



MEDIA RELEASE

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FSC's rebuilding on track following Tropical Cyclone Keni

Recovery efforts continue at FSC's Rarawai Mill and Labasa Mill, after widespread flooding brought on by Tropical Cyclone Keni, which followed Tropical Cyclone Josie.

Back to back and widespread flooding caused by these two successive cyclones over a period of one week has delayed recovery efforts in both mills, however FSC management is encouraged that the worst is over and focus has now shifted to extensive recovery efforts in all areas affected.

Critical machinery such as mills, turbines and boilers were spared this time around, and the impact was more on low lying machinery such as electric motors, pumps, transformers and cables, which were completely submerged beneath flood water.

Rarawai Mill Manager Taito Kafoa says, "the water level during these latest floods was lower at two feet, compared to what we experienced a week ago. Our major concern at this stage is the cleaning and repair work on the mill water supply". The mill is currently being supplied with water from mobile water tankers.

FSC's Northern mill in Labasa, suffered no major structural damage. However, the Namoli Dam which is the main source of water to the mill has been affected. As a temporary solution and to prevent further deterioration, mill engineers are putting in place structures to secure the abstraction point. Permanent repair work to the dam will be carried out later this year.

Labasa Mill Manager Michael Faktaufon says, "we are currently engaged in cleaning out the silt and mud from pumps and motors, which were covered by water". Like Rarawai, water to the mill is being supplied from mobile water tankers.

Recovery work at both mills is anticipated to take about two weeks.

The Lautoka Mill was largely unaffected by the adverse weather. Drainage coped well with flood water and no major mill structures or equipment were affected.

FSC Chief Executive Officer Graham Clark commented, "We have taken a double hit with these back to back cyclones and related flooding, but we are committed as a team to get through this and get back on track as soon as possible. Our people remain resilient and rebuilding efforts are

well underway. Our thoughts remain with our growers and their families as they have suffered the most”.

Crop and Field Infrastructure Damage

Similar to the update after Tropical Cyclone Josie, our estimates of damage to the cane crop indicate losses along the banks of rivers and creeks, as well as in low lying areas. Our team is currently assessing the extent of the cumulative damage to the crop.

In addition, many roads, bridges and crossings have been damaged with the full extent currently being evaluated. Cane access roads and culverts will need significant repairs which have already commenced. De-silting and re-forming of drains in all affected areas is also underway.

Further updates on progress and cost of remedial work will be given as the clean-up and repairs continue, with an objective in minimizing potential delay to start of the 2018 Crushing Season.

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