

Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources

Press Release



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It is good news for the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources as they have purchased their very own UAV for field usage on a daily basis.

“We can now better monitor gravel extraction works, landslide events, foreshore development and mapping for engineering design such as road construction and housing development with our new Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)” Mr. Malakai Finau Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources said.

“The Ministry has purchased their very own UAV worth FJ\$175,000 including training and image processing software cost,” Mr. Finau confirms.

“The main objective is to have an efficient supplement to remote sensing data collection from satellites and manned aircrafts for use in large scale mapping, land development monitoring and disaster assessment,” Mr. Finau said.

He adds that four (4) staff from the Ministry has been trained by certified UAV instructors and will receive their full licenses to operate the UAV.

Mr. Finau says that the UAV purchased by the Ministry is a Fly Novex Multi-rotor Hexacopter and that the UAV can be mobilized on a short notice and provide up to date information within hours or days which will greatly benefit the Ministry.

“We are looking at purchasing more UAV’s as this device will make the Ministries mapping work much easier and faster” Mr. Finau says.



The MLMR UAV pilots with the trainers during the launch of their first ever UAV.

Pilots:
Ulaiasi Cagilevu,
Tausie Atalifo and
Tevita Nasova.
Instructor: Kim Clarke (sitting) and
Peter Visagie(standing).