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March 14, 2024

Honorable Professor Biman Chand Prasad
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Strategic Planning,
National Development and Statistics
Ministry of Finance, Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics
Ro Lalabalavu House
P O Box 2212 Suva
REPUBLIC OF FIJI

Dear Honorable Minister,

***Republic of Fiji: Joint Mission to Support Fiji's Preparation of the CIF-NPC Investment Plan,
(P181433) March 25 to 29, 2024.***

The World Bank (WB), in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC), would like to propose a Joint Mission to support the design and development of the Investment Plan for the Fiji Blue Prosperity Project to take place from March 25 to 29, 2024. As you might recall, the Investment Plan forms Phase I of the Climate Investment Fund's (CIF) Nature, People and Climate (NPC) Investment Program, in which Fiji was one of nine countries selected to participate is due for endorsement by the governing body that oversees the NPC Program (called the Global Climate Action Program (GCAP) Sub-Committee), is April 2024.

The proposed objectives of the mission are to review and discuss:

- i. the draft Investment Plan design, including the IP land/marine landscape target areas, proposed components, activities, and costs, with an eye to the upcoming submission for CIF review.
- ii. proposed budget envelope and possible additional funding sources, as needed.
- iii. program implementation arrangements.
- iv. the timeline and responsibilities for Investment Plan finalization in line with the CIF submission requirements.

The mission will be held in Suva, Fiji with most meetings taking place in the World Bank Office. We look forward to meeting with key government stakeholders related to investment development, including representatives from the Ministry of Finance, Strategic Planning, National Planning & Development; Divisions of Environment and Climate Change; Ministry of Itaukei Affairs; Ministry of Fisheries and Forestry; and Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways; and non-government stakeholders. A detailed agenda is being prepared in conjunction with key government agencies and will be shared with your team in the next few days.

The mission will be jointly led by Iretomiwa Olatunji (Senior Natural Resources Specialist, WB) and Xavier Vincent (Lead Fisheries Specialist, WB), who are the overall Task Team Leaders for the Fiji Blue Prosperity Project. The full mission team will also include Zhihong Zhang (Senior Climate Finance Specialist and CIF Focal Point, WB), Karan Chouksey (Climate Change Specialist and CIF Focal Point, ADB), Tendai Madenyika (Operation Officer and CIF Focal Point, IFC), Sophie Egden (Operations Consultant), Jose Rehbein (Natural Resources Management Consultant), Lusiana Dalituicama (Team Assistant), Son Thanh Vo (Senior Agriculture Specialist), Felicity O'Neill (Operations Officer, IFC), Simone Esler (Senior Climate Change Specialist), Stephanie Tam (Senior Environmental Specialist) and Vira Atalifo (Environmental Safeguards Consultant). A draft aide memoire will be prepared and discussed/reviewed with the key government stakeholders prior to it being shared with your office.

I would like to thank you for your continuous support in advancing actions to strengthen Fiji's climate resilience and sustainable development. Your support in ensuring this mission's success is also much appreciated. Should you have any questions concerning the proposed mission, please do not hesitate to contact Iretomiwa Olatunji iolatunji@worldbank.org or Xavier Vincent xvincent@worldbank.org. We look forward to continuing our productive partnership and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Stefano Mocci
Country Manager – South Pacific
Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Samoa, Tonga & Tuvalu
East Asia and Pacific Region

cc: Mr. Shiri Gounder Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance Strategic Planning, National Development & Statistics Budget & Planning
Mr. Rovereto Nayacalevu, Acting Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Fisheries and Forestry
Dr. Andrew Tukana, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways
Mr. Pita Wise, Permanent Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister
Mr. Pita Tagicakirewa, Permanent Secretary, iTaukei Affairs
Dr. Sivendra Michael, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
Mr. Kamal Gounder, Manager/Coordinator- Infrastructure Sector, Ministry of Finance, Strategic Planning, National Development & Statistics Budget & Planning
Ms. Senimili Baleicakau, Acting Director, Department of Environment
Mr. Filimone Ralogaivalu, Acting Director for Climate Change Division
Mr. Daniel Munoz-Smith, Country Representative, Global Green Growth Institute
Mr. Alifereti Tawake, Executive Director, Fiji Locally Managed Marine Areas
Mrs. Mere Lakeba, Country Director, Conservation International
Ms. Stacy Jupiter, Melanesia Regional Director, Wildlife Conservation Society
Mr. Paul van Nimwegen, Country Director, Wildlife Conservation Society
Ms. Asia Williams, Blue Economy Manager, Waitt Institute
Mr. Mark Drew, Director Pacific, World Wildlife Fund for Nature

Annex 1: World Bank Mission Team Members

1. Iretomiwa Olatunji (Senior Natural Resources Specialist)
2. Xavier Vincent (Lead Fisheries Specialist)
3. Stephanie Tam (Senior Environmental Specialist)
4. Sophie Egden (Operations Consultant)
5. Lusiana Dalituicama (Team Assistant)
6. Jose Rehbein (Natural Resources & Blue Economy Consultant)
7. Vira Atalifo (Environmental Consultant)

Fiji Blue Prosperity Project, Scoping Mission Agenda

Monday, March 25 [WB office, Suva]

Time	Topic	Description	Moderator	Participants
10 – 11 AM	Opening session	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation: Mission agenda, team introductions, and housekeeping. 2. Presentation: Overview of draft Fiji Blue Prosperity Project to date (building on previous missions, technical preparation and inputs from all) 3. Presentation: preparation process, key tasks and dates. 4. Brief contributions from (ADB, IFC, FLMMA, others?) 5. Questions and ideas 	Iretomiwa Olatunji	All
11 AM – 12:30 PM	Support for policies and regulatory frameworks under Comp 1.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explanation of relevant sectorial policies and regulations (<i>Presents: Environment, Climate Change, Fisheries, Forestry, Agriculture, Waterways</i>). 2. Review and contribute to the list of potential policies and regulations to be supported (upcoming new/updated policies between 2025 and 2030). 3. Discussion and agreement about policy and regulation to be supported under the Project. 	Iretomiwa Olatunji	All
Lunch (1 hour)				
1:30 – 3 PM	Project objective and Theory of Change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overview of the proposed Project Development Objective and Theory of Change. 2. Review and discussion. 	Jose Rehbein	All
3 – 4 PM	Implementation arrangements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of requirements and responsibilities for implementation and PIU roles. 2. Overview of draft implementation arrangements and responsibilities. 3. Discussion and review. 	Sophie Egden	All

Tuesday, March 26 [WB office, Suva]

Time	Topic	Description	Moderator	Participants
10 AM – 1 PM	Target Area selection workshop	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overall presentation and explanation of the session. 2. Brief presentation of results from the NBS scans and other relevant data. 3. Review the multi-criteria analysis selection proposal and results. 4. Participatory session to incorporate additional information, criteria, and information. 5. Discussion about the final selected Target Areas. 	Jose Rehbein	All
Lunch				
AFTERNOON	Private Sector	Private sector and AFNR; IP investment Updates to the Investment Plan and preparation of following sessions	Ryan Anthony M. Bestre	All

Wednesday, March 27 [WB office, Suva]

Time	Topic	Description	Moderator	Participants
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10 – 11:30 AM	Technical discussion: Blue Carbon Readiness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of IUCN and PROBLUE Blue Carbon Readiness Frameworks 2. Blue carbon opportunities for Fiji 1. Discussion about potential activities 	Jose Rehbein Presentation from PROBLUE experts	WB
Break (15 minutes)				
11:45 AM – 1 PM	Technical discussion: Improved agricultural practices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of national policies and programs (Ministry of Agriculture) 2. Presentation of the potential activities to be supported under Subcomponents 2.1 and 3.1. 3. Discuss what to include in the IP. 	Son Thanh Vo	All Agriculture, Itaukei, Waterways teams particularly.
Lunch (1 hour)				
2 – 4 PM	Technical discussion: Wetlands for wastewater treatment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of the wetlands built by RISE Project. 2. Discussion about cost-benefits of this investment and alignment with the donor requirements, project objective and target areas. 	Vira Atalifo	All RISE, Waterways, WAF, Water and Sanitation teams particularly.
Thursday, March 28 [WB office, Suva]				
Time	Topic	Description	Moderator	Participants
10 – 11 AM	Project preparation planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation: Next steps, tasks and responsibilities. 2. Agreements for Aide Memoire 3. Questions and ideas 	Iretomiwa Olatunji and Xavier Vincent	All
11 AM – 11:30 PM	Mission closure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation: Summary of mission results, outputs and next steps 2. Closing remarks from PS of Finance 3. Closing remarks from WB CD 	Iretomiwa Olatunji and Xavier Vincent	All
Coffee (30 minutes)				