

**Implementation Guidelines**  
**Seafaring Entrepreneur Assistance (SEA)**  
**Subsidy for Boats, Engines, and Equipment —**  
**“SEA Subsidy”**

**Ministry of Economy**

**Updated 10 March 2022**

## **Implementation Guidelines Seafaring Entrepreneur Assistance (SEA) Subsidy for Boats, Engines, and Equipment**

### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This paper outlines the Implementation Guidelines for ‘Seafaring Entrepreneur Assistance (SEA) Subsidy for Boats, Engines, and Equipment’ — a new initiative announced by the Fijian Government in the 2021-2022 National Budget.
- 1.2 In the 2021-2022 Budget, the Fijian Government has allocated a sum of **\$500,000** to subsidise the purchase of fully equipped and operational fibreglass boats for Fijians living in maritime regions.
- 1.3 Due to the significant up-front costs required, many Fijians in maritime regions are unable to afford boats and engines, effectively cordoning them off from many economic opportunities.
- 1.4 To promote better accessibility for 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 fiberglass 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 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.
- 1.6 The initiative will initially assist fifty (50) potential recipients located in Fiji’s maritime regions. Recipients will receive a maximum grant of **\$10,000** towards the purchase of a fully-equipped and operational fibreglass boat.
- 1.7 The revised quota for the allocation of the fifty (50) boats that will be subsidised for the respective maritime area(s) are as follows:
  - Kadavu Islands (Nabukelevu, Naceva, Nakasaleka, Dravuni, Bulia, Ono): 2;
  - Mamanuca and Yasawa Islands (Yasawa, Nacula, Naviti, Waya, Viwa, Yaro, Solevu): 4;
  - Beqa Island: 2;
  - Yanuca Island: 1;
  - Serua Island: 1;
  - Vatulele Island: 2;
  - Malake Island: 1;
  - Rotuma: 1;
  - Lomaiviti (Gau, Batiki, Koro, Nairai, Motoriki, Makogai): 6;
  - Lau (Cicia, Kabara, Lakeba, Lomaloma, Matuku, Moala, Moce, Mualevu, Nayau, Namuka-i-Lau, Oneata, Ono-Lau, Totoya, Fulaga, Tuvuca, Komo, Vatoa, Vanuavatu, Vanua Balavu, Ogea): 20;
  - Cakaudrove (Taveuni, Rabi, Kioa, Cikobia): 6;
  - Macuata (Kia, Mali, Kavewa): 3; and
  - Bua (Yadua): 1.

A total of 6 applications have been approved under the initiative as at 10 March 2022, therefore the initiative now has a remaining quota of 44. The detailed listing of the maritime islands for the remaining quota for the allocation of boats is attached as **Annex 1**.

1.8 Individuals residing in the maritime regions are strongly encouraged to apply for this initiative and will be given first preference. 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 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 17 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 assistance will be available from the respective District Office/Provincial Office/Turaga-ni-Koros.

The application form and eligibility criteria 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 maritime island / or village. Valid photo ID would be preferred; and
  - Evidence of ability to pay 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.

2.9 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**  
**SEA Subsidy Quota**

No.	Maritime Islands	Revised - No of Boats
	<b>Kadavu</b>	
1.	Nabukelevu	2
2.	Naceva	
3.	Nakasaleka	
4.	Dravuni	
5.	Bulia	
6.	Ono	
	<b>Mamanuca and Yasawa Islands</b>	
7.	Yasawa, Nacula, Naviti, Waya, Viwa, Yaro, Solevu	2
8.	Beqa	1
9.	Yanuca	1
10.	Serua	1
11.	Vatulele	1
12.	Malake	1
13.	Rotuma	1
	<b>Lomaiviti</b>	
14.	Gau	1
15.	Batiki	1
16.	Koro	1
17.	Nairai	1
18.	Motoriki	1
19.	Makogai	1
	<b>Lau</b>	
20.	Cicia	1
21.	Kabara	1
22.	Lakeba	1
23.	Lomaloma	1
24.	Matuku	1
25.	Moala	1
26.	Moce	1
27.	Mualevu	1
28.	Nayau	1
29.	Namuka-i-Lau	1
30.	Oneata	1
31.	Ono-i-Lau	1
32.	Totoya	1
33.	Fulaga	1
34.	Tuvuca	1
35.	Komo	1
36.	Vatoa	1

No.	Maritime Islands	Revised - No of Boats
37.	Vanuavatu	1
38.	Vanua Balavu	1
39.	Ogea	1
	<b>Cakaudrove</b>	
40.	Taveuni	1
41.	Rabi	1
42.	Kioa	1
43.	Cikobia	1
	<b>Macuata</b>	
44.	Kia	1
45.	Mali	1
46.	Kavewa	1
	<b>Bua</b>	
47.	Yadua	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>44</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 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. 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. Anchor reel
9. Chain galvanized
10. Shackle bow
11. Thimble
12. Rope polythene
13. Torch dive master underwater
14. Mirror – signalling
15. Oar timber & plastic
16. Safety V sheet; and
17. First aid kit basic