

2023

# Community Report



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Magma Mines Pte Ltd

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# Community relations and support project Sigatoka

*Report from Jean White*

27/2/23 – 2/3/23

The purpose of this visit was to reconnect with the schools and villages within SPL1495. The last visit by the whole team was in February 2020, just prior to the shutdowns imposed through the Covid Pandemic. It is vital for our projects that we maintain and further develop the relationship between Magma/Dome and the people who live within SP1495. Our Community Liaison officer, based in Sigatoka, Semi Luvuiwai has maintained constant contact with the Turani to keep them informed of the company's activities. Each community is very supportive of the exploration work that we are undertaking and are responsive to the respectful and meaningful ways in which we offer productive support that is of benefit to the whole community. Meetings with schools and villages were arranged by Semi and attended by Natasha Sharma, Jean White, and Semi Luvuiwai.

**Sigatoka Special Needs School**

**Kulukulu Public School**

**Sigatoka Public School**

**Vunavutu Village**

**Nayawa Village**

**Sigatoka Village**

**Kulukulu Settlement**

**YAVULO VILLAGE**

**YAVULO KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL WALKWAY**

## Sigatoka Special Needs School 27/2/23

It is always heart-warming to visit this school. Aseanace Sukanabua has been the principal for many years and has created a safe and vibrant environment for 70 special needs children aged from 4 to 23.

The school has built sensory and meditation rooms. The children travel by a special bus from all areas around Sigatoka. Three of the students were chosen to join the team of 10 Fijian students to compete in the Special Olympics World Games in Dubai. They won two Gold Medals and one Bronze Medal. During Covid, when remote learning was impossible for the students, many of them sold flowers and vegetables in markets.



We have previously built and repaired a large greenhouse to enable students to learn horticulture and to grow flowers and vegetables for sale, Potting shelves have been added. Currently the greenhouse is flooded and in need of more repairs. A retaining wall is needed to alleviate this. The Outrigger Resort has donated the materials for this project; however, funds are needed to build. Apart from learning sewing through making curtains and pillowcases, the students are learning to cooking and running a coffee shop within the school. A tremendous project. Previously the woodwork project for the students was coffin making, a very worthwhile and lucrative project that has been halted due to the flooding. Currently they are in the process of building and furnishing a dormitory for the children who live 50 kilometres away from the school. This is currently funded by an organisation in the UK. Our relationship with this school is very strong and worthwhile. I believe it would be good for Magma to investigate the building of the retaining wall and donate towards the construction. There was also a request for fencing around the school compound. A quote for \$23,000 was discussed for the retaining wall and fence.





Students from the Sigatoka Special School learning to cook and run a café

## Kulukulu Public school



The Head Teacher, Manoj Ram, welcomed Natasha, Akiyo and me to the school. He is new to the school and very interested and supportive of our projects. Magma/Dome previously provided materials to build a walkway from the classrooms to the bathrooms. There are 300 students at the school and 25 kindergarten children. This new head teacher has big plans for the school and wants to build a hall for assemblies and activities. This would be a useful project for Magma as we would only need to supply the materials as they have access to labour for the construction. I don't believe that this will be a large sum for the materials as it doesn't involve walls or doors. They hire out the sportsground to local Rugby groups. This is a good source of income for the school and a great

asset for the community. Mr Ram requested 6 floodlights for the playing field. This would be a very worthwhile contribution as more money could be charged and the area could be used much more often.



Similar structure requested for Kulukulu Public School

## Sigatoka District School

We were welcomed to the school by the Head Teacher, Mr Tove Sevina. The school has grown from 203 students to 350 in the past 2 years.



There are up to 41 students in each classroom and 15 teachers in total. There is a great need for more classrooms. A Japanese company funded 3 new classrooms, however, the contractor left with the buildings incomplete. One classroom will be completed by a tourist group. A request was made to Magma to assist with the completion of the other two. This will be very worthwhile as there is certainly a great need for rooms. Previously Magma donated materials to refurbish 3 classrooms. The school community were delighted with the results.



Refurbishment requested by Sigatoka District School

## Vunavutu Village

It was a pleasure to visit the village and meet the ladies. This is the first visit where the women have been in attendance. They are a very strong and interested group. Previously we were welcomed by menfolk, who requested a renovation of the community hall. Magma followed this up and learned that the ownership/ancestry of the hall meant that we were not allowed to do any renovations to the property. We discussed this and the ladies confirmed the situation. Telling us that this will be resolved in September.



The ladies of Vunavutu Village



The renovations will include kitchen, cupboards, toilets, and paints. This is an important land holding to Magma and includes Koroua Island. We previously donated a lawnmower to the men. I strongly recommend that we look for ways to support the whole community. A kitchen renovation and toilets would certainly achieve this.



Kitchen at Vunavutu

Semi opened the meeting with a prayer and presented Sevusevu.



Sevusevu at Vunavutu



Inside Vunavutu village hall

## Nayawa Village

The team received a very warm welcome from the women of the village. Over the years our relationship has developed. Food was provided and we were presented with gifts when we left.

Semi presented Sevusevu , which was received by Paula the Turaga ni Koro.



The women of this village are very active and work tirelessly to support the village. There is a village committee that works to support the many programs. These consist of a Women's Fellowship, a health committee, a tours program for tourists, which involves pottery demonstrations and tours to the river to collect the clay, all women are involved in the making and selling of pottery items. The women would like help to renovate the Community Hall which will involve painting the inside and the outside, installing a bathroom with shower and sink, a ceiling fan, a food warmer and 10 folding tables. (to display the pottery items)

This would be a very worthwhile program that would benefit the whole community and help the women raise money for the village projects.



Lunch with the women of Nayawa Village

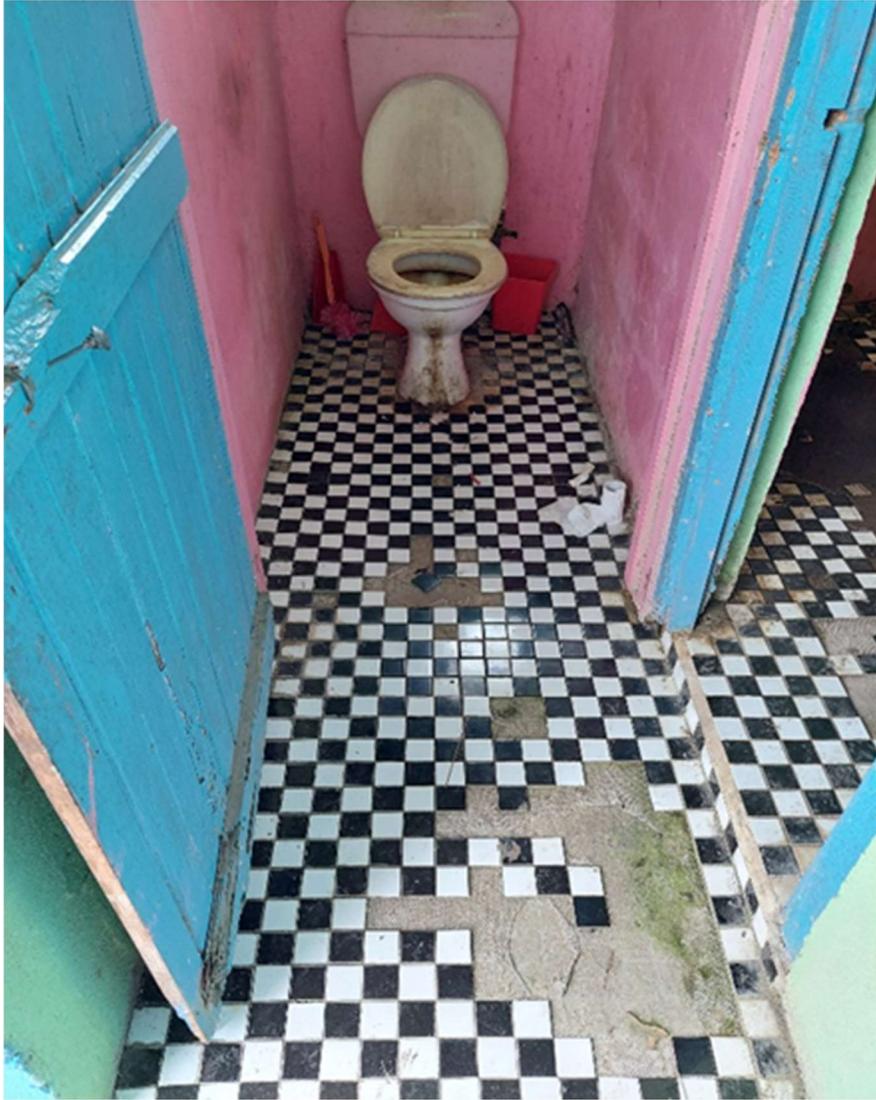
## Sigatoka Village

It was a delight to visit the women of Sigatoka Village. We previously renovated the women's hall and have a very good relationship. This vibrant and enterprising women's group arranges overnight stays for local groups and hires out the rooms. They make and sell pottery, jewellery and wood and bark paintings. Tourist groups visit regularly and are treated to displays of singing and dancing. As the hall is hired out there is an urgent need of repairs to the toilet and bathroom. They would also appreciate a ceiling fan which is vital for the women, tourists, and overnight stays. We noticed that the roof is leaking and needs urgent attention. Also, louvres in the windows need replacing. As well as raising money through their ventures each woman donates \$30 to the projects.

Previously Magma has renovated and painted the Women's Hall. The work completed by Magma has certainly assisted the community and supported the women.







The toilet in Sigatoka Village Repairs have been requested

## Kulukulu Settlement

The Magma team and I have visited Mr Chris Work many times over the years. This was the first time that we were able to meet the women of the settlement. This was a beautiful and very informative visit. I really believe that this was the first of many useful and sharing visits. There are over a hundred people in this settlement and to quote Chris Work too many children to count. At least 50 attend the Kulukulu school. We talked about the previous donations to the community, a chainsaw, a wheelbarrow, 6 food warmers and folding tables for the community. The women were surprised as they did not know about this. They requested solar lights for the whole settlement, water tanks, a marquee a hot water urn and 4 more food warmers. As they don't have a community hall a marquee would be excellent for family gatherings and solar lights would provide safety and security. I hope we can maintain this wonderful association with the women of the settlement. Chris Work is a fine man, and it has always been a pleasure to visit him.





Meeting with the women and Jordon Work at the Kulukulu Settlement

After the completion of Bulk sampling In October 2021, Kulukulu Settlement requested Magma Mines to provide 1 chain saw and 1 wheelbarrow. The purpose of their request was to use them to clean up the village compound before and after the cyclone.

Mr Jordan Work thanks Magma Mines for the donation and they are looking forward to working with our company.



Chris Work and Elders were present to receive the equipment.

## Yavulo Village and Yavulo Kindergarten Walkway



On March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Turaga ni Koro of Yavulo Village spoke to Semi Luvuiwai, our Community Liaison Officer, and requested that Magma Mines assist them to build a bridge close to their Kindergarten school. The purpose of the bridge would be to enable the kindergarten children to cross the creek to the new kindergarten. Semi referred the request to the Sydney office and it was approved. 3 quotes were sought and Nadroga Hardware and Vinod Patel Hardware were chosen to supply Cobbles, gravel and sand which were delivered to the site on 5 April 2022.



The Turaga ni Yavusa and Nawalu (Carpenter) with members of the village began the bridge construction on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April. With the help of the villagers, the ladies prepare lunch and tea breaks during the bridge construction. The bridge construction was completed in the last week of August and some finishing work completed in September 2022.



## THE Kindergarten Walkway Opening

The opening was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 at 10.00 am. .

The villagers organized all the needs for the opening of the kindergarten walkway. We arrived at Yavulo Village at 11.00am and were greeted by a group of villagers and children with warm smiling faces which showed their happiness for the opening of the bridge. The opening started at 11.30am with a welcome speech and a prayer from the village Pastor. Mr. Darren Grant gave a speech on behalf of Magma Mines where he explains the Community Assistance made by the company to Yavulo Village.





The Manager of Yavulo Kindergarten School thanks Magma Mines for the donation to the village and confirm their support of the exploration work in SPL 1495. The Manager invited Mr. Darren Grant to open the Kindergarten Bridge. The villagers and Magma Mines staff went to the bridge, Mr. Darren Grant cut the ribbon, opened, and donated the bridge to Yavulo Village. The School Kids and Villages celebrated by singing hymns during the opening.





The Chief of Yavulo Village thanks Magma Mines and Fiji staff for their contribution to the village and confirm that they support the work on SPL 1495.



Magma Mines Fiji Team

| DATE/ TIME | VILLAGE/ SCHOOLS   | REQUESTS  | QUOTE |
|------------|--|---|-------|
| 27/2/23    | Sigatoka Special Needs school<br>Head Teacher Mrs Aseanace Sukanatabua | Building Retaining Wall, Fence around school and repairs to greenhouse including shelves for potting.     |       |
| 27/2/23    | Kulukulu Public School<br>Head Teacher Mr Manoj Ram                    | Assembly hall, 6 lights for the sports ground   |       |
| 27/2/23    | Nasigatoka District School<br>Head Teacher Mr Tove Sesevina            | Completion of 2 classrooms  |       |
| 28/2/23    | Vunavutu Village Turani, Women's group                                 | Repairs to kitchen and bathroom. Renovation of the community hall.  |       |
| 28/2/23    | Nasigatoka Village Turani and womens group                             | Women's Hall. Ceiling fan, repairs to toilet and bathroom floors, repairs to roof and louvres in windows. |       |
| 28/2/23    | Nayawa VILLAGE   | Ceiling fan for the community Hall<br>Bathroom with sink and shower, 10 tables for the sale of pottery    |       |
| 28/2/23    | Kulukulu Settlement  | 4 Warming trays, Marquee, 6-10 Solar Lights, 3 water tanks, upgrade the roads in the settlement           |       |