



## GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC FIJI

### SEAFARING ENTREPRENEUR ASSISTANCE (SEA) SUBSIDY FOR BOATS, ENGINES, AND EQUIPMENT EXTENDED TO ISOLATED COASTAL AREAS OF VITI LEVU AND VANUA LEVU

The Fijian Government introduced the SEA Subsidy to assist would-be captains in our most isolated maritime regions with meeting the high upfront costs of purchasing well-equipped fibreglass boats, boat engines, and equipment that can help start or expand a sea-based business.

After successfully connecting ocean-based entrepreneurs from outer islands communities with the nation's markets and other economic opportunities, the Subsidy has now been extended to isolated coastal communities on Fiji's two largest islands.

As announced in the 2022-2023 Budget, the Fijian Government has allocated another **\$500,000** to subsidise the purchase of fully equipped and operational fibreglass boats for Fijians living in maritime regions and in the most isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu.

The programme will assist an additional 50 recipients with a grant of up to **\$10,000** to support the purchase of fully equipped and operational fibreglass boats, engines, and boat equipment.

Individuals residing in maritime regions and in the most isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu are strongly encouraged to apply for this initiative. Cooperatives and other groups can also apply for the grant.

The quota for the allocation of 50 boats that will be funded for the respective maritime area(s) in the most isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu are as follows:

- Rewa & Tailevu: Beqa (Sawau & Raviravi), Rewa (Lomanikoro, Vunuku, Nadoi & Nukui) & Vutia & Bau Island – 5;
- Kadavu: Nabukelevu, Naceva, Nakasaleka, Dravuni, Bulia & Ono - 4;
- Lau: Cicia, Kabara, Lakeba, Matuku, Moala, Moce, Nayau, Namuka-i-Lau, Oneata, Ono-i-Lau, Totoya, Fulaga, Tuvuca, Komo, Vatoa, Vanuavatu, Vanua Balavu, Ogea - 12;
- Lomaiviti: Gau, Batiki, Koro, Nairai, Motoriki & Makogai - 4;
- Rotuma – 1;
- Bua: Vuya & Lekutu (Galoa & Yaqaga) – 2;
- Cakaudrove: Taveuni, Rabi, Kioa, Yacata & Tawake - 10;
- Macuata: Kia, Mali, Kavewa, Cikobia, Udu, Druadrua, Naveidredre & Macuata-i-Wai - 4;
- Ba: Yasawa, Nacula, Naviti, Waya & Viwa – 3;
- Nadroga: Malolo (Solevu & Yaro ) & Vatulele – 2;
- Ra: Malake – 1; and
- Serua: Yanuca & Serua: 2.

Application forms to apply for the SEA Subsidy will be available from the respective District Office/Provincial Office/Turaga-ni-Koros. The application form and implementation guideline will also be available online at:

- [www.fiji.gov.fj](http://www.fiji.gov.fj)
- [www.economy.gov.fj](http://www.economy.gov.fj)

The following documents **MUST** be submitted with a completed application form:

- Quotation of the Fibreglass boat, engine and life-saving equipment;
- Voter ID Card number and a letter of confirmation from the District Office/Provincial Office/Turaga-ni-Koros verifying the identity of the applicant and confirmation that the applicant resides on that isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu and maritime island / or village. Valid photo ID would be preferred; and
- Evidence of funding component from the applicant.

An applicant will be required to submit the completed application form with the necessary documents to the respective District Office/Provincial Office/Turaga-ni-Koros who will then forward it to the Divisional Commissioners Office. Following submission, applications will be sent to the Ministry of Economy for processing and payment.

For further clarification, please contact Mr. Kamal Gounder on phone: 9906974 or email [kamal.gounder@economy.gov.fj](mailto:kamal.gounder@economy.gov.fj) or Mr. Alipate Kete on phone: 9083022 or email: [alipate.kete@economy.gov.fj](mailto:alipate.kete@economy.gov.fj).

**AIYAZ SAYED-KHAIYUM**  
**ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR ECONOMY**



Warning : Providing false information to Government is an offence under the False Information Act 2016. If you are found guilty of providing false information to Government, you may be fined up to \$20,000 or sentenced to imprisonment for up to 10 years

# SEAFARING ENTREPRENEUR ASSISTANCE (SEA) SUBSIDY FOR BOATS, ENGINES AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT – SEA SUBSIDY APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT DETAILS			
Individual / Group Name:		Village:	
		Tikina:	
		Island:	
		Province:	
Date of Birth: (where applicable)	___ / ___ / ___	Gender: (where applicable)	M / F
Fijian Citizen:	Y / N	Telephone / Mobile No:	
Voter ID card number for the individual/ if Group then voter ID card number for the office bearers:		Postal Address:	
Letter of confirmation from the District Office/Provincial Office/Turaga-ni-Koros verifying the identity of the applicant and confirmation that the applicant resides on that maritime island / or village:			Y / N
Valid Photo Identification:			Y / N
Subsidy Amount Applied for:			<div style="border: 1px solid green; width: 100px; height: 20px;"></div>
PROCUREMENT OF FIBERGLASS BOAT, ENGINE AND LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENT			
Government Approved Suppliers / Quotations :			Y / N
Evidence of Funding Component from the Applicant:			Y / N
DECLARATION			
<p>I, ..... , of ..... certify that the above information are true and correct.</p> <p>I hereby authorise Government to access any personal information or record of the applicant held by any Government entity that may be required to process the application.</p> <p>I understand that providing false information may result in disqualification from this grant assistance programme and may also lead to legal proceedings under the False Information Act 2016 or any other written law.</p>			
..... Applicant Signature			...../...../..... Date



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# SEAFARING ENTREPRENEUR ASSISTANCE (SEA) SUBSIDY FOR BOATS, ENGINES AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT – SEA SUBSIDY APPLICATION FORM

CHECKLIST		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fully Filled Application Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Valid Photo Identification	
<input type="checkbox"/> Government Approved / Quotations	<input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of funding component from the applicant	
<input type="checkbox"/> Letter of confirmation from the District Office/Provincial Office/Turaga-ni-Koros verifying the identity of the applicant and confirmation that the applicant resides on that maritime island / village:		
OFFICIAL USE ONLY		
Receiving Officer (Commissioner's Office)		
Name:	Designation:	
Office:	Location:	
Signature:	Date Received:    /    /	
Verifying Officer (Ministry of Economy)		
Name:	Designation:	
Comments: ..... ..... .....		
Signature:	Date:    /    /	
DECISION		
PS Economy	Comments: ..... ..... ..... ..... .....	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Decline	Amount Approved: <b>F\$</b>

**Implementation Guidelines**  
**Seafaring Entrepreneurs Assistance (SEA)**  
**Subsidy for Boats, Engines, and Equipment —**  
**Extended to Isolated Coastal Areas of Viti Levu**  
**and Vanua Levu**

**Ministry of Economy**

**30 September 2022**

**Implementation Guidelines for Seafaring Entrepreneurs Assistance (SEA) Subsidy for Boats, Engines, and Equipment - Extended to Isolated Coastal Areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu**

**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This paper outlines the Implementation Guidelines for ‘Seafaring Entrepreneur Assistance (SEA) Subsidy for Boats, Engines, and Equipment’ - an ongoing initiative which has been extended to isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu.
- 1.2 In the 2022-2023 Budget, the Fijian Government has allocated a sum of **\$500,000** to subsidise the purchase of a fully equipped and operational fibreglass boats for Fijians living in maritime regions and in the most isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu.
- 1.3 Due to the significant up-front costs required, many Fijians living in the most isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu and maritime regions are unable to afford fibreglass boats and engines, effectively cordoning them off from many economic opportunities.
- 1.4 To promote better accessibility for communities in most isolated coastal areas and maritime communities on the same island and across neighbouring islands and improve access to markets, the Fijian Government will subsidise, by way of grant, the cost of purchasing fibreglass boats and engines, in addition to providing the full cost of boat equipment, including lifesaving equipment.
- 1.5 The initiative is aligned with Government’s longstanding efforts to foster a culture of entrepreneurship among most isolated coastal and maritime communities by promoting a safe and inclusive environment for travelling and business ventures in the maritime region. This initiative will not only improve accessibility and transportation in these maritime areas, it will also generate more economic activity for our maritime communities as well as those living in most isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu.
- 1.6 The programme will assist 50 recipients with a grant of up to **\$10,000** to support the purchase of fully equipped and operational fibreglass boats, engines, and boat equipment.
- 1.7 The quota for the allocation of the fifty (50) boats that will be subsidised for the respective maritime area(s) are as follows:
- Rewa & Tailevu: Beqa, Rewa & Vutia & Bau Island and Viwa Island – 5;
  - Kadavu: Nabukelevu, Naceva, Nakasaleka, Dravuni, Bulia & Ono - 4;
  - Lau: Cicia, Kabara, Lakeba, Matuku, Moala, Moce, Nayau, Namuka-i-Lau, Oneata, Ono-i-Lau, Totoya, Fulaga, Tuvuca, Komo, Vatoa, Vanuavatu, Vanua Balavu, Ogea - 12;
  - Lomaiviti: Gau, Batiki, Koro, Nairai, Motoriki & Makogai - 4;
  - Rotuma – 1;
  - Bua: Vuya & Lekutu – 2;
  - Cakaudrove: Taveuni, Rabi, Kioa, Yacata & Tawake - 10;
  - Macuata: Kia, Mali, Kavewa, Cikobia, Udu, Druadrua, Naveidredre & Macuata-i-Wai - 4
  - Ba: Yasawa, Nacula, Naviti, Waya & Viwa - 3
  - Nadroga: Malolo & Vatulele - 2
  - Ra: Malake – 1; and
  - Serua: Yanuca & Serua: 2.

The detailed listing of these areas is attached as **Annex 1**.

- 1.8 Individuals residing in maritime regions and in the most isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu are strongly encouraged to apply for this initiative. Cooperatives and other groups can also apply for the grant.

## 2.0 Eligibility Criteria

- 2.1 The initiative will be made available based on the following criteria stipulated as follows:

Particulars	Criteria
Applicant's Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applications are open to individual citizen(s) (first preference) and groups residing in the isolated coastal areas and maritime regions. Applicants must fully meet the requirements outlined in the application form;</li><li>• The subsidy is limited to the quota available for the maritime region at a maximum amount of \$10,000 per recipient.</li></ul>
Procurement of Fibreglass Boat, Engine and Life Saving Equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The fibreglass boat and engines may be procured from Government approved suppliers. A listing of the Government approved suppliers is provided as <b>Annex 2</b>.</li><li>• In the event the Government supplier is not able to supply, an applicant may provide three quotations from the other suppliers that comply with the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji safety requirements.</li></ul>

- 2.2 The average cost to purchase a 15 to 23 foot fully equipped and operational fibreglass boat is around \$20,000. This includes:

- (i) Boat and lifesaving equipment (list attached as **Annex 3**);
- (ii) Fibreglass boat; and
- (iii) Engine.

However, applicants can apply the subsidy towards the purchase of larger boats.

- 2.3 The Fijian Government will provide the funding for the lifesaving equipment and the fibreglass boat up to a maximum limit of \$10,000 per applicant. The remaining funding for the purchase of the boat and engine is to be borne by the applicant.
- 2.4 The applicant applying under this initiative must provide evidence of the required funding component to ensure the procurement of a fully equipped and operational fibreglass boat.
- 2.5 Other associated costs such as boat survey costs, freight and insurance costs are not covered under this initiative.
- 2.6 Application forms to apply for the SEA Subsidy will be available from the respective District Office/ Provincial Office/ Turaga-ni-Koros. The application form and implementation guideline will also be available online at:

- [www.fiji.gov.fj](http://www.fiji.gov.fj)
- [www.economy.gov.fj](http://www.economy.gov.fj)

- 2.7 The following documents **MUST** be submitted with a completed application form:
- Quotation of the Fibreglass boat, engine and life-saving equipment;
  - Voter ID Card number and a letter of confirmation from the District Office/ Provincial Office/ Turaga-ni-Koros verifying the identity of the applicant and confirmation that the applicant resides on that isolated coastal areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu and maritime island / or village. A valid photo ID would be preferred; and
  - Evidence of funding component from the applicant.
- 2.8 The grant will be given to recipients on a first come, first serve basis based on the quota provided for the location. In the event that there are no applications received from the listed maritime islands (refer to Annex 1) by 27 January 2023, Government will re-allocate the assigned number of boats to other isolated coastal areas of the main islands and maritime regions.
- 2.9 All recipients of the SEA subsidy must ensure that their share of contribution are paid by 07 July 2023. Any SEA subsidy recipient who fails to provide their contribution by this date will be deemed unable to meet the financial contribution and the Award letter will be considered invalid.
- 2.10 All boats must be operated by an individual holding a valid boat masters license.
- 3.0 Processing of Government Grant**
- 3.1 An applicant will be required to submit the completed application form with the necessary documents to the respective District Office/ Provincial Office/ Turaga-ni-Koros who will then forward it to the Divisional Commissioners Office.
- 3.2 Upon receipt of the applications, the Divisional Commissioners Office will immediately forward applications to the Ministry of Economy ('**MoE**') for processing.
- 3.3 The assessment of applications will be undertaken by MoE. The applicant will be notified within 20 working days of receipt by MoE, on whether the applicant has been successful or not.
- 3.4 MoE will facilitate payments directly to the suppliers once the successful applicant has paid its required funding component.
- 3.5 The Ministries of Rural and Maritime Development and iTaukei Affairs will provide the necessary assistance to facilitate the roll out of this initiative and also ensure that transparent processes are followed by District Office/ Provincial Office/ Turaga-ni-Koros in the application process.
- 4.0 Value Added Tax**
- 4.1 The Government Subsidy is VAT inclusive.

## Annex 1

No.	Areas	No of Boats
	<b>Central Division</b>	
	<b>Rewa</b>	5
1.	Beqa - Sawau & Raviravi	
2.	Rewa - Lomanikoro, Vunuku, Nadoi & Nukui	
3.	Vutia	
	<b>Tailevu</b>	
4.	Bau Island & Viwa Island	
	<b>Eastern Division</b>	
	<b>Kadavu</b>	4
5.	Nabukelevu	
6.	Naceva	
7.	Nakasaleka	
8.	Dravuni	
9.	Bulia	
10.	Ono	
	<b>Rotuma</b>	1
	<b>Lomaiviti</b>	4
11.	Gau	
12.	Batiki	
13.	Koro	
14.	Nairai	
15.	Motoriki	
16.	Makogai	
	<b>Lau</b>	12
17.	Cicia	
18.	Kabara	
19.	Lakeba	
20.	Lomaloma	
21.	Matuku	
22.	Moala	
23.	Moce	
24.	Mualevu	
25.	Nayau	
26.	Namuka-i-Lau	
27.	Oneata	
28.	Ono-i-Lau	
29.	Totoya	
30.	Fulaga	
31.	Tuvuca	
32.	Komo	
33.	Vatoa	
34.	Vanuavatu	
35.	Vanua Balavu	



No.	Areas	No of Boats
36.	Ogea	
	<b>Northern Division</b>	
	<b>Cakaudrove</b>	
37.	Taveuni	1
38.	Rabi	1
39.	Kioa	1
40.	Cikobia	1
41.	Cakaudrove - Yacata	1
42.	Tawake - Tawake, Wainika, Vatu, Nagasauva & Yasawa II	5
	<b>Macuata</b>	
43.	Kia	4
44.	Mali	
45.	Kavewa	
46.	Cikobia	
47.	Macuata - Macuata-i-Wai	
48.	Udu	
49.	Naveidredre	
50.	Druadrua	
	<b>Bua</b>	
51.	Yadua	1
52.	Lekutu - Galoa & Yaqaga	1
	<b>Western Division</b>	
	<b>Ba</b>	
53.	Yasawa	3
54.	Nacula	
55.	Naviti	
56.	Waya	
57.	Viwa	
	<b>Nadroga/ Navosa</b>	
58.	Malolo - Solevu & Yaro	1
59.	Vatulele	1
	<b>Ra</b>	
60.	Rakiraki - Malake	1
	<b>Serua</b>	
61.	Yanuca	1
62.	Serua	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>50</b>

## Annex 2

### Suppliers of Fibreglass Boats

Company	Phone Contact	Email
Lal's Fibre Glass Boat Building	9331842 9216250	<a href="mailto:lalsboat@gmail.com">lalsboat@gmail.com</a>
Safeway Marine (Fiji) Pte Limited	3384100 7727702	<a href="mailto:info@safeway.com.fj">info@safeway.com.fj</a>

### Suppliers of Outboard Engines

Company	Phone Contact	Email
Vision Investment Limited T/A Courts (Fiji Limited)	3381333	<a href="mailto:wkoroi@courts.com.fj">wkoroi@courts.com.fj</a>
Niranjan Auto Port Limited	3381555	<a href="mailto:logistics@niranjans.com">logistics@niranjans.com</a>
Toyota Tshusho (South Sea) Limited Fiji	9991999 3384888	<a href="mailto:jlal@asco.com.fj">jlal@asco.com.fj</a>

### **Annex 3**

#### **List of Boat and Life-Saving Equipment**

1. Coastal Life Jacket
2. Flare Pains Wessex Red Parachute
3. Flare Pains Wessex Red Handheld
4. Flare Pains Wessex Orange Smoke
5. Flare Container
6. Fire Extinguisher (1 kg)
7. Sand Anchor
8. Chain Galvanized
9. Shackle Bow
10. Thimble
11. Rope Polythene
12. Torch Dive Master Underwater
13. Mirror – Signaling
14. Oar Timber & Plastic
15. Safety V Sheet;
16. First Aid Kit Bag; and
17. Side Lights (Green & Red) for night operating boats.