



STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL COHESION IN FIJI

EMFORMED CITIZENS. STRONGER DEMOCRACY.

36-MONTH INITIATIVE

NATIONWIDE

The DeRiSC project is led by Dialogue Fiji and supported by Bread for the World and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. It strengthens democracy, human rights and social cohesion by building civic knowledge, widening participation, supporting responsible media and advancing evidence-based reform.

WHY IT MATTERS

Past coups and authoritarian rule weakened Fiji's democratic institutions, public participation and rights protections. Many young people have had limited exposure to democratic practice. Women and marginalised communities face barriers to public life, while misinformation can deepen division.

OUR RESPONSE

DeRiSC combines civic education, youth engagement, journalist development, media literacy, public dialogue, research and policy advocacy. It creates inclusive spaces where citizens, communities, media, civil society and decision-makers can learn, exchange views and contribute to a more cohesive Fiji.

WHAT THE PROJECT DOES

1 BUILD CIVIC KNOWLEDGE

Deliver community workshops, public lectures and awareness campaigns on democracy, human rights, governance and social cohesion.

2 ENGAGE AND EQUIP YOUNG PEOPLE

Run university and high school debates and debater training that build knowledge, critical thinking, research and communication skills.

3 SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM

Train journalists and student journalists and commission public-interest media articles on democracy, rights and social cohesion.

4 STRENGTHEN MEDIA LITERACY

Help people identify misinformation, assess the reliability of news and navigate information critically, particularly on social media.

5 CREATE SPACES FOR NATIONAL DIALOGUE

Convene public panels and multi-stakeholder dialogues bringing together government, civil society, communities, academia, media and youth.

6 TURN EVIDENCE INTO REFORM

Research democracy, human rights, governance and social cohesion; share findings publicly; and advance evidence-based policy recommendations.

WHO THE PROJECT WORKS WITH

Community members; women; youth; university and high school students; community and youth leaders; journalists and media organisations; social media users; civil society; academics and teachers; political leaders; policymakers; public institutions; and the wider Fijian public.

THE CHANGE WE SEEK

A more informed and engaged Fiji where people understand their rights, participate confidently in democratic life, media supports constructive debate, diverse communities are heard, and evidence informs policy reform.

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