



MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

Fijian Tourism Talanoa

“Progressive Tourism through Sustainable Partnerships”

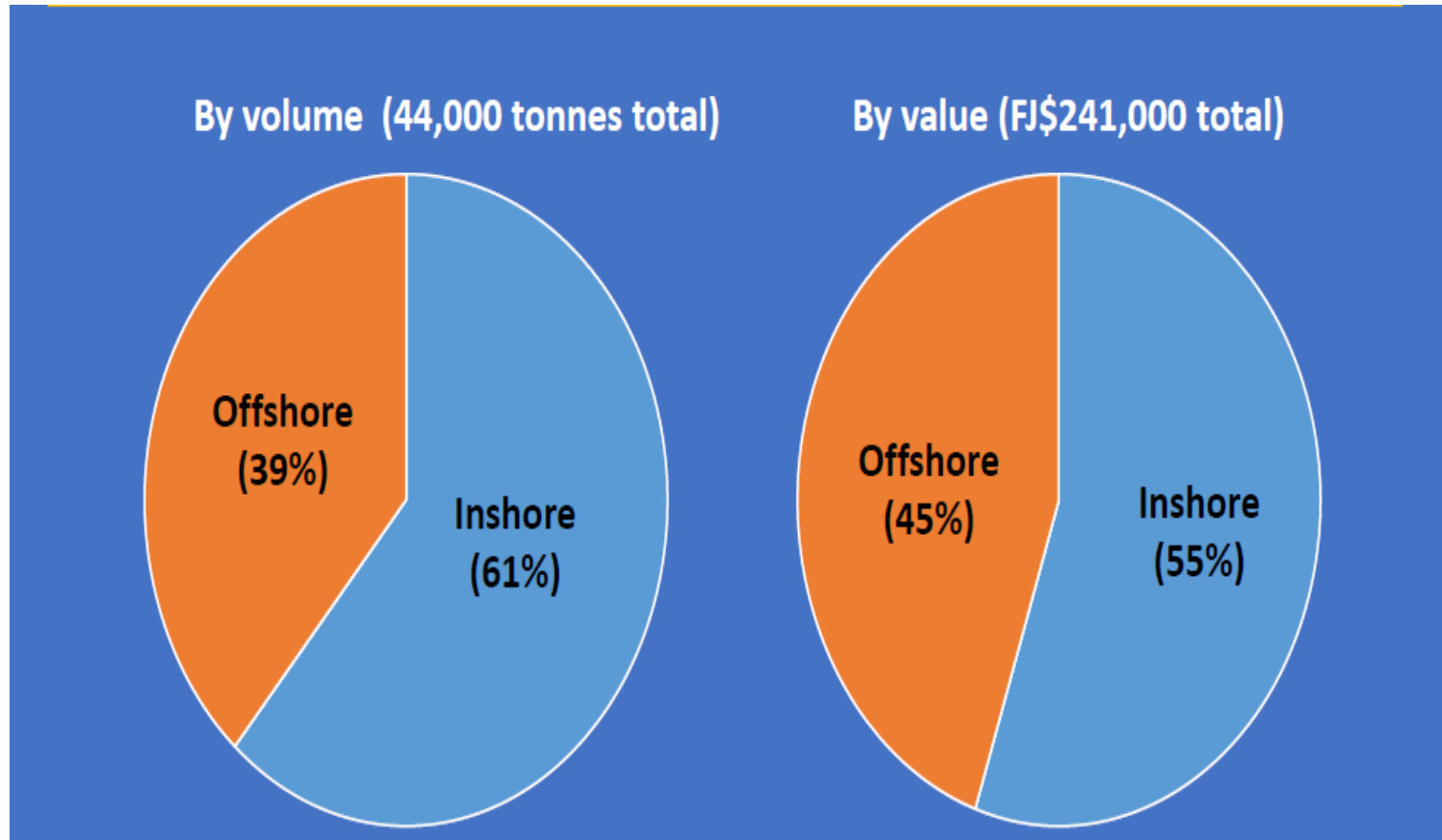
Friday 17th , November 2017
Sheraton Fiji Resort

Current Status of Fiji's Marine Environment



- The fisheries industry is one of Fiji's key resource-based sectors which relies heavily on the marine environment. The sector consists of commercial Offshore fishing, Inshore fisheries (Artisanal & Subsistence): bêche-de-mer, aquarium fish, reef fish, Aquaculture; seaweed, black pearls, prawns, shrimp, tilapia and other aquatic-based products.
- In addition it supports various other activities indirectly related to Sustainable livelihoods, Conservation of biodiversity, and sustainable development through Research to name a few.

Contribution to the Economy



Source: Gillet (2016) *fisheries in the Economies of the Pacific Island Countries & Territories*, ADB



Commitments

- The Ministry is endeavouring to address several sector-development challenges, including falling fish stocks, slow growth in aquaculture, finding ways to add value to fisheries resources, and the negative effects of climate change and human induced unplanned developments.
- The National Fisheries Policy that will be finalised soon will guide the management and development of sustainable fisheries within the Offshore, Coastal and Aquaculture sub-sectors.
- In addition the Ministry has also put together in collaboration with other NGO's and Ministries 17 Voluntary Commitments that is looking at conservation of critical species and habitats.



Impacts of Tourism activities on the Marine Environment

- Deforestation, Construction Activities and Unsustainable land use
 - Unregulated, Unmanaged and Illegal removal/ clearing of **mangroves**
 - Draining of filling of coastal wetlands
 - Sand mining
 - Marina Developments
- Accelerated and Unplanned Development
- Pollution
 - Solid, liquid waste and littering
 - Sewage

Mitigation tools for sustainable development



- Improved Environmental Management and Planning
- Regulatory Measures
- Inter – agency collaboration
- Financial Contributions



Tourism industries role to protect the Marine Environment.

- Environmental Awareness Raising
- Protection and Preservation
- Strengthening of inter-agency cohesiveness and stakeholder involvement.
- Financial Contributions



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Vinaka