

Forestry Professionals in Fiji



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Restoring forests and landscapes to secure Australia's future
Biennial conference of Forestry Australia
Adelaide 20-23 October 2025

Value of Forestry, Main Forest Products

Value of forestry; Main Forest Products:

Pine Plantations: 70% Exported Pine Chips & 30% Timber Products for Local Markets

Mahogany Plantation: 90 Percent Exports

Natural Forests: Mostly Conservation very small amount of harvesting (around 20,000 cubic meters per year down from 180,000 cubic meters in the 1980s)

Forestry Professionals: Public Sector (200) Private Sector (150)

NGOs & Others: 150

(Forestry Professionals: Does not necessarily have a forestry degree but are involved in various management and forestry technical capacities from conservation, community and forest industry)

Fiji Forestry Professionals Association

— Establishment Timeline



2022

Initial Consultations

Stakeholder meetings
and scoping



2023

**Registration &
Membership Drive**



2024

**Work Planning &
Professional
Engagement**



2025

**Increased Participation
in Technical &
Professional Engagements**

FFPA – Major Professional & Technical Engagements



2022

Pacific Regional
Forestry Association
HOAFS Side Event

National Forest
Inventory Needs
Assessments



2022

HOAF Meeting
Tonga

2023

ANZIF Conference,
Australia



2025

HOAAF Meeting
Tonga

2024

Fiji Forest
Legislation Review



Priorities for enhancing the professional development of forestry professionals

Fiji Forestry – Training Needs



INVENTORY & NET STOCKED AREA (NSA)

GNSS/GPS boundaries; map roads/voids/buffers; confirm P_YEAR & SPP; photo evidence; NSA QA



DATA SYSTEMS, GIS & MONITORING

Mobile forms with validation; GIS editing & drone workflows; change detection; KPI dashboards



SILVICULTURE, NURSERY & REPLANTING

Site-species matching, seed/seedling QA, tending; survival audits; replant/harvest $\geq 1,0$



HARVEST SCHEDULING & OPERATIONS/ROADS

Age-class scheduling (e.g. mahogany 25-30), even-flow targets; spur spacing; landings; wet. season SOPs



CONSERVATION & ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS

Riparian buffers; erosion control, HCV/HCS basics. habitat retention; geo-photo compliance evidence



CLIMATE CHANGE & CARBON

Cyclone/fire/drought risk planning; climate-smart silviculture; carbon accounting & MRV, FLR integrators



FOREST VALUATION, FINANCE & MARKETS

Stand/estate NPV/IRR, price/risk scenarios, carbon value; funder-ready proposals anomaly alerts



AI & DIGITAL AUTOMATION

Drone/Image analytics for stocking/health, yield prediction;

Opportunities for Professional Development

- 1) **Networking and Collaboration**-create platforms and events that promote networking among members, researchers, industry stakeholders, and international forestry organisations
- 2) **Training and Capacity Building**-offer training programs, workshops, and seminars that enhance members skills in areas such as sustainable forestry practices, and leadership development
- 3) **Certification and Accreditation**-Develop certification programs and recognition of members qualification and expertise in specific forestry areas for their credibility and career prospects
- 4) **Professional Recognition Awards**-Establish awards and recognition programs to honour outstanding contributions by members in the field of forestry, promoting excellence and inspiring others to strive for higher professional standards
- 5) **Information sharing platform**-Establish digital platforms or newsletters for sharing forest practices, research findings, updates in areas of members interests, and success stories among members
- 6) **Project Development and Management**-training on development of bankable project proposals for small community projects related to FLR and community livelihoods.

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Thank You

