Roles and Responsibilities

The statutory roles & functions of the Ministry of Fisheries and Forests are clearly articulated in the following;

**Fisheries**

Fisheries Act Cap 158  
Marine Spaces Act Cap 158A  
Fisheries Regulation  
Marine Spaces Regulation  

**Forestry**

Forest Decree 1998  
Fiji Sawmills Regulations 1968  
Treatment Plant Regulations 1990  
Forest Guard Regulation 1975  
Forest Fire Prevention Regulation  

With this, the Department of Fisheries & Forests is responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies that promote best practice (equating conservation and utilization), that will ensure a prosperous and enhanced Fisheries and Forestry sector. The Department drives this through coordination, consultation and in partnership with resource owners, communities, private sector, government agencies, Non Governmental Organizations, Regional and International Agencies.

In doing so, the Department will ensure that the environment is conducive to private sector investment & growth, community participation, creating job opportunities which would therefore increase Fisheries and Forest Sectors contribution to the National GDP.

The Department, mindful of emerging issues such as carbon trading, forest and tuna certification and the potential structure is appropriate and there is ongoing capacity building to accommodate the changes and efficiently support...
1. Coordinate and facilitate the implementation of Fisheries and Forest strategies and policies (including private sector development and trade standards) in partnership with Government entities and the industry;
2. Provide and administer the regulatory function under the respective Department’s legislation (Forest Decree, Offshore Fisheries Decree, Inshore Fisheries Decree, Aquaculture Decree and part of the Marine Act);
3. Monitor and evaluate the current strategies, policies and deliverables – information, analysis and reporting for the Fisheries and Forest Sector;
4. Develop and promote effective training, communication and awareness and extension services in the Fisheries and Forest sectors;
5. Develop and maintain institutional community and industry development support networks and infrastructure;
6. Undertake applied and scientific research for sustainable forest and fisheries management including practices including biodiversity, food security, diversification of export base, value adding and market access; and
7. Provide overall leadership and management of the Departments including Human resource management.