



PRESS RELEASE 60/2021

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**** For Immediate Release ****

NFIs prepositioned to Western Division



Caption: *Non-Food Items (NFIs) are being loaded onto a truck for prepositioning to the Western Division.*

SUVA- The National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) is closely working with the four Divisional Commissioners as we continue to elevate our level of preparedness for the 2021-2022 Cyclone Season.

In the lead up to the start of the current cyclone season, the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management, through the NDMO had been working diligently to preposition some key strategic assets and Non-Food Items (NFIs) at divisional warehouses in preparation for this new cyclone season. These included assets such as generators, water tanks, boats, chainsaws, and family and hygiene kits and kitchen sets.

To boost the preparedness status of the team based in the Western Division, the NDMO pushed out more than 2,000 NFIs to the Commissioner Western Division's warehouse.

These NFIs included tarpaulins, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, solar lanterns, shelter kits, and collapsible water containers, to name a few.

Director NDMO Ms. Vasiti Soko said this exercise was part and parcel of our planning to ensure that the four Divisional Commissioners are equipped should a disaster occur this season.

"This is to also ensure that our Commissioners are able to deliver a swift and timely response during any disaster in the current cyclone season," she said.

"We are thankful to our donor partners who have been assisting us over the years with many of these humanitarian supplies that are being prepositioned to our divisional warehouses."

In addition to the preposition of key assets and NFIs, the Ministry is also progressively working on preparatory works as part of its Operational Readiness Check (ORS).



Caption: The *Non-Food Items (NFIs)* stores are being offloaded at the *Western Division* warehouse today.

-ENDS-

The Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management is responsible for implementing development strategies that bring Fijians living in rural and maritime regions the same level of access to essential services and economic opportunities as anywhere else in the country. We coordinate and implement the Fijian Government's rural and maritime development initiatives with a mission to empower Fiji's rural sector. We also spearhead disaster risk reduction initiatives at national and sub-national level including disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. We have offices for each of Fiji's 14 provinces including Rotuma, leading the Fijian Government's rural development and disaster risk management operations.

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