



Integrated Approach to Building a Resilient Lovoni through Enhancing Water Security

Lovoni Village, Ovalau

The Lovoni Community Water Security and Catchment Restoration Project is a community-led initiative that will improve access to safe, reliable drinking water and protect the environment that sustains local water sources. Led by the Lovoni Youth Group, it responds to aging infrastructure, limited storage, and catchment degradation across the village.

Prior to the project, Lovoni residents faced recurring water shortages and unreliable access to safe drinking water, affecting household wellbeing and hygiene practices, and increasing the risk of waterborne illness. Through the upgrade of the village water system and protection of catchment areas, the village will gain reliable access to safe drinking water — improving community health, reducing water-related risks, and enhancing the overall quality of life for all households.

With support from UNDP Gov4Res's Small Grants Initiative (SGI), the project will upgrade communal water systems and train the Lovoni Water Committee, including women and youth, in operation and maintenance. It will also restore catchments through Nature-based Solutions (NbS), planting 1,000 native seedlings to curb erosion and protect water sources, alongside training in climate adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion.

This is the first grant the Lovoni Youth Group has received from any funder outside of the Fijian government, and the project is already extending that model to others: through dedicated sessions, it has helped three local organisations develop their own GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) proposals. By presenting their NbS work to the Lomaiviti Provincial Council, the project has also helped connect community priorities directly to provincial planning — giving local voices, and locally-led solutions, a seat in decisions that affect them.

TOTAL COST

USD 70,500

GOV4RES SGI GRANT

USD 50,000

CO-FINANC

USD 20,500

TARGET POPULATION



50 households (147 people)
Lovoni Village



31 households (120 people)
Vunivisavu Village

TYPE OF PROJECT



Water Security, Catchment Restoration and
Nature-Based Solutions



UK International Development

Partnership | Progress | Prosperity



Lovoni Village, Ovalau

Integrated Approach to Building a Resilient Lovoni through Enhancing Water Security Measures and Related Climate Risks Mitigation

Challenges



Aging & deteriorating infrastructure

Failing pipelines and limited storage capacity increase the risk of water shortages and waterborne disease.



Ongoing catchment degradation

Soil erosion threatens the long-term sustainability of water resources.



Limited community capacity

Risks the sustainability of project benefits without stronger local management.



Partnerships

Lovoni Koro Youth Club (LKYC)
Lomaiviti Provincial Council
Youth from Lovoni, Nasaumatua and Vunivisavu
Water Authority of Fiji (WAF)
Ministry of Forestry
The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
UNDP Gov4Res
Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI)
Climate Finance Access Network (CFAN)

Risk Management Measures

The project mitigates implementation risks through community consultation, climate-resilient planning, technical and management capacity-building, partnerships with specialists such as WAF and WCS, strict waste management, and inclusive approaches for vulnerable groups.



Community Consultation

Transparent communication and inclusive consultations throughout the project.



Climate-Resilient Planting

Favourable-season scheduling and protective measures for seedlings.



Technical Training & SOPs

Training with WAF on maintenance; SOPs; Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) for restoration.



Project Management Systems

Inception workshop; clear roles, responsibilities and management arrangements.



Waste Management Protocols

Strict protocols and LKYC member training on proper disposal.



Inclusive, Accessible Design

Accessible infrastructure and ongoing feedback from vulnerable groups.

To view more about SGI in Fiji, please scan below

Impact



Improved Health & Wellbeing

Reliable access to clean drinking water.



Restored Water Catchments

Reforestation and ecosystem restoration.



Strengthened Local Capacity

To manage and sustain water infrastructure.



Stronger Partnerships

Between communities, government, NGOs and partners.

