



CASE STUDY

National Planning and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Fiji

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A. The need for clarity on links and trade-offs

The pilot application for Fiji is still in its initial stages. The preliminary analysis of integrating the water-related goals of the 2010–2014 Roadmap for Democracy and Sustainable Socio-Economic Development¹ with the targets of the Green Growth Framework of Fiji: Restoring the Balance in Development That Is Sustainable for Our Future² indicates very promising results.

Based on the preliminary mapping that was conducted during a one-day training with the Fiji national team³, an aspirational model was developed (figure 14).

The process of ensuring sustainable and safe sanitation systems for every Fijian household (SDG 6.2) can support community awareness on water conservation (SDG 6.4), especially for residential use. With greater attentiveness to the scarce water resources, it would promote aggressive leakage reduction programmes, including making rainwater harvesting compulsory for car-washing businesses (SDG 6.4). Stronger water conservation policies would allow Fiji to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water (SDG 6.1), thereby establishing positive reinforcement of the implementation of Fiji's Green Growth Framework (SDGs 8.4 and 13.2).

Implementation of the Green Growth Framework (SDGs 8.4 and 13.2) would increase the reviewing of policies related to the governance of water and services (SDG 12.2), which would induce the development and adoption of a legislative framework for the sustainable commercial extraction of groundwater (SDG 12.1). This would allow for the implementation of water catchment management programmes for the protection of freshwater resources, as well as the education and awareness of programmes on the management

1 Ministry of National Planning, 2010.

2 Ministry of Strategic Planning, 2014.

3 The members of the Fiji national team who were trained in December 2016: Kamal Krishnan Gounder, Principal Economic Planning Officer, Ministry of Economy, Epeli Waqavonovono, Economic Planning Officer, Economic Services, Ministry of Economy, Susana P. Valemei, Director Water and Sewerage, Janesh Sami, Lecturer, Fiji National University and Pita Tagicakirewa, Malaysia - High Commission of the Republic of Fiji.

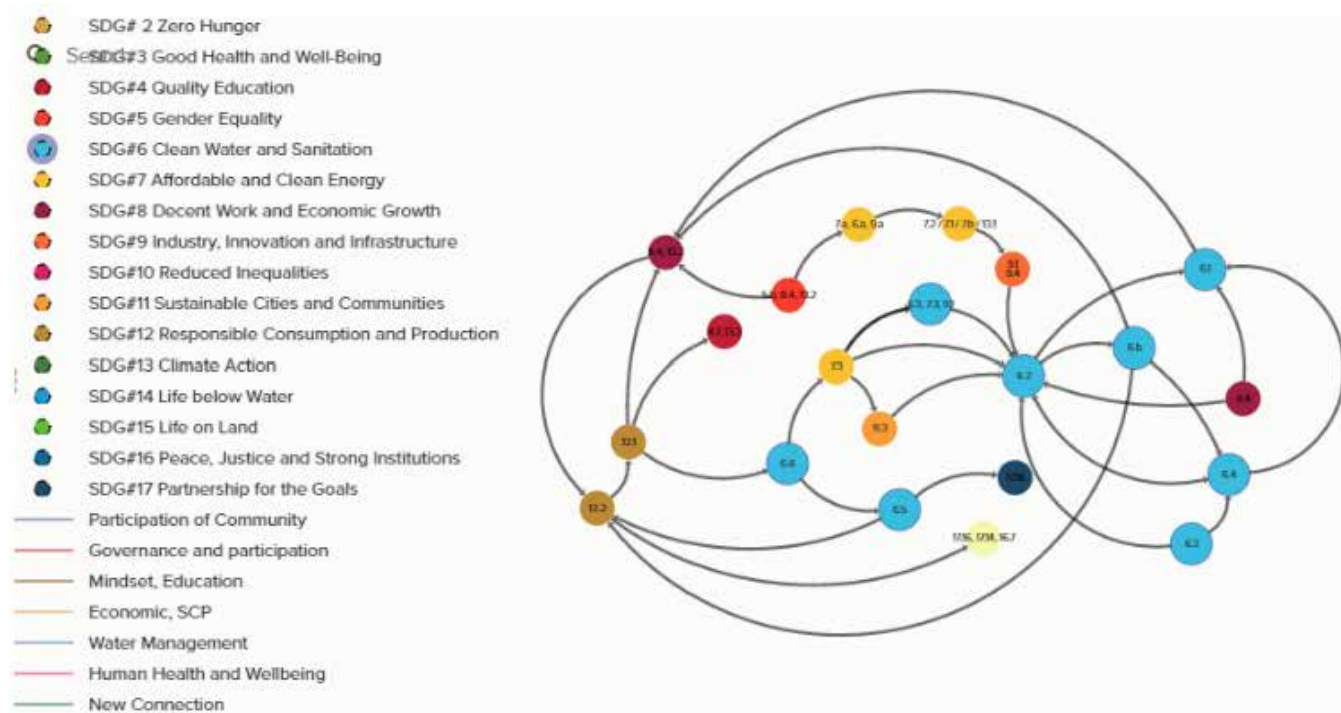
and use of those resources. Simultaneously, the legislative framework (SDG 12.1) would allow for the identification of new water sources (SDG 6.6) and installation of standardized treatment systems (SDG 7.3) for water renewability.

The review of Fiji's water governance policies (SDG 12.2) would facilitate better coordination of roles and responsibilities among stakeholders (SDGs 16.7, 17.16 and 17.14). Additionally, the development of an integrated water resource monitoring and management mechanism (SDG 6.5) would have dual impact on encouraging better data sharing among stakeholders (SDG 17.18) as well as feeding back into the review of water governance policies (SDG 12.2).

Arguably, the installation of standardized treatment systems (SDG 7.3) is a high-impact leverage point based on the variables it influences. For example, installing standardized treatment system can lead to the modernizing of sewerage plants (SDGs 6.3, 7.3 and 9.4), thereby prompting a sustainable sanitation system for household use (SDG 6.2). While the connection between standardized treatment systems (SDG 7.3) and sustainable sanitation systems (SDG 6.2) is indirect, there is also a direct causal link. Investing in treating wastewater (SDG 7.3) can also enhance the capacity of service and server providers (SDG 11.3), feeding back, once again, into a sustainable sanitation system for Fijian households (SDG 6.2).

An additional high-impact leverage point is the investing in renewable energy technology and the development of business models (SDGs 5.b, 8.4 and 13.2), according to the country's Green Growth Framework (SDGs 8.4 and 13.2). Emphasizing renewable energy technology can also encourage official development assistance and foreign direct investment support for renewable energy technology development (SDGs 6.a, 7.a and 9.a), which then can induce the development of renewable energy-based desalination technologies (SDGs 7.1, 7.2, 7.b and 13.1). To stress the importance of desalination pursued via renewable energy, a policy to install desalination plants in selected islands (SDGs 9.1 and 9.4) could be done, which would lead to sustainable sanitation systems for Fiji overall (SDG 6.2).

Figure 14. Preliminary analytical model of interlinkages between the SDG targets and the national planning documents for Fiji



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