

Annual report of Library Services of Fiji

Period covered by this report: calendar year 2015 (Please specify)

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Name of library: Library Services of Fiji	Suva, Fiji.
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1. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT:

- Library Services of Fiji (LSF) is governed under the Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts and the legislation which affirms the Library contribution to the education sector is stipulated in the Education Act which is currently under review. The departments relations with the National Archives is that we operate under the same Ministry, however there are two institution that have the Depository Act and that is the National Archives and the University of the South Pacific.
- The Department has the responsibility of overlooking the development of 731 primary school libraries and 177 secondary school libraries in Fiji and also the Public Libraries in Fiji in which it has 5 branches around the country and had 4 partnerships with municipal libraries.

2. FACTS AND FIGURES:

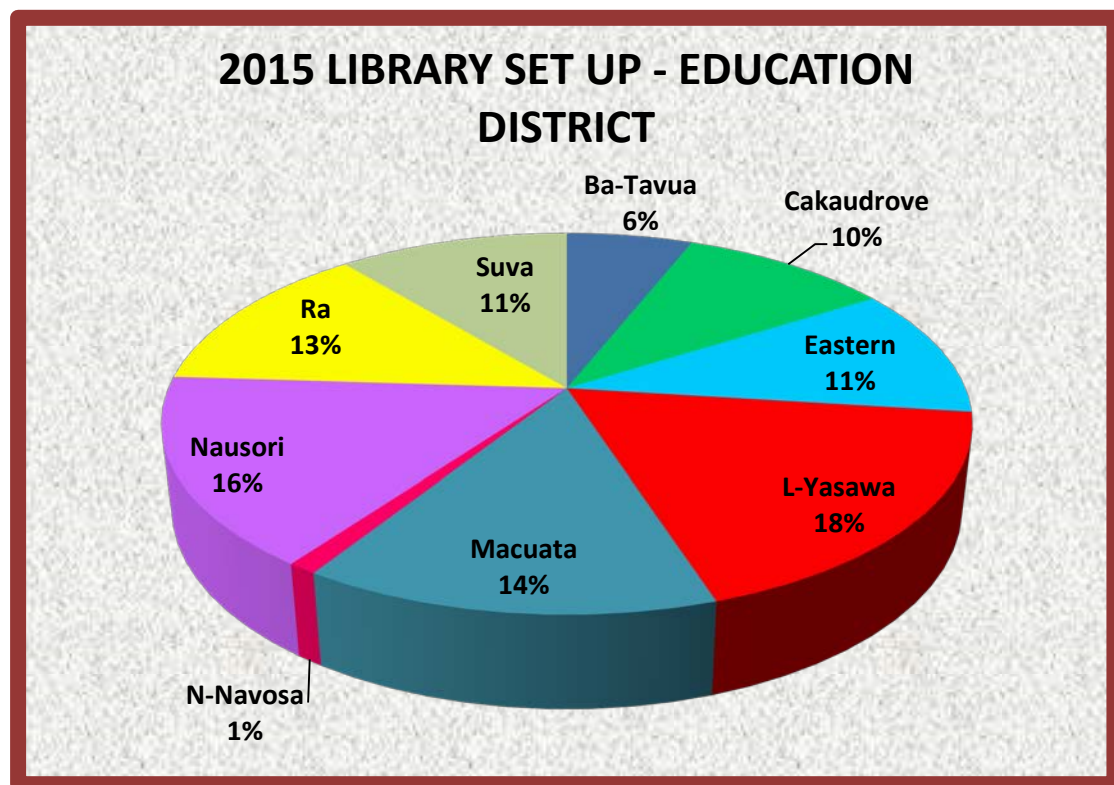
- 1964 was founded by the British Government for the purpose Government experimental station which will do research into the problems and methods of bringing about the overall development method of libraries in Fiji. A British Council Grant of 26,000 sterling pounds covered the cost building, equipment and 90% of the books.
- 1972 Fiji Government took over administration and responsibility for Library Services of Fiji and this department was assigned under the Ministry of Urban Housing and Social welfare in 1975.

- Library Services of Fiji now assumes the responsibility of coordinating the development of libraries in the Public and Government Departments; and in 1982 it assumed the responsibilities of coordinating the development of school libraries and it became part of the Ministry of Education since.
- 2015 has seen the increasing of our total annual operating budget of 1.75million and we have projects funded by Australian Direct Aid and Fiji Water of about FJD300, 000.
- We have a total of 34 staff of which (1 staff have post-graduate library qualification, 1staff have a post-graduate qualification in other discipline, 2 staff have undergraduate degree in other discipline and 21 staff have Para-professional library qualification, the rest are the support staff)
- We have a total of 81,000 collections in print, DVD and Audio.

BRANCH PUBLIC LIBRARY AROUND FIJI

BRANCH PUBLIC LIBRARIES		1 ST Qtr.	2 nd Qtr.	3 rd Qtr.	4 th Qtr.	TOTAL
WESTERN REGIONAL LIBRARY	LOANS MANAGEMENT	1772	2853	3377	5901	13,903
	VISITORS	3118	2500	3528	3329	12,475
	REFERENCE QUERIES	77	86	69	109	109
TAVUA PUBLIC LIBRARY	LOANS MANAGEMENT	758	962	634	993	3347
	VISITORS	2100	2750	2573	2870	10,293
	REFERENCE QUERIES	320	578	739	555	2192
RAKIRAKI PUBLIC LIBRARY	LOANS MANAGEMENT	2000	1983	2063	2207	8253
	VISITORS	512	1003	1987	503	4005
	REFERENCE QUERIES	250	561	617	819	2247
SAVUSAVU PUBLIC LIBRARY	LOANS MANAGEMENT	2120	2234	2170	2415	8939
	VISITORS	700	712	750	931	3093
	REFERENCE QUERIES	198	213	227	270	908
NASESE PUBLIC LIBRARY	LOANS MANAGEMENT	1008	1250	1258	1807	5323
	VISITORS	420	312	320	470	1522
	REFERENCE QUERIES	230	212	215	264	921
TOTAL		15,583	18,209	20,527	23,443	77,530

SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSISTANCE AROUND FIJI



Quarter	Primary	Secondary	Community Information Centre	Total number of library set up
1 st	6	3		9
2 nd	28	2	1	31
3 rd	22	3	1	26
4 th	23	10	1	34
Total	83	18	3	100

READ TO LEAD PROJECT DISTRIBUTION

Table.1.

Phase 1 – 110 pilot schools with 27,500 titles

	EDUCATION DISTRICT									TOTAL
	Ba/Tavua	Bua/Macuata	Cakaudrove	Eastern	Lautoka / Yasawa	Nadroga/ Navosa	Nausori	Ra	Suva	
No. of Schools	7	11	12	10	12	12	13	12	12	101

Table.2.

Phase 2 – 240 schools with 60,000 titles.

	EDUCATION DISTRICT									TOTAL
	Ba/ Tavua	Bua/ Macuata	Cakaudrove	Eastern	Lautoka / Yasawa	Nadroga/ Navosa	Nausori	Ra	Suva	
No. of Schools		14		1			24	7	26	72

3. A BRIEF GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS:

A recent major development was the streamlining of processes, especially from manual cataloguing to automation. The Department was established in 1964 and after its 51 years of existence, finally Library automation processes was introduced in December, 2015.

This project will be on phase basis, beginning with our main Suva office, which is a Central Processing Unit and holds master catalogue records of resources that has been distributed to all public libraries, school libraries and community libraries around Fiji, however in the 2015 Budget announcement, The Department has been given an extra budget for further development into supporting digital literacy.

4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN BUILDING AND MANAGING COLLECTIONS:

There has never been a new development in building and managing collection compared to the previous country report, reason being, that the Library Automation acquired towards the end of 2015 will assist in building and managing collection in libraries and also have the provision of providing a Union Catalogue for all libraries in Fiji, this is especially for Public, School, Community and some special libraries.

5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS:

As per item 3 and 4, the Library Automation will be able to increase access to collection, in 2016 the major work towards providing access to collections is data inputting of all resources acquired over the years the collection currently stands at 81,000 and with that all other formats and media, including provision of e-books will be the major projects in the coming year. Hence the country report for 2016 will feature major developments on digital literacy.

6. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER SERVICES:

School Library Services Unit provided other services such as accepting attachment of school librarian to the department during school holidays for up-skilling and furtherance their knowledge on library services.

In addition the department always assists schools and other special libraries in setting up their libraries, training conducted on a quarterly basis and Information literacy skills training and activity conducted in communities to enhance the literacy advancement of rural community members.

7. NOTES ON YOUR COLLABORATION WITH OTHER LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS IN YOUR COUNTRY:

Library Services of Fiji have 5 branch libraries in some of the municipality around Fiji, and have partnership with 4 other council libraries around the country, also it works closely with other libraries like Reserve Bank of Fiji, The University of the South Pacific and importantly with the Fiji Library Association.

The National Archives of Fiji and the Museum are also under the Ministry of Education hence other departments are always supporting the Museum during Open day at the end of every month.

In addition, LSF departments work closely with these two departments, including the University of the South Pacific forming the Memory of the World Committee.

8. NOTES ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION:

International collaboration is minimal; however LSF would be grateful if we could be assisted in terms of assistance for training attachment / exchange work programme / study visit or further professional development that will enhance capacity building in the Library Services of Fiji.