

Nai Rogo Mai



NJV CRO Manager Niko Yacalevu and head of the TNLC monitoring team Naikasio Uduvakavo at Waisoi Camp

Exploration and studies resume

The Namosi Joint Venture (NJV) welcomes the endorsement by the Prime Minister Commodore Josia Voreqe Bainimarama on the resumption of exploration, studies and the Waisoi Project Environment Impact Assessment (EIA).

“The NJV thanks the Prime Minister and Government officials for their leadership in helping to resolve areas of community concern and finding a co-operative way forward,” said NJV Country Manager Greg Morris.

“We are also very appreciative of the participation and support from the Tikina Namosi Landowners Committee (TNLC) in the process leading to the successful implementation of the Namosi Rehabilitation Action Plan.”

“Through this co-operation, we have developed a better understanding of each other and how to communicate and work together more effectively,” Mr Morris said.

“We will build on the strong relationships developed during this process and move forward within the framework jointly agreed by the NJV, Government and the TNLC on behalf of landowners.”

The NJV is pleased that the Waisoi Project EIA studies can resume as the EIA findings will be a critical step in helping the community, Government and the NJV consider whether a mine at Waisoi can be built safely, economically and in an environmentally and socially acceptable manner.



Bula from the Country Manager

Bula Vinaka

Welcome to the NJV's third newsletter. It provides a snapshot of what we have been doing in Namosi and surrounding communities.

Our focus has been on the jointly agreed rehabilitation action plan. The rehabilitation activities, after a slow start, are now progressing well. The involvement of the TNLC in helping develop the plan, and now actually doing some aspects of the work, is much appreciated.

Over the past six months we have rebuilt our operating platform and have started to rebuild trust with our host communities.

What we have put in place or done differently includes:

1. An organisational restructure which clarifies reporting lines and increases accountability for operational outcomes
2. Several new appointments including:
 - a. Country Manager
 - b. Earthworks Superintendent - a new position with responsibility for supervision of all site earthworks
 - c. Community Relations Manager – this role has been split and we now have a Lands and Access Manager in addition to a new Community Relations Manager
 - d. Four additional Community Relations Officers
 - e. Two additional Land Access and Compensation Officers.
3. The joint TNLC, MRD and NJV development of the 'Way Forward' document

4. NJV and contractor personnel have been trained in the 'NJV Code of Conduct'
5. A new Cultural Awareness Training Program for all employees and contractors to ensure they understand and respect the protocols, traditions and customs of the Namosi people
6. The 'NJV Environmental Management Plan' was reviewed, updated and approved by Government.

The 'Way Forward' document outlines how we can work together in a framework which encourages open and honest dialogue and whilst we may not agree on everything, at least we can have a reasoned discussion about each others' concerns.

The NJV is looking forward to recommencing exploration, environmental impact assessment (EIA) and project studies and I thank the government and TNLC for working together in a cooperative manner.

We will not be rushing and while we may not get it 100% right all the time, we are prepared to listen and work together to improve our performance.

Our 'Way Forward' involves a greater focus on communication and engagement with our host communities and all of our stakeholders.

As we have repeatedly stated, no decision has been made to develop a mine at Waisoi. We need to finish our project studies, complete our EIA and present all of the findings. The EIA report will outline all of the potential impacts and opportunities that the project can bring and armed with this information, a balanced assessment can be made.

I would like to thank all of our employees and contractors for working through the many issues presented to them with patience, professionalism and respect.

**Vinaka
Greg**

More than 100,000 trees and ferns in replanting effort



Rehabilitated site being replanted with ferns

The Namosi Joint Venture (NJV) has worked with local landowners and Government to plant more than 100,000 trees and ferns as part of a FJD \$1.3 million Rehabilitation Action Plan.

During the initial phase of the Plan, an area of 17,000 square metres has been rehabilitated, providing environmental benefits and stimulating local economic opportunities as well as strengthening relationships.

NJV Country Manager, Greg Morris, said, "Working closely with our communities to promote capacity building and skills transfer is an important part of our community development plan and building our community relationships.

Already, business development opportunities are being created

with this Plan. Two community nurseries are being established and rehabilitation work has been contracted out to local community members," he said.

The NJV, landowners and Government jointly developed the Plan through regular consultation.

"Local input was received on the species of plants to be used in the replanting and regular fortnightly meetings were held to discuss progress," said Greg.

The NJV has also reviewed and improved exploration processes including closer engagement with landowners, more careful planning of access roads, water management and drill pad preparation and rehabilitation.



Rehabilitation of access track

Native species in landslide rehabilitation



In consultation with the TNLC and with support from landscape designers, plant operators and hydroseeder operators in Fiji and abroad, the NJV is implementing a comprehensive landslide rehabilitation program.

Replanting native plant species is the focus of the program.

A list of locally occurring species suitable for rehabilitation was developed with input from the TNLC and sourced from a number of nurseries. The NJV is also looking to establish the capability of local communities to supply plants for the project.

Trial sites have been established to confirm proposed rehabilitation techniques which include the use of bio-matting or geotextile fabrics and hydro mulching.

Local firms were involved in the engineering and landscaping.

Naitavuni field trip for nursery



Matakaqi Naitavuni members taking notes at Mataso

The NJV, in partnership with Future Forests Fiji, facilitated a field trip in August for 18 members representing the Matakaqi Naitavuni from Delailasakau and Nasevou village.

The field trip to nurseries in Mataso and Narikoso villages in Ra was part of the training and capacity building of the Matakaqi to help them establish and run their own nursery.

The participants were briefed by staff of Future Forests Fiji on the collection of seedlings, seed germination process, transplanting methods and other techniques.

Matakaqi representative Pio Cakaunivalu said the trip was an enlightening and educational experience.

The NJV's Environmental Officer Sophia Narain thanked the members of the Matakaqi for their interest in establishing the nursery which will generate income for the community and support the NJV's rehabilitation efforts.

Sophia told Matakaqi members that the NJV will be their customer.

Landowners employed in rehab activities



Replanting trees as part of the rehabilitation action plan

In partnership with the TNLC and local contractors the NJV has facilitated the employment of local community members as part of the rehabilitation program.

The NJV has encouraged all contractors involved in the project to consider labour options and employment opportunities for

members of the community from Namosi and Waidina.

Five members from the community have already been employed after successfully fulfilling the selection process. Another five are expected to be appointed.

Names are proposed by the TNLC, and candidates are interviewed

to ensure they meet the required criteria as part of the NJV's assessment.

NJV Country Manager Greg Morris says this is part of the NJV's policy and commitment to the local community and further initiatives will be introduced in the near future to accommodate this.

Community development and empowerment



Niko Yacalevu, Community Relations Manager

Ni sa Bula from the Community Relations Office!

Assessing the social and economic needs of landowners within the footprint of the Waisoi Project is a priority area for the NJV.

In demonstrating its commitment to community development and maintaining a cordial and continuous working relationship with the communities, the NJV has recently recruited three more Community Relations Officers (CROs) and a Lands Officer. The newly appointed CROs have vast community relations experience with a strong background in government, NGOs, and education work.

Our community outreach program will initially target five villages in the district of Namosi, Namosi Province; and three villages in the district of Waidina, Naitasiri Province.

The main objective is to improve the livelihoods of the people through skills enhancement, resource development and creating awareness through capacity building programs.

This will be done in consultation and partnership with relevant stakeholders

in an integrated rural development approach.

A significant aspect of the community assistance program this year is the \$250,000 paid towards the NJV's Education Assistance Program for eligible students from the Province of Namosi and Tikina Waidina, Naitasiri who are undertaking tertiary and vocational training in Fiji.

The NJV has also been supporting community events including the opening of the Waivaka Church, Namosi Parish Bazaar and the Namosi Women fundraising drive – providing donations, fuel, transportation, cooking materials and medical services.

A strong feature has been the contribution by NJV employees and contractors toward these events out of their own free will – strengthening our relationships with the communities.

This year also marks the realisation of the Nasirotu Water supply project in the District of Nawaidina. The project has now expanded to accommodate improvements in sanitation in conjunction with the Water Authority of Fiji and Government.

We have also facilitated the setting up of two nurseries in Namosi village and Nasevou – with regular meetings, training and fields trips to gain exposure.

Negotiations are currently underway for the local communities to resume supply of root crops and vegetables to the Waisoi and Wainikatama camps. This is expected to be realised in the very near future.

The NJV has other plans and initiatives in place – which we intend to roll out in consultation with landowners and other stakeholders.

Lands and Compensation Manager appointed

Netava Bakaniceva has been appointed the NJV's Lands and Compensation Manager.

Netava was previously the NJV's Community Relations Manager. In his new position Netava will address land access issues for NJV activities in consultation with landowners.

The position also ensures appropriate compensation is negotiated and paid to relevant landowners for all NJV land disturbance activities.



Community Relations and Lands Officers appointed



WAI SAKE VASUKINATAVEA (Community Relations Officer)

Waisake Vasukinatavea has been teaching in the education sector for the last 19 years, mainly serving in rural communities. He describes himself as a community worker at heart and hopes to build a strong relationship between the NJV and nearby communities.

LICE WAQA (Community Relations Officer)



Lice previously worked with the Fiji Department of Women for over 10 years and has been involved in various initiatives to improve the participation of women in decision making and economic activity.



SETEFANO NAUQE (Community Relations Officer)

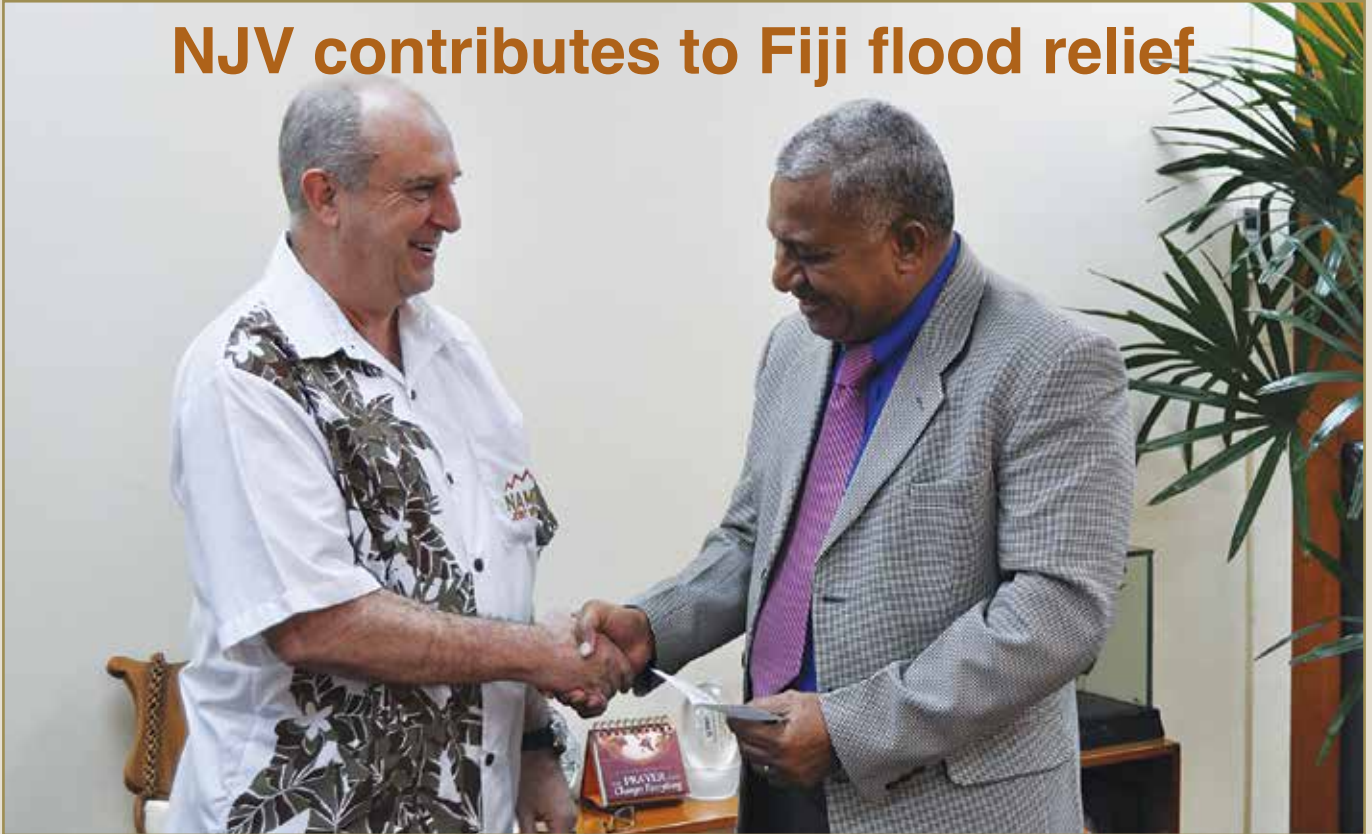
Setefano has extensive experience as a community trainer and has a strong interest in community empowerment. Prior to joining NJV he worked for Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF) as a Senior Community Trainer.

ALIFERETI RAISUNI (Lands Officer)



Alifereti has held senior positions in land and provincial development previously being the Senior Assistant Roko of Serua and Assistant Roko of Ra. Prior to that he worked for 17 years with the iTaukei Lands Trust Board, travelling and working all over Fiji.

NJV contributes to Fiji flood relief



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama receives NJV's contribution

The NJV contributed \$10,000 in April 2012 towards the PM's Flood Relief Appeal Fund as well as the use of a NJV contracted helicopter for emergency relief operations.

In a letter to the PM, NJV Country Manager Greg Morris wrote: "Please accept our thoughts and prayers with you and the people of Fiji given the difficulties and

challenges caused by the recent devastating floods."

"The NJV recognizes the seriousness of the situation and will do what we can to assist."

The NJV also contributed \$10,000 to the PM's Appeal and \$10,000 to the Fiji Red Cross after the floods in January.

Voter registration at NJV Waisoi Camp

The NJV facilitated electronic voter registration of over 70 local employees, contractors, and members of the local community at its Waisoi Camp in Namosi.

The NJV sought approval from the Roko Tui Namosi, who is in charge of the registration process in the province for registration to be done at Waisoi camp and this was agreed to.

The NJV then ensured that workers had all the necessary documents required for the registration process.

Four voter registration officials arrived at the Waisoi camp on Wednesday 11 July 2012 to conduct the registration.

Kitchen and accommodation supervisor Maria Samuels welcomed the opportunity to register.



NJV employee Ratu Lasaro being registered at the Waisoi Camp

"This was a big help for us as we did not have to travel all the way to an urban centre. I am really happy to be given this opportunity," she said.

NJV Country Manager Greg Morris told employees that voting was a fundamental right, and the company wanted to ensure that all its employees could register despite being in a remote location.

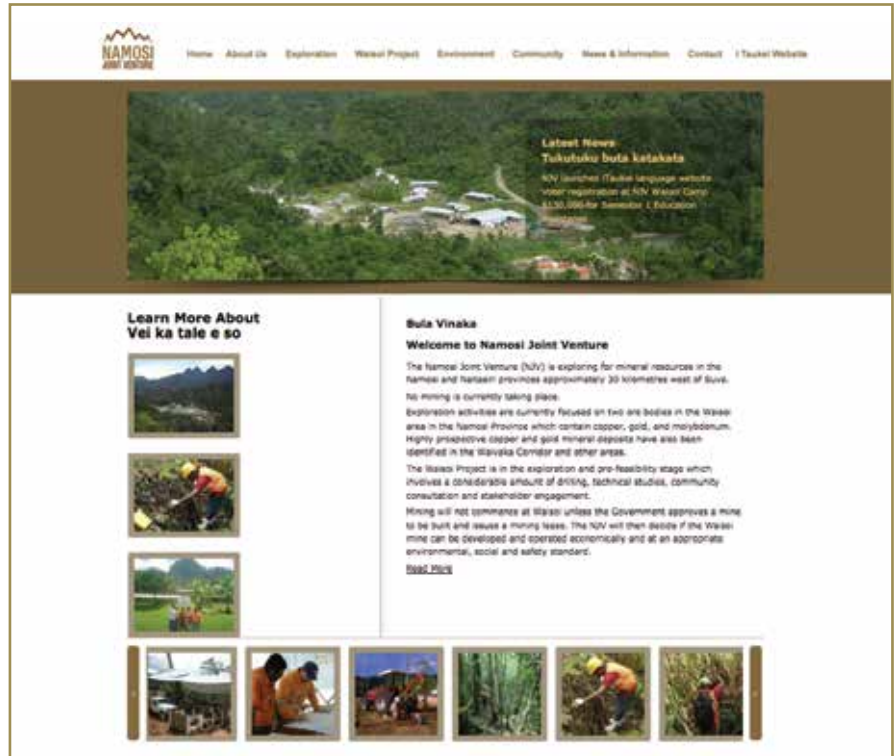
NJV launches English and iTaukei websites

The NJV has launched both an English (www.njv.com.fj) and an iTaukei language website (www.njv.com.fj/fijian) to communicate information about the NJV's activities in Namosi, including the proposed Waisoi Project.

The English language website was launched in March while the iTaukei language site was launched in July – making NJV one of the first institutions in the country to have a fully fledged website in the native Fijian language.

NJV Country Manager Greg Morris was particularly delighted with the iTaukei website – which has the same structure and content as the English language site.

“We are proud to launch this website in the indigenous language allowing our iTaukei speaking stakeholders



to read and learn about the project in their first language,” he said.

“It is important that landowners and the Fijian people have access to reliable and accurate information about the project in a language they best understand – to create greater understanding and allow the process to move forward in a transparent manner.”

Mr Morris said social media was increasingly being used for sharing and accessing information in Fiji and the website would ensure the latest information about the joint venture was readily available online.

The public is welcome to provide feedback with regards to information available on the site.

\$250,000 for 2012 education assistance to Namosi and Waidina

The NJV has this year paid out a total of \$250,000 in education assistance for students from the provinces of Namosi and Tikina Waidina, Naitasiri who applied for financial support to undertake tertiary education or vocational courses.

Under the NJV's Education Assistance Program \$120,000 has been paid for students who applied for assistance in Semester 2 adding to the \$130,000 paid in Semester 1 this year.

The funds helped students pay for tertiary education and vocational courses at the University of the South Pacific, Fiji National University, Corpus Christie Teachers College, APTEC, Pasifika Institute of Tourism and NZPTC among others.

NJV Country Manager, Greg Morris said they are encouraged by the interest shown by students and the Namosi and Waidina communities towards the Program as the joint venture strongly believes in the value of education and training.

“The Program assisted 119 students in Semester 1, and 100 students have been assisted for this semester. We received a record number of applications for Semester 2 assistance,” Mr Morris said.

“Applications were processed and decided on based on the criteria set out in the Education Assistance Programme guidelines and in consultation with community representatives,” said Mr Morris.

Education assistance for the 2012 year is now closed.

Bazaar for Namosi School



NJV employees at the Lomavata Waisoi stall

Namosi Secondary School held their annual bazaar on Friday 3 August 2012 at the school grounds.

NJV staff actively engaged in the event and even had their own stall 'Lomavata' which sold food and cakes as part of their contribution. The stall was very lively with decorations, kava, music and dancing by the staff and their families.

NJV staff raised \$1,634 in cash

with \$1000 given by Traverse Drilling.

The NJV itself donated the main prizes for the fundraiser which was 2 big pigs costing \$500 each.

The Namosi Secondary School development committee conveyed their sincere thanks to NJV for the donation – which helped them surpass their target by collecting a total of \$24,310.

Opening of Waivaka Catholic Church



The newly opened Waivaka church

The head of the Catholic Church in Fiji, Archbishop Petero Mataka officially opened the Waivaka Village Parish on 21 July 2012.

Over 300 people attended the event and the drizzling rain did not dampen their spirit, as they reflected on their hard work and achievement.

The NJV helped out at the opening with a donation of \$2,000, release of some staff to assist with cooking and preparations, transportation and various other assistance.

The NJV camp doctor was also on stand-by at Waivaka.



Earthwork supervisor Paul Thompson dancing at the event

NJV employees support women's fundraising

NJV employees donated \$1,200 to open a women's fundraising event at the Namosi Church compound on 26 May 2012.

Around 200 women from Namosi village to Navunikabi

village attended the gathering, with the money collected going towards the church building.

The support by the NJV employees was greatly acknowledged by the local community.

Nai Rogo Mai

