



**Sustainable Development  
Management Solutions**

## **PROJECT CONCEPT**

### ***Greening the Islands***

#### **PROJECT GOAL:**

To work with island communities to transform their islands into Green islands in accordance to principles of Blue-Green Economy and Sustainable Development.

#### **WHAT IS A GREEN ISLAND?**

An island is considered green when:

- There is no pollution produced from activities on the island
- A zero waste policy is implemented where waste from one activity becomes raw material for others
- It is energy efficient and all its energy needs are derived from renewable sources, including transport
- All commercial activities are sustainable and do not harm the environment
- Its biodiversity thrives
- Its people are well educated, healthy and are involved in clean income generation activities with decent income.

This would require a gradual transition, with some areas making faster progress than others, also dependent on the areas that receive most financial support to implement.

#### **THE PROJECT**

The project would initially target three islands in Fiji; all three being of both touristic and biodiversity interest – Kadavu, Taveuni and Ovalau. With the successful implementation of the project, and dependent on available funding, other islands may also be targeted.

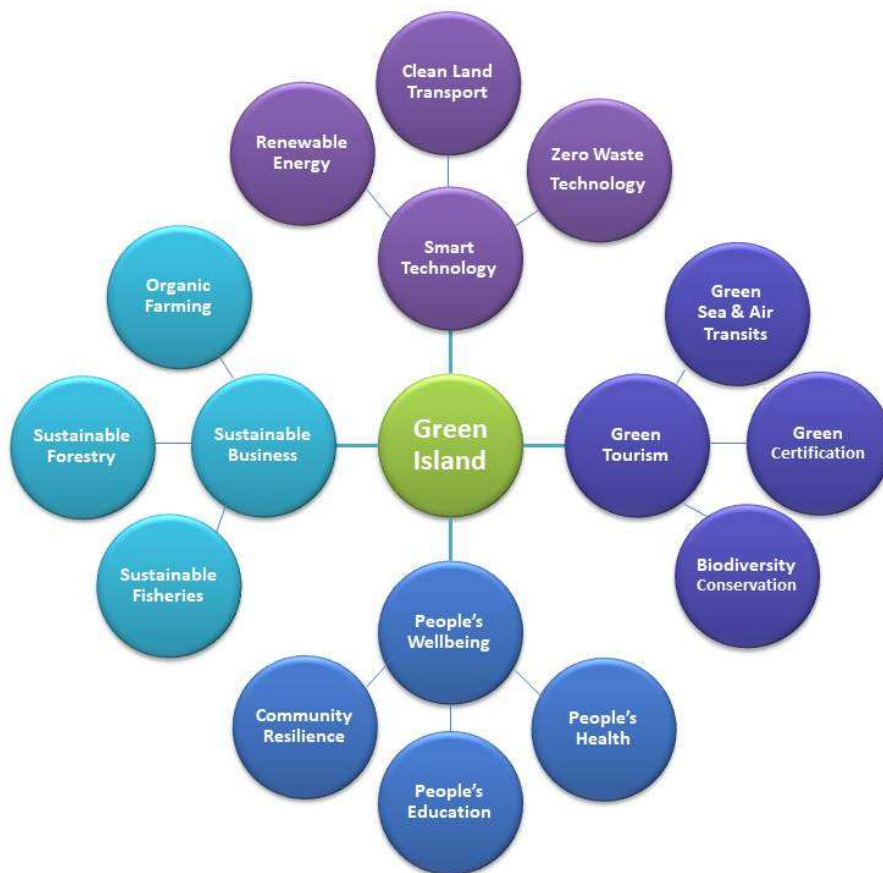
The Green island concept will work in four main development areas, i.e. Sustainable Business, Green Tourism, Smart Technology and People's Well-being. In efforts to make their businesses sustainable the project will focus on the main businesses on the islands, mostly dependent on natural resources, i.e. fisheries, agriculture and forestry, where these are practiced. The greening of tourism will also be an important component of the project and it will support them towards achieving green tourism certification. It would support tourism activities that contribute to the protection of biodiversity and make tourist transfers to the islands clean through zero-emission transport systems.

The use of smart technology would be an essential element in making islands green, particularly in three areas of technology, i.e. renewable energy, clean land transport (through the use of zero emission

vehicles) and high bandwidth for internet based communication. It will work with the government's public service and the private sector to transfer some of their services to an online environment, where feasible, to reduce the need for people to make avoidable trips to a central administrative location on the island or even the mainland.

Another important aspect of the Green Island concept is the need to have a focus on people's wellbeing, focusing on resilience (particularly to climate change impacts), health, nutrition and education that includes an understanding of the principles of Green Economy and Green Growth.

The project would also create a network for Green Islands across Fiji, and eventually the Pacific. This would ensure islands continue to share experiences as they make progress towards becoming green islands and ensure that these experiences are recorded to be of benefit to other islands which will embark on the same path.



*Diagram showing the various areas in which the project will conduct activities in an effort to make islands more sustainable, gradually transforming them into Green Islands.*

**FUNDING:** Initial financing to the value of USD 3 million is being sought.

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