



**Fijian Elections Office**  
*My Election. My Fiji*

# Lavetiviti



## Implementing election best practices through innovative planning

### Launch of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan

The new Strategic Plan was officially launched by the Chair of the Electoral Commission Suresh Chandra on November 14 at Suvouvou House. Staff members of the Fijian Elections Office invested five months into developing the Strategic Plan which forms the road map for the next general elections.

The four-year Strategic Plan is aimed at driving sustainability and building of capacity in various areas of the FEO including the legal framework, institutional and human capacity, election operations, electoral participation and technology.

To facilitate the process, a planning team consisting of two separate committees was appointed to oversee the planning, development, compilation and finalization of the plan. The FEO conducted a series of consultations with internal and external stakeholders to gather their input and feedback on the proposed plan. This included staff and prominent people from reputable organisations in Fiji as well as voters who were requested to participate in online surveys and provide feedback.

The new Strategic Plan seeks to secure greater collaboration and development of capacities of all Fijians and this will ultimately build stronger communities that understand the electoral process.



# Taking the lead in Melanesia



The Fijian Elections Office became the first election management body in Melanesia to host a conference specifically for discourse pertaining to elections within the Melanesian region.

The conference, hosted by the FEO last November, brought together election management bodies from within Melanesia and the MSG Secretariat. For the Fijian Elections Office to organize such a meeting meant MSG member countries could take the lead on key issues such as the challenges of conducting elections in MSG countries, standards of free and fair elections, corruption in elections and gender equality and social inclusion. The conference also initiated discussions and plans to enhance collaboration and co-operation with the purpose of delivering elections in compliance with internationally accepted norms and standards.

The conference resulted in the formation of the Association of EMB's in Melanesia and Supervisor of Elections Mohammed Saneem was appointed Chair of the Association.

## Seat Allocation Calculator

# Something for the political enthusiasts

The Seat Allocation Calculator is a new feature on the FEO App. Based on the D'Hondt formula, the feature allows users to calculate the allocation of seats for a Parliamentary election in relation to the number of votes received by various Parties. Users can enter the votes received by parties, the threshold as a percentage and the number of seats being contested to calculate how the seats will be allocated.

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Seat Allocation Calculator

Total Votes Contested454335

Threshold5% = 22717

Party Name	Votes Received	Seats Won
FijiFirst	227241	
SODELPA	181072	
NFP	33515	
UNITY	6896	
HOPE	2811	
FLP	2800	

CALCULATE

CLEAR



# PINKTOBER



For two months' various activities were organised at the FEO to create awareness on breast and prostate cancer in support of the Pinktober and Movember campaigns. Staff were able to collect \$544.15 through in-house fundraising activities and Jerry Cans. A delegation led by Director Corporate Sanjeshwar Ram and Director Operations Ana Senimoli presented the sum to the Fiji Cancer Society on December 5.

## Taking Transparency, a notch higher

The FEO has always sought to achieve the highest levels of transparency in its operations. To take this further, the FEO in its new Strategic Plan highlighted that it will subject the National Register of Voters to independent audit in 2021. This was among the recommendations of the Multinational Observer Group (2018). The exercise would verify the accuracy of the register and further instil public confidence in the credibility of the register of voters and the electoral process.



## Expiry of Voter Card 1.0

# FEO to conduct a nation-wide voter registration and card replacement drive

FEO will conduct a nation-wide voter registration and card replacement drive in May and June next year to facilitate the transition to Voter Card 2.0. Supervisor of Elections Mohammed Saneem announced last September that the Voter Card 1.0 or the green coloured card will be phased out by end of June 2020.

All those who are still using the green card will need to update it to the blue coloured voter card and this would be an opportunity for FEO to also update details of voters. "The new card has more security features, more details of the voter in terms of the polling venue and it shows when the card was issued," Mr Saneem said.

He added more centres will be opened up in addition to the Voter Service Centres in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa to help facilitate this exercise and to allow for more remote and rural areas to be reached and their cards updated.



## Analysis begins on Voter Turnout

For the first time in Fiji's history, the elections body will be releasing voter turnout data for an election. To facilitate this, a massive scanning exercise was undertaken by the FEO which included verifying 2100 voter lists.

The analysis report would include gender statistics and age-group statistics by polling station, polling venue, area and divisions.

The analysis will help FEO take a more targeted approach towards voter education and engagement. It will also be an effective measure of civic participation to gauge the health of the electoral process.





## Photo Gallery

### 1st Anniversary of the 2018 General Election



FEO celebrated the first Anniversary of the 2018 General Election during the launch of its Strategic Plan in November



Supervisor of Elections Mohammed Saneem with the Writ of Election



Supervisor of Elections Mohammed Saneem during an elections workshop in 2018



A woman casts her vote on Election Day

## 2019 PIANZEA Bridge Workshop in Brisbane Australia- February 27 to March 1

12 staff members of the FEO had the opportunity to participate in this capacity building workshop while some of them also facilitated a few of the sessions. Three workshops on operations planning, civic and voter education and legal framework were conducted simultaneously.



## FEO's Legal Compliance Coordinator joined Observer Mission to New Caledonia

Ana Mataciwa, the Legal Compliance Coordinator was nominated by FEO to be a part of the Observer Mission to the 2019 Provincial Election in New Caledonia from May 6 to May 13. During her trip, Ms Mataciwa had the opportunity to observe processes on the election day including the counting process and the tabulation of results as well as meet with political representatives, civil society organisations and foreign representatives to New Caledonia.







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