



**MINISTRY OF RURAL AND MARITIME DEVELOPMENT AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

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**\*\* For Immediate Release \*\***

**Rural farmer grateful to Government for road upgrade assistance**



**Caption:** Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management Hon. Inia Seruiratu and senior Government officials with Nakorowakau farmer Mr. Konalevulevu Tobesoiso at the Nakorowakau Community Access Road which was recently upgraded through funding under the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management's Community Access Roads, Footpaths and Footbridges (CARFF) Programme.

**SUVA** – A farmer from Nakorowakau Settlement in the district of Namalata in Tailevu is grateful to Government for the much-needed upgrade to an access road to their community.

Mr. Konalevulevu Tobesoiso is among more than 10 commercial and semi-commercial farming families who reside in the settlement.

The 55-year-old plants duruka, dalo, ginger, yaqona, and raises livestock on his farm as a source of income to support his family.

Through earnings from his farm, the father-of-eight has been able to financially support the education of his children, six of whom are currently schooling.

Mr. Tobesoiso said prior to the construction of the access road, families within their communities used to face a lot of difficulties in transporting their produce to the markets and more importantly, accessibility to school for their children.

“Before my children used to walk on muddy tracks to catch their transport to school, but now with the upgraded new road, things are much better,” he said.

“Also, previously it used to take us three days to carry all our produce on our backs to the main road to be picked up by trucks to take it to the market. But with the new road, we only do all these in a span of one day. You can see how this has helped us a lot. Today accessibility to markets and school for me and my children has really improved and I would like to sincerely thank Government for assisting us,” he said.

The upgrade of the access road was made possible through funding under the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management’s Community Access Roads, Footpaths and Footbridges (CARFF) Programme at a cost of \$30,000.

The project involved the upgrade of the 596 metres access road to ease and provide a safer access for the 14 households that reside within the Nakorowakau Settlement.

Last week, the Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management Hon. Inia Seruiratu visited the settlement to see how the upgraded road has assisted farmers in the area.



**Caption:** Nakorowakau farmer Mr. Konalevulevu Tobesoiso at the Nakorowakau Community Access Road which was recently upgraded through funding under the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management’s Community Access Roads, Footpaths and Footbridges

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