

FNU donates furniture to assist in rehabilitation of maritime schools



Mission 21 members and villagers load furniture to be distributed to schools in the maritime region.

The Fiji National University (FNU) recently donated furniture that contributed to the rehabilitation of 10 schools in the maritime region.

Mission 21 is an organisation that has been working extensively in the country to rebuild homes and buildings destroyed by Cyclone Winston in 2016.

FNU handed over desks, chairs, stools and tables that were distributed by Mission 21 to schools that included Loreto Catholic Primary School, Tawake District School, Taviya District School, Batiki District School, Uluibau Primary School, Yasana-I-Ra District School, Sawaike District School, Nasau District School, Delana Methodist School and Rukuruku Primary School.

According to Mission 21 Board Secretary Sakiasi Veitogavi, these were schools that faced issues in providing desks and chairs for its students.

“Mission 21 has been assisting village communities in the maritime region with housing development and this has now extended to assisting their schools with what FNU has kindly donated,” Veitogavi said.

“We are grateful that after discussions with the Dean of College of Engineering, Science and Technology (CEST), Mr. Salabogi Mavoia and the FNU Vice Chancellor, (Professor Nigel Healey), we have been able to provide furniture from four of its campuses in Suva.”

“We started moving the furniture from FNU’s Derrick Campus in Samabula to be transported to these maritime communities and the final shipment went to Koro in May.”

Veitogavi said the items were received with gratitude by the villages and school committees and students said the furniture would assist in their studies and preparations for exams.

“Due credit must go to the foresight and facilitation of the FNU Dean CEST and Vice Chancellor for the strong support of humanitarian assistance of needy communities.”

“The Mission 21 Fiji Executives have realized that with the support of

institutions like the Fiji National University, we will continue to rebuild our nation and fulfil our social obligations to all Fijians.”

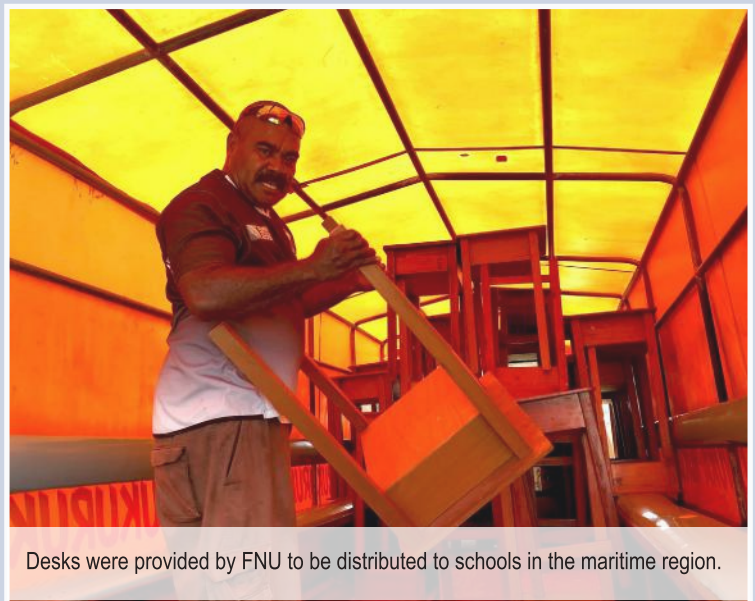
Acting Dean CEST Mavoia added that roofing iron was also transported to villages in Koro to assist with rebuilding homes.

“Mission 21 was working with Government in providing eight portable sawmills to assist the villages – and the roofing irons from FNU was an answer to the prayers as they really needed them to complete their projects of rebuilding,” Mavoia said.

“Many of the schools that were destroyed/damaged during Cyclone Winston didn’t have any desks or chairs and now we are pleased the furniture given by FNU is being put to good use.”

Mavoia said the University was also in discussions with government ministries to better coordinate assistance to communities and villages.

“We are also doing some training in the villages and rural areas to train more carpenters who could assist in the repair and rebuilding projects, we have already done about eight similar training in various locations, and Government has requested that we conduct more trainings in communities.”



Desks were provided by FNU to be distributed to schools in the maritime region.