaders and Practitioners</li> </ul>	Sustainable and durable institution within FLMMA

## PHASE 1

Community Request

Assess Community Interest



## PHASE 2

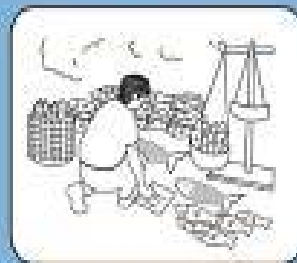
Marine Resource Awareness and Management Planning Workshop  
(Develop management Plan)

## PHASE 3

Community-Based Adaptive Management (CBAM)



**Analysis and Communication**  
Present results to community



**Monitor**  
Gauge effectiveness of management actions



**Monitoring Plan**  
Develop plan and skills



**Management Plan**  
Discuss, revise and implement

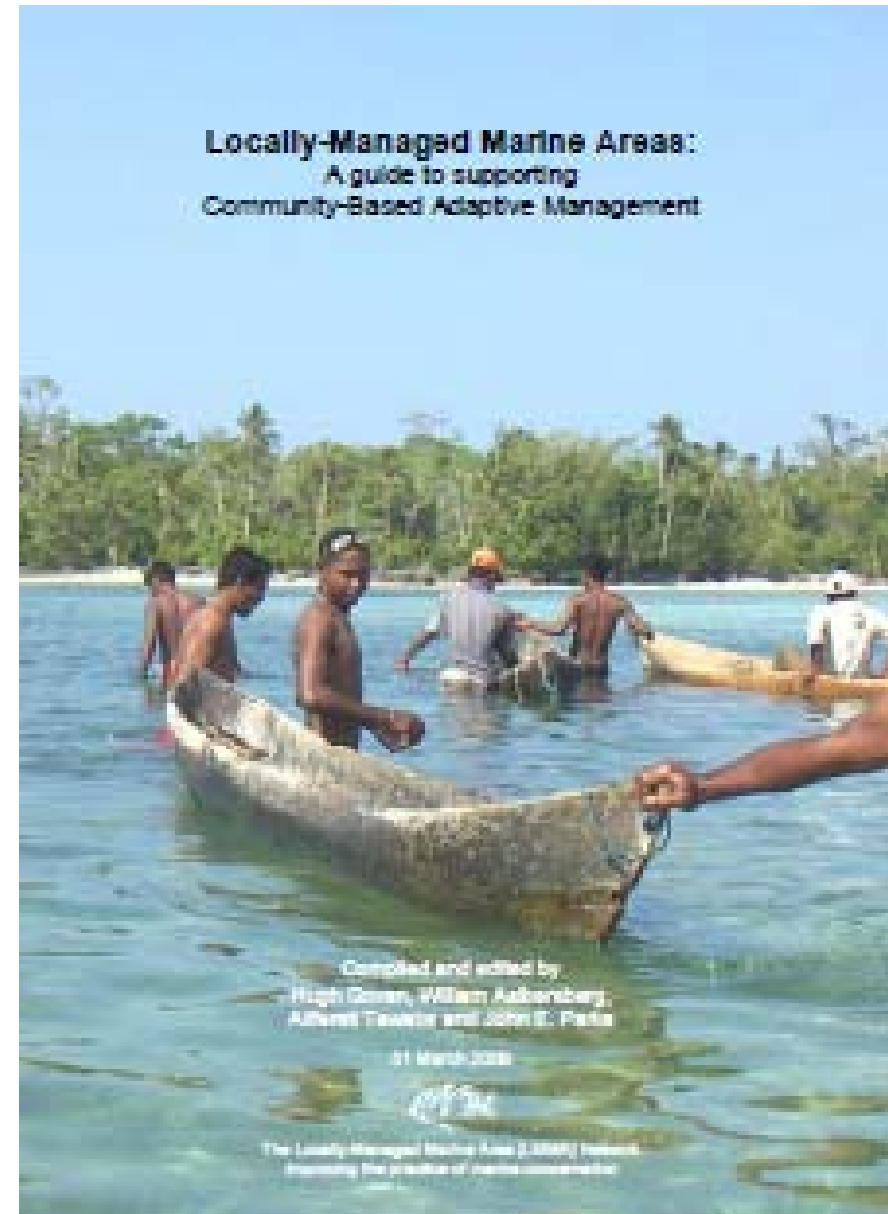


## PHASE 4

Ongoing CBAM

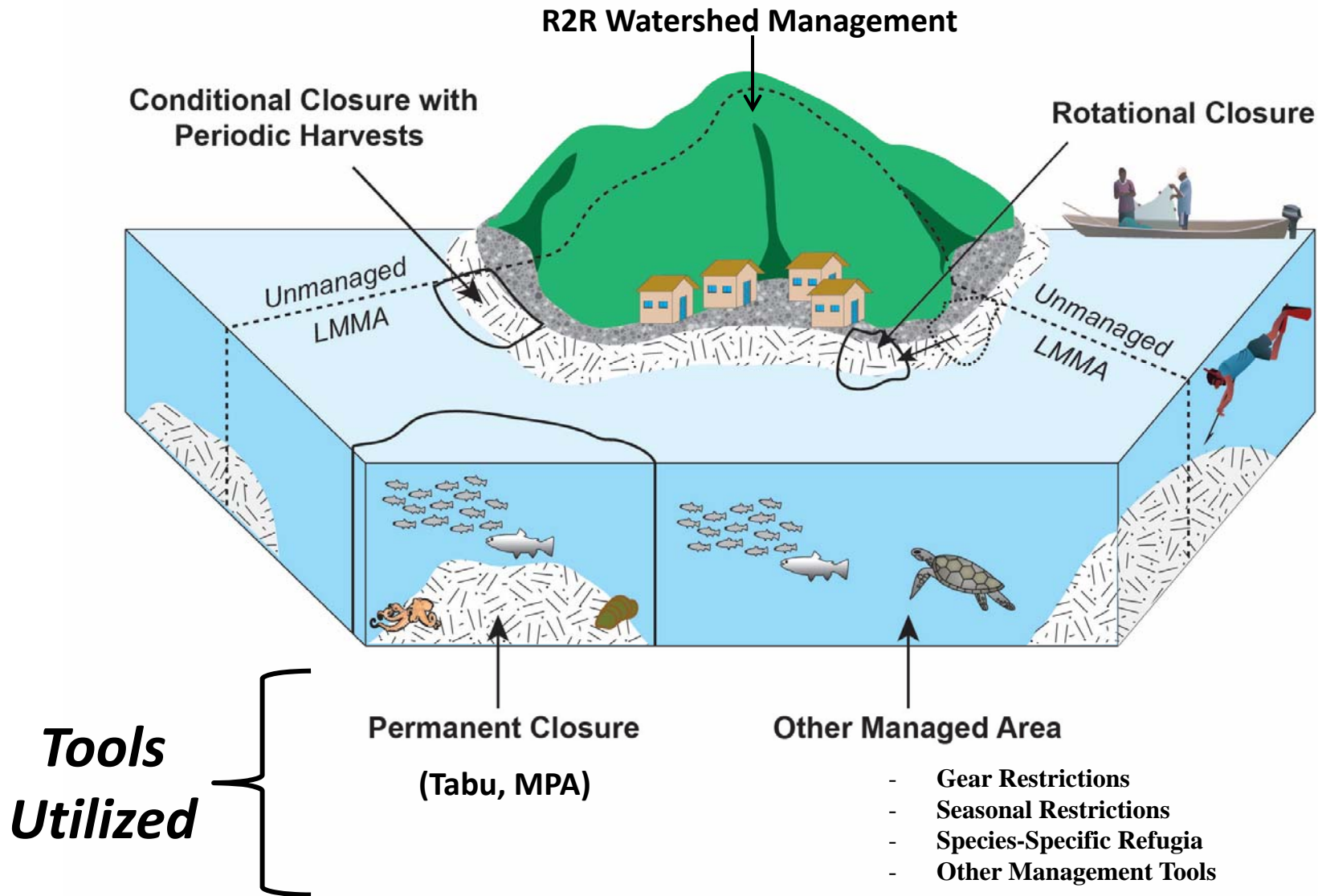
# **LMMA - CBAM Guide**

- **Introduction**
- **Initial Assessment**
- **LMMA Design & Planning**
- **Implementation of CBAM**
- **Ongoing CBAM**
- **References & Resources**

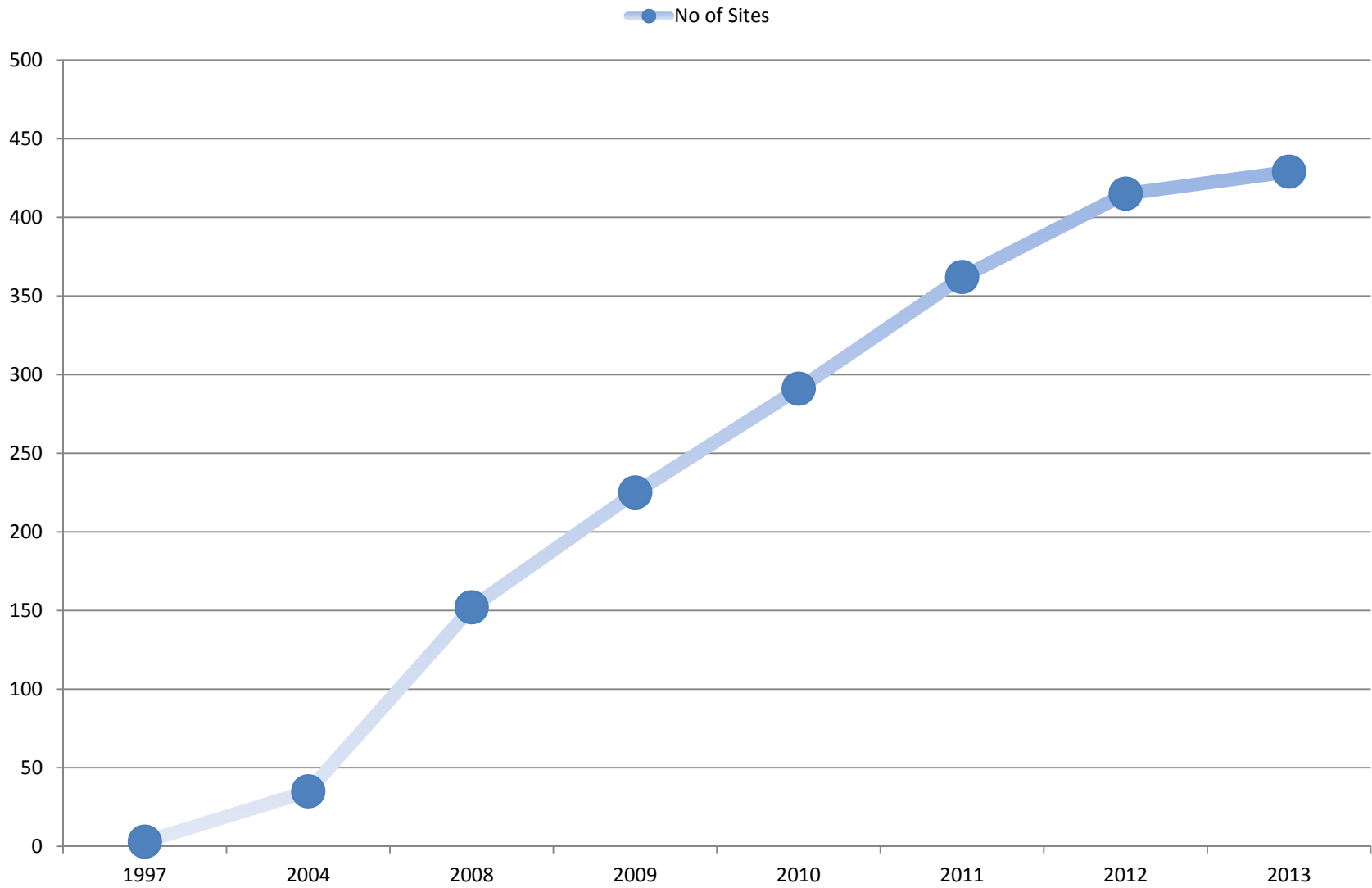




# LMMA: Locally Managed Marine Area



# *Growth of FLMMA*



## *Rapid Expansion to 2015*

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466

No-Take Zones  
(Tabu)

in

135

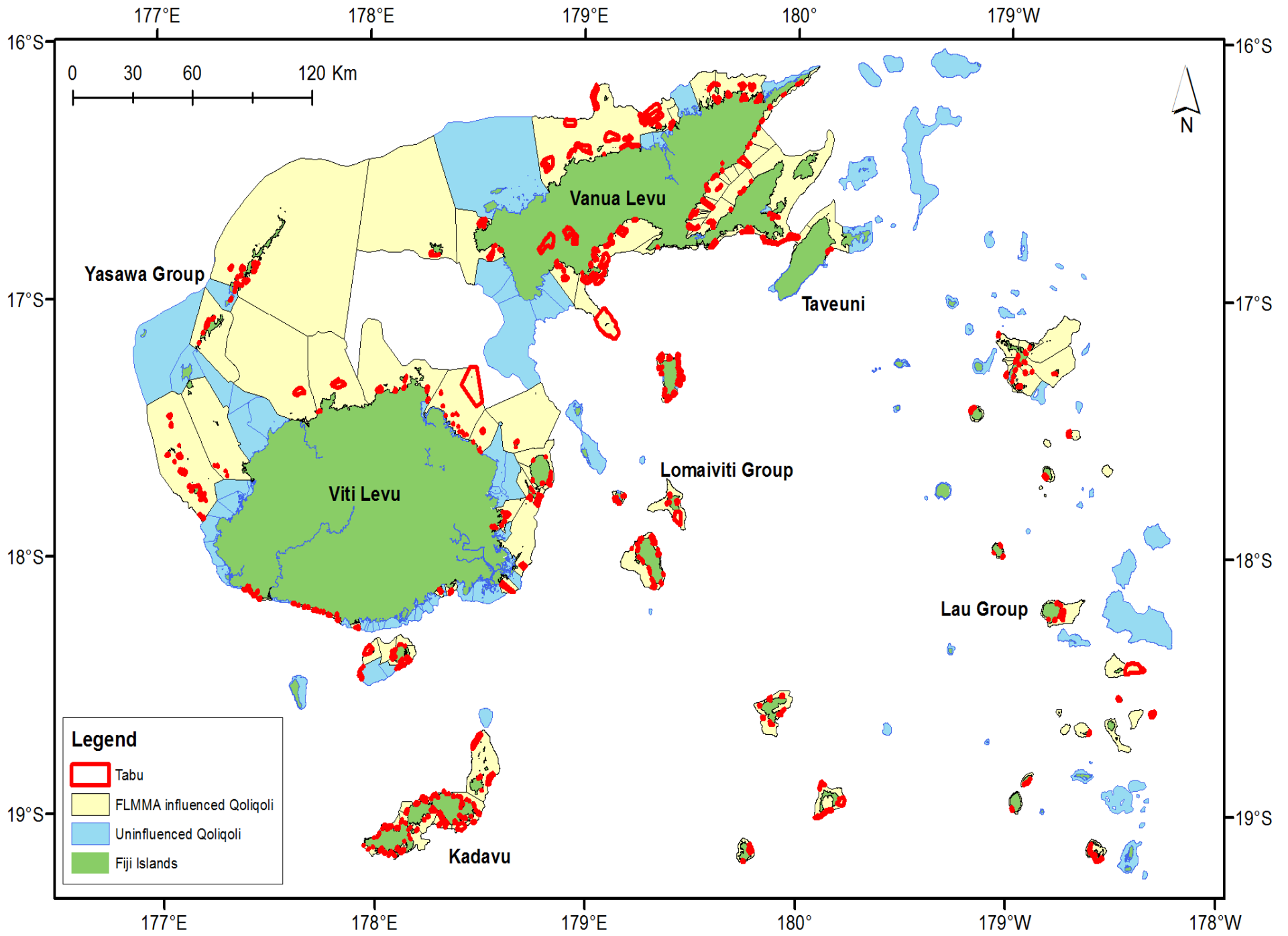
Traditional Fisheries  
Management Areas  
(Qoliqoli)

which cover an area of

79 %

of Fiji's inshore fishery area

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# *FLMMA Successes*



- **Return of species not seen for generations (e.g. box crab in photo)**
- **Improved community organization and human well-being (e.g. waste management campaigns)**



# *FLMMA Successes*



- Increases in fish and invertebrate biomass documented through scientific and community monitoring
- Increased income through payments for ecosystem services



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# **Challenges – Network Management**

- **Number of FLMMA Sites has grown rapidly over the last decade**
- **Outpacing FLMMA's ability to provide support & guidance**
- **Outpacing FLMMA's ability to assist new communities wishing to establish LMMA Sites**
- **Increased coordination with Government Agencies would be highly beneficial**



# **Site Level Support**

- **Divisional Reps Site Visits/Assessments**
  - “Site Update Form” for database updating
  - Perform “Site Audits”
  - Distribute Community Fisheries Toolkits
  - Map Tabu Areas
  - Overall Site Assessment, Challenges, Requests



**Kiniviliame Ravonoloa**  
Western Division



**Mesake Draniatu**  
Eastern Division



**Esakaia Balawa**  
Central Division



**Peni Donu**  
Northern Division



# *Site Visits/Assessments*

- **“Site Update Forms” – ca. 40 Attributes**
  - Village & Site Info (location, year established, population, etc.)
  - Qoliqoli Info (area, habitat coverage, communities, etc.)
  - Management Plan Info and Committee Details (tools utilized, etc.)
  - Tabu Info (number, size, protection level, etc)
  - Management Tools utilized throughout QQ (Outside of Tabu Area)
  - Ride to Reef Management Tools utilized
- **“Site Audits” – Perceived Changes by Community**
  - Info on Tabu Areas (boundary shifts, openings, restocking efforts, etc.)
  - Governance and Management (Management Plans & review, etc.)
  - Compliance and Enforcement (conflict, poaching, cooperation with enforcement agencies, etc.)
  - Partnerships (Provincial YMSTs, FLMMA Site Liaison Officers, etc.)
  - Biological/Ecological Results (changes in abundance of fish and invertebrates)
  - Socio-economic Results (changes in fishing effort, income, community support)

# *Challenges – Legal*

- **LMMA's traditionally recognized but not legally enforceable**
- **New Inshore Fisheries Decree has been on hold for several years**
- **Abolishment of Goodwill Payments to Qoliqoli Owners:**
  - Mechanism for determining number of fishing licenses to be granted for a given Qoliqoli?
  - Will Qoliqoli owners still be able to set conditions on fishing licenses (Tabu Areas, Other Restrictions)?
  - Support for Community Fish Wardens?



# ***Challenges – Compliance & Enforcement***

- **Poaching is a serious issue facing LMMA Communities and the cause of much tension**
- **Community Fish Wardens are not well resourced**
- **Poachers are seldom apprehended and successfully prosecuted**
- **Successful prosecution leads to minimal fines that have little if any deterrent effect**



Photo credit: Sakiusa Yavala

# *Challenges – Sustainability*

- **Support for FLMMA has been Donor Driven**
- **A major goal of donors is sustainability**
- **More Government resources for support of FLMMA activities would ensure its long term sustainability**

the David &  
Lucile Packard  
FOUNDATION

MacArthur  
Foundation

# *Way Forward*

## **FLMMA's Policy Brief to Government**

*“Working Together to  
Achieve our National  
Goals”*

Working with  
Government towards  
a better Fiji



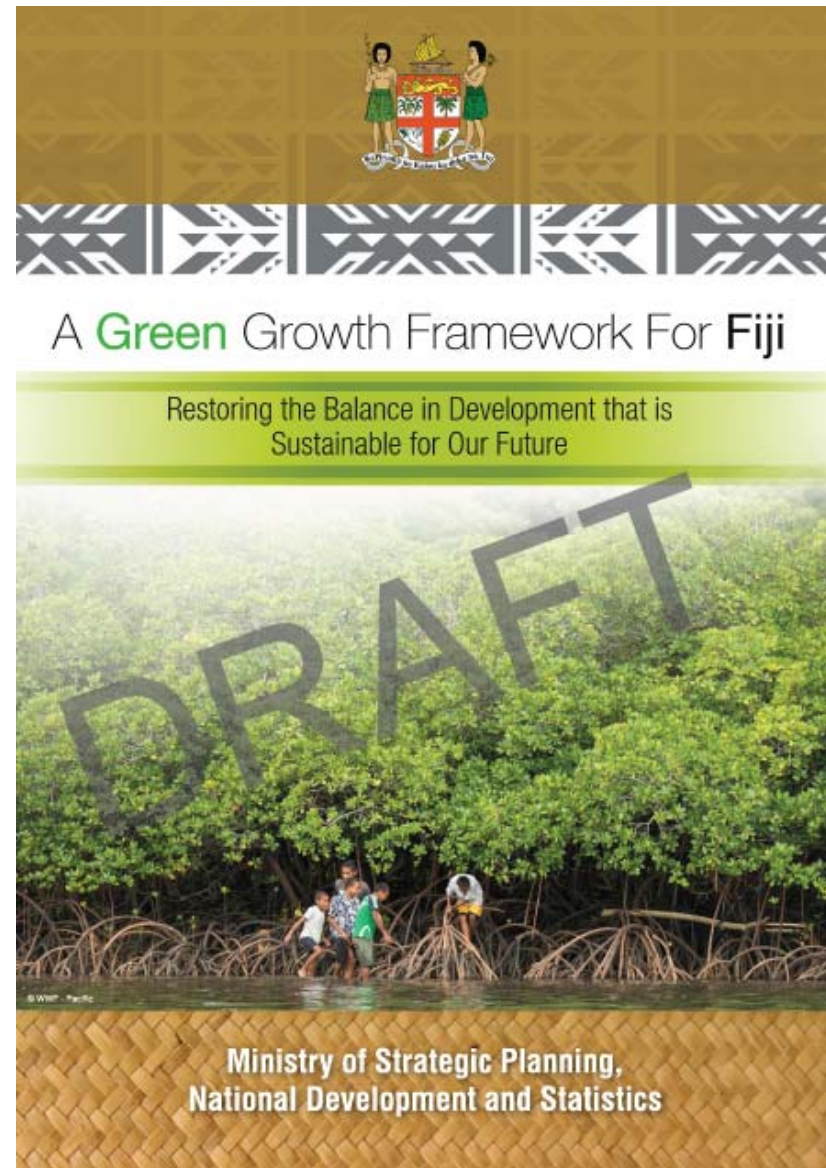
The Fiji Locally - Managed Marine Area (FLMMA) Network



Kedra Sasalu Tawamudu Na Noda Kawa

# *Problem Statement*

- **Coastal Fisheries account for over FJ\$ 73 million to GDP (~8 times that from offshore fishing)**
- **Coastal Fisheries are vital for food security, human health and livelihoods**
- **As identified in Fiji's Green Growth Framework, human activities threaten the future capacity of coastal fisheries to support Fiji's people**



# **Problem Statement**

- **Coastal Fisheries are over-exploited and will not be able to meet our future needs:**
  - **By 2030 increasing pressures on coastal fisheries will mean Fiji will not be able to meet its seafood needs from locally sourced coastal fisheries alone**
  - **These pressures will also mean the collapse of the fisheries unless an inclusive management system is in place as a basis for any development**
- **Coastal Fisheries depend on habitats which are degraded by land & sea based activities:**
  - **Development activities and waste production are not being adequately managed with knock-on impacts on coastal fisheries habitats**
- **Fiji's coastal communities are vulnerable to natural and climate hazards, which cause direct and indirect impacts on coastal fisheries and associated habitats:**
  - **Integrated planning and policy coordination that builds on CBAM is required to build resilience for future environmental, demographic and climate change**

# **What the FLMMA Approach can offer Government**

- **FLMMA approaches can increase fish & invertebrate size & abundance improving the potential for sustainable use of coastal fisheries resources and therefore supports the “Roadmap for Democracy and Sustainable Socio-economic Development” and “Green Growth Framework”.**
- **Community-based management protects ecosystems and vulnerable species from ridge to reef, assisting Fiji to meet its commitments under the “Convention on Biological Diversity”.**
- **FLMMA approaches can result in improved human well-being through increased capacity to manage or adapt to short and long term threats, thus supporting objectives for community resilience under the “National Climate Change Policy”.**
- **The FLMMA Network provides information with decision-makers at all levels to assist in policy development & planning, enabling key government agencies to formulate and achieve objectives under annual corporate plans.**



# ***FLMMA Supports and calls on Government to:***

***Provide a suitable enabling environment and procedures***

<b>OUTCOME</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>
<b>Government staff are able to provide appropriate support to communities.</b>	Ensure terms of reference for fisheries extension officers, conservation officers and Yaubula Management Support Teams (YMST) <sup>1</sup> clearly define respective roles in supporting coastal resources management and these roles are mainstreamed into adequately resourced provincial and divisional plans.
<b>Coastal fisheries and integrated ecosystem management is adequately financed.</b>	Appropriate and innovative mechanisms are developed to adequately finance and staff resource management activities, such as reviewing licensing fees to reflect and offset management costs and clarify and define the roles of fish wardens.
<b>Adequate legal and policy framework provides transparency, clarity and support.</b>	Community-based fisheries management plans covering whole inshore fishing area (not just tabus/MPAs) are endorsed by Government and an Inshore Fisheries Advisory Council is formed with significant community participation to raise relevant issues surrounding management practice and financing.

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<sup>1</sup> Yaubula Management Support Teams (YMST) are groups set up under the Provincial Office to coordinate and support community based resource management

# ***FLMMA Supports and calls on Government to:***

## ***Improve implementation, enforcement and information for decision makers at all levels***

<b>OUTCOME</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>
<b>Communities are able to implement and enforce management.</b>	Local fish wardens receive adequate training, knowledge, equipment and legal backing to apprehend offenders and fisheries extension officers increase their capacity to promote and support inshore fisheries management.
<b>Improved information is available for community, provincial and national decision-makers.</b>	A government led information and awareness strategy and system is developed and implemented across all sectors ensuring that all appropriate stakeholders in 100% of communities regularly receive appropriate information on an ongoing basis and that monitoring and feedback systems allow community and government agencies to regularly and cost-effectively exchange key information for integrated management at all levels.
<b>Effective and strategic control and surveillance is regularly enforced.</b>	Government officers enforce key national and provincial laws and regulations . in capitals, markets and other areas with community outreach and ensure reliable administrative response from authorities to support village Fish Wardens when performing their legal duties.
<b>Effectiveness is improved of locally-managed areas in achieving food security, livelihood and well-being outcomes.</b>	Yaubula Management/YMST is integrated in each province's strategic planning and a system of recommended management standards is developed and implemented, forming the basis of community accreditation or certification to ensure that management plans are appropriately addressing local priorities and meeting national needs.
<b>Integrated management approaches are developed and applied that promote community resilience.</b>	The roles and actions of community managers and YMSTs are defined and evaluated in the context of environmental impact of developments, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies

# **CONCLUSION**

**FLMMA CBAM approaches can result in an improved potential for sustainable use of coastal fisheries resources, the protection of ecosystems and vulnerable species and an increased capacity to manage and adapt to threats thus supporting the goals and objectives of the Roadmap for Democracy and Sustainable Economic Development, the Green Growth Framework, the National Climate Change Policy and meeting Fiji's commitments under the CBD.**

**There is a need to increase the coverage and effectiveness of these efforts in order to provide food security, livelihoods and increased resilience of all coastal communities in Fiji which cannot be done by communities and supportive NGOs alone.**

**FLMMA calls on a closer partnership with government and for government to provide more resources and take the main responsibility for community-based inshore fishery management in Fiji.**

***Vinaka!***

**Brad Carte, PhD – FLMMA Coordinator**

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***FLMMA***

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