# Fiji ginger export guide

# Green exports to foster sustainable development

Technical cooperation outcome



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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

BAF	Biosecurity Authority of Fiji
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FDB	Fiji Development Bank
GSP	Generalized System of Preferences
НАССР	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
HS	Harmonized System
IFOAM	International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements
ITC	International Trade Centre
ΜΟΑ	Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways
MRL	Maximum residue limits
PGS	Participatory Guarantee System
PTI	Pacific Trade Invest
PoetCom	Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UKTP	United Kingdom Trade Partnership Program
VSS	Voluntary Sustainability Standards



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## Note

The *Fiji ginger export guide* is part of the **Green trade for sustainable development in Pacific small island developing States of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG)** project,<sup>1</sup> referred to as the MSG Green Trade Project. The objective of this project conducted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the MSG Secretariat<sup>2</sup> is to identify and strengthen synergistic linkages between green trade promotion and the Sustainable Development Strategies (SDS) of MSG member States – Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu – in a regionally collaborative manner.

This guide was prepared jointly by UNCTAD and the MSG Secretariat, with the support of the Government of Fiji. It is an output for Fiji of Phase 1 of the project. Phase 1 comprises all national activities to identify potential synergistic linkages and to promote green trade. The activities under Phase 1 included::

- 1) Organizing a national workshop in Fiji.
- 2) Collecting and publishing Non-Tariff Measures (NTM) data for Fiji.
- 3) Publishing an assessment of Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS) for ginger.
- 4) Synergistic Linkages between Green Trade and Sustainable Development in Fiji.

The Phase 1 activities and reports laid the foundation for Phase 2, which entailed the creation of a *Subregional Action Plan for Green Trade Promotion* at the MSG level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The project website and project document can be accessed at: https://unctad.org/project/green-tradesustainable-development-pacific-small-island-developing-states-melanesian

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For more information, see: https://msgsec.info/about-msg/



# **1.** Introduction

The purpose of this export guide is to help ginger growers, exporters, and Fijian policymakers understand the challenges and opportunities in accessing international ginger markets.

The main goal is to provide stakeholders, particularly exporters, with an understanding of the export process, equipping them with the necessary tools and knowledge to navigate these complexities. In addition, the guide seeks to raise awareness about opportunities for exporting ginger to sustainability-focused markets, with particular emphasis on markets for organic products.

This guide covers pertinent aspects such as market trends, regulatory requirements in key markets, including the European Union, the United States of America, Japan and Australia, and different organic certification schemes. It outlines key steps in the export process, including identifying and accessing overseas markets, fulfilling regulatory and quality standards, obtaining necessary certifications, securing financial support, meeting packaging and labelling requirements, and managing logistical considerations to ensure a smooth export journey.

While this guide will focus specifically on the export conditions for fresh ginger – both low and high maturity ginger<sup>3</sup> – it also highlights market opportunities for derivative ginger products.

For Fiji, an economy with a significant agricultural base, the shift towards sustainable practices and voluntary standards such as "organic" certification is gaining momentum among policymakers, farmers, and exporters (Ministry of Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics, 2014). Under Fiji's 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan, the country identified organic agricultural products as a niche export product to further develop. The plan emphasizes the promotion of organic farming practices while pursuing the production of both traditional crops for home consumption and niche agricultural and fisheries products for export (Ministry of Economy, 2017).

This guide was prepared under the MSG Green Trade Project,<sup>4</sup> which is a collaboration between UNCTAD and the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) Secretariat to enhance green trade benefits across the region. The ginger sector was identified together with the government of Fiji as an example of a promising product in Fiji that could make use of voluntary sustainability standards (VSS) to access international markets.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Depending on maturity, ginger tends to be processed differently for different final products. Ginger with low maturity, also known as young ginger or baby ginger in the industry, is harvested 3 to 7 months after planting, while 8-10 months for fully grown ginger.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The project webpage can be accessed on: https://unctad.org/project/green-trade-sustainable-development-pacific-small-island-developing-states-melanesian.



# **2.** Before exporting

#### 2.1 Finding a market<sup>5</sup>

The global ginger market is on a trajectory of robust growth, making the industry increasingly appealing for exporters in Fiji. According to IMARC (2022), the global ginger market is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of almost 8 per cent from 2023 to 2028, increasing in size from US\$ 2.9 billion in 2022 to an estimated US\$ 4.7 billion by 2028. A projection by MarketResearch.com expects the market to reach US\$ 5.7 billion by 2030 (MarketResearch.com, 2023). The use of ginger for flavouring foods and drinks, as a digestive aid, as well as its anti-inflammatory properties, are key drivers for growth (IMARC, 2022). These uses in the food and beverages, wellness, and pharmaceuticals industries suggest opportunities for Fijian ginger exporters to diversify and expand into growing international markets.

This ginger export guide focuses on four markets: the European Union;<sup>6</sup> the United States of America; Japan; and Australia. The markets selected as the subject for this guide are of particular interest due to the significant purchasing power of their consumers.

**European Union:** Two member states of the European Union, Germany and the Netherlands, are among the largest ginger importers (see Table 1), making the European Union the largest importer of ginger. It is also an attractive market for organic certified products because the bloc represents the second largest organic market after the United States of America (FiBL 2022). The demand for organic spices in particular is growing in the European Union (CBI, 2023).

United States of America: The United States of America is the largest single market for ginger. The size of the market makes it interesting for Fiji's ginger. The health-conscious demographic makes it an especially promising market for niche VSS products (Index Box, 2023). The United States of America is already Fiji's largest overall export market (UN Comtrade, 2023). The "Fiji" brand carries positive connotations (Tourism Fiji, n.d.) and "Fiji" labelled products may benefit from the positive recognition of the "Fiji Water" brand (Morning Consult, 2023).

**Japan:** Japan is another major importer of ginger. Although Japan provides duty-free access to ginger products from Fiji that are already packed for retail sale under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) scheme, it levies up to 9 per cent tariff with respect to other types of ginger products. This could impact the competitiveness of Fiji's ginger in this market. Section 1.2.1 discusses this in more details.<sup>7</sup>

**Australia:** Australia is the largest market in the Pacific region and a large market for certified products, such as Organic or Fairtrade, which is growing rapidly (FiBL

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> More information on the opportunities represented by VSS can be found in the "Assessment of Organic Certification in the Ginger Value Chain in Fiji" (UNCTAD, 2025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Germany and the Netherlands are member states of the European Union and are current importers of Fijian ginger.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Some competitors face preferential tariffs: 0 to 7.3 per cent from 1 April 2023 (China), 0 per cent (Netherlands), 0 per cent (India), 0 per cent (Thailand). See: https://www.customs.go.jp/english/tariff/2023\_04\_01/data/e\_09. htm.

2022). Australia has consistently been one of the top destinations for Fiji ginger exports over the last 10 years (UN Comtrade, 2023). It is also currently the largest destination market for Fijian ginger and has recently enjoyed a surge in demand.<sup>8</sup>

Table 1 shows the top ten exporters of ginger, together with Fiji, **ranked 16th**; and the top eight importers, together with Australia and New Zealand, Fiji's largest and fourth-largest export destinations respectively. While world ginger exports are dominated by China (see Table 1), there is room for growth for a smaller exporter such as Fiji. This growth could be realized by focusing on enhancing product quality and differentiation – for example, by obtaining organic certification – rather than competing solely on price.

Figure 1 illustrates Fiji's ginger exports between 2020 and 2022 across its trading partners. Although Fiji has a strong export relationship with Australia, the data suggests that there might be opportunities in larger markets. For example, in total, the United States of America imported over US\$ 157 million worth of ginger in 2022, yet less than one per cent of this ginger - worth about FJD 2,4 million (~ US\$ 1,1 million) - came from Fiji. Similarly, the European Union, a very large market, imported over US\$ 200 million worth of ginger in total, while Fiji exported FJD 3,2 million (~US\$ 1,4 million) to Germany and the Netherlands.9 Furthermore, Japan, the second-largest market worldwide, received no ginger exports from Fiji.



#### Table 1

Export rank	Country	Value of exports in 2022 (US dollars)	Import rank	Country	Value of imports in 2022 (US dollars)
1	China	349 781 140		European Union **	200 017 178
2	Netherlands *	102 409 668	1	United States of America	157 973 905
3	India	67 481 682	2	Japan	111 721 020
4	Thailand	56 567 829	3	Netherlands *	102 595 036
5	United Arab Emirates	47 074 091	4	Germany	93 183 577
6	Nigeria	40 951 553	5	Pakistan	60 876 070
7	Brazil	33 001 766	6	United Kingdom	49 341 536
8	Germany	26 897 576	7	United Arab Emirates	38 430 227
9	Spain	11 996 234	8	Canada	36 162 442
10	Viet Nam	10 933 128	26	Australia	5 765 692
16	Fiji	3 151 403	34	New Zealand	4 025 278

#### Major ginger exporting and importing markets

Source: UNCTAD calculations using data from UN Comtrade.

*Note:* The import and export values are the sum of the Harmonized System codes for "ginger; neither crushed nor ground" (091011) and "ginger; crushed or ground" (091012).

\* The ginger trade by the Netherlands is mainly re-export. The country is a net importer.

\*\* The import value of the European Union is for reference. Rank was assigned at a country level.

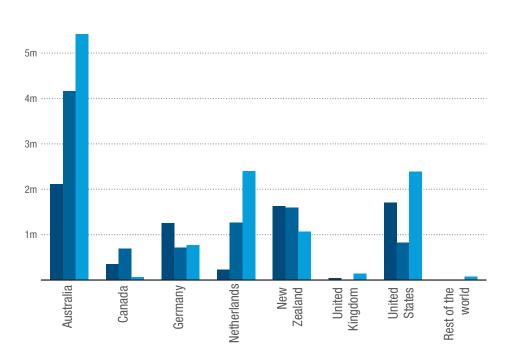
<sup>3</sup> See, for example, https://afbc.org.au/news/fijian-ginger-powers-ag-exports-demand-in-australia-surges/.

<sup>9</sup> The European Union is composed of 27 member States.

Although Fiji has a strong export relationship with Australia, the data suggests that there might be opportunities in larger markets.



2020 2021 2022



*Source:* UNCTAD analysis based on data provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways (MOA) in 2023. *Note:* The total includes fresh ginger as well as "ginger preserved by sugar".

To succeed in these export markets, Fijian exporters would need to conduct detailed market research. This research should encompass consumer preferences, market trends, regulatory requirements, and the competitive landscape. Building strong relationships with distributors, importers, and retailers in these regions is also essential for market penetration and long-term success.

#### 2.2. Estimating costs

Once a target market for ginger exports has been identified, a thorough financial calculation is crucial to determine the feasibility of the export venture. This involves meticulously estimating various costs, including the procurement of raw materials, packaging expenses, freight charges, activities related to exports (customs fees or certificates), labour costs, and the fees associated with obtaining necessary business licenses. By aggregating these costs, exporters can make an informed decision, comparing the total expenditure against the potential selling price in the target market. The goal is to ensure that the price abroad justifies the comprehensive costs involved in the export process.

## 2.2.1 Tariffs (applies to both certified and regular ginger)

Import duties levied on ginger are identical, whether or not the ginger is certified as organic. When exporting ginger from Fiji, it is crucial to complete a customs declaration with the correct product classification used in the destination country. The international harmonized system (HS) codes for ginger are 091011 for whole ginger and 091012 for crushed or ground ginger.<sup>10</sup>

Import duties and taxes vary depending on the destination:

- European Union: There are no import duties on Fiji ginger (0 per cent).<sup>11</sup>
- United States of America: There are no import duties on whole ginger, which is imported under HS code 091011. However, crushed or ground ginger, imported under HS code 091012, faces a duty of 1 cent per kilogram.<sup>12/13</sup>
- Japan: Ginger faces 2.5 to 9 per cent duty under the Most Favoured Nation rate.<sup>14</sup> However, with respect to specific types of ginger products – such as those supplied in containers suitable for retail sale – Fiji can benefit from the duty-free GSP scheme.<sup>15</sup>
- **Australia:** Imports of both types of ginger are duty-free.<sup>16</sup>

Even when no import duties are levied, the product may be subject to some local taxes, such as goods and services tax (GST), value added tax (VAT) or sales taxes. It is therefore important for exporters to engage in discussions with their local business partners to clarify who will be responsible for these additional costs. If a Fijian company or entrepreneur is making sales directly to consumers in the target country, taking account of these tax expenses is essential when setting prices.

#### 2.2.2 Various taxes and fees

Exporters of Fiji ginger may encounter various taxes and fees in Fiji, as summarized in Table 2 below.

Depending on the extent to which an exporter is engaged in farming and processing, and depending on terms and conditions agreed with foreign buyers, there may be fees related to farming, processing, transporting, etc. A full list of fees for biosecurity services can be found on the website of Biosecurity Fiji (BAF): https:// www.baf.com.fj/fees-and-charges/#

#### 2.2.3 Customs brokers

Customs brokers play a crucial role in facilitating export by managing necessary paperwork, payments and customs clearance. Some exporters find it useful to work via a customs broker to manage the export procedures. Maintaining open communication with both the buyer and the commerce department of the destination country is crucial to avoid complications upon arrival of the exported goods.

- <sup>12</sup> https://hts.usitc.gov/reststop/file?release=currentRelease&filename=Chapter%209
- <sup>13</sup> Although Fiji is listed as the GSP beneficiary developing country, the GSP scheme was expired on 31 December 2020. https://hts.usitc.gov/reststop/file?release=currentRelease&filename=General%20Note%204
- <sup>14</sup> https://www.customs.go.jp/english/tariff/2023\_04\_01/data/e\_09.htm
- <sup>15</sup> https://www.customs.go.jp/english/c-answer\_e/imtsukan/1504\_e.htm
- <sup>16</sup> https://www.abf.gov.au/importing-exporting-and-manufacturing/tariff-classification/current-tariff/schedule-3/ section-ii/chapter-9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Other processed ginger products such as crystalized ginger, ginger oil and ginger in brine, fall under different HS codes. For example, HS code for crystalized ginger falls under the category 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\_customs/dds2/taric/taric\_consultation.p?Lang=en&Taric=0910110000&Are a=&Level=3&SimDate=20240213&GoodsText=&OrderNum=&StartPub=&EndPub=&Regulation=&LastSel ectedCode=0910000000,0910110000 and

https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\_customs/dds2/taric/taric\_consultation.p?Lang=en&Taric=0910120000&Area= &Level=3&SimDate=20240213&GoodsText=&OrderNum=&StartPub=&EndPub=&Regulation=&LastSelecte dCode=0910000000,091011000

#### Table 2

#### Specific taxes and fees for exporting Fiji ginger in Fiji (in 2023)

Item	Cost <sup>17</sup>	Web links	
1. Business name registration (when creating a company)	From FJD 10.90 per year	https://roc.digital.gov.fj/RocEServices/ BusinessMenu	
2. Business license (renewable yearly)	FJD 44.00 per year	http://suvacity.org/wp-content/ uploads/2020/01/BUSINESS-LICENCE- FORM-NEW-2020.pdf	
3. Export license	FJD 608.1/Inspection fees FJD 52.33/farmer registration	https://www.baf.com.fj/download- forms/#export	
4. Annual inspection and registration of export premises	FJD 399.91/inspection	https://www.baf.com.fj/	
5. Fumigation treatment (the price depend on conditions and time)	FJD 89.70 – 201.83/ fumigation	https://www.baf.com.fj/	
6. Customs fee	Variable. Discussion with a customs broker is recommended.	https://www.frcs.org.fj/our-services/ customs/doing-business-in-fiji/ exporters/	
7. Inspection and certification – Other plant products	FJD 44.85/ inspection	https://www.baf.com.fj/	

Source: See web links column.

The Fiji customs website provides a registry of affiliated customs brokers: https://www. frcs.org.fj/our-services/customs/customsagents/customs-shipping-and-airlineagents/

## 2.2.4 Testing laboratories and facilities

In Fiji, the Institute of Applied Sciences at the University of the South Pacific (USP) provides laboratory services for testing ginger. These services encompass a range of tests, including microbiological analysis for food safety, chemical analysis for quality assurance, and High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC). More details are available on their website: https://www. usp.ac.fj/the-institute-of-applied-sciences/ laboratory-services/

However, there are currently no laboratories in Fiji equipped to conduct pesticide residue tests. Exporters may consider using testing facilities abroad, such as in Australia or Singapore, while considering the differences in testing costs and logistics.

#### 2.2.5 Certification costs

The cost of certification for ginger varies. Factors influencing this cost include the certification body chosen; the size of the farm or operation; and the complexity of the certification process. Section 2.3 provides more detailed information.

#### 2.3. Getting local support

Several local public offices, non-government and private institutions can provide support for exporting Fiji ginger to international markets. The information in this section comes from the *Fiji Exporter Guide of Investment Fiji*. More details can be found under: https://feg.investmentfiji.org.fj/. Contact details can be found in Annex 1.

### 2.3.1 Financial and technical assistance for export

#### The Fiji Revenue & Customs Services

offers targeted incentives to specific sectors and regions. The ginger sector can benefit from incentives under the following areas: Several local public offices, nongovernment and private institutions can provide support for exporting Fiji ginger to international markets.

<sup>17</sup> It should be noted that fees shown in Table 2 are for the year 2023 and may vary in future years.



- Commercial agriculture farming and agro-processing business investment
- Tax-free region

In addition, the Fiji Revenue & Customs Services has also launched the Authorised Economic Operators initiative to facilitate seamless trade, offering various benefits to program participants. Further information is available in these online brochures: https:// www.frcs.org.fj/incentives/

#### The Ministry of Trade, Co-operatives, Small and Medium Enterprises<sup>18</sup> has

specific initiative and assistance to exporters in different areas:

- Young Entrepreneurship Scheme (YES) for young entrepreneurs: https:// mcttt.gov.fj/division/msme-fiji/youngentrepreneurship-scheme/
- National Export Strategy (NES) grant facility: https://mcttt.gov.fj/division/ msme-fiji/national-export-strategy/

#### The Fiji Development Bank (FDB),

together with commercial banks provide export-focused financial products, such as export loans, guarantees, and factoring.<sup>19</sup> FDB specializes in meeting the financing needs of exporters. More information is available under: https://www.fdb.com.fj/ grow-and-export/

#### The Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF)<sup>20</sup>

plays a crucial role in ensuring that Fijian agricultural products meet the necessary biosecurity and quarantine requirements for export. Here is how BAF can provide technical assistance:

a. **Phytosanitary regulations:** BAF can offer guidance on phytosanitary

regulations and requirements for exporting ginger. This includes information on pest and disease management, treatment protocols, and quarantine procedures to meet international standards.

- Export documentation: BAF can assist exporters in preparing the necessary export documentation, including phytosanitary certificates and other biosecurity-related documents. They can also provide information on the correct labelling and packaging of ginger for export.
- c. **Inspections and audits:** BAF conducts inspections and audits of agricultural products to ensure compliance with biosecurity standards. They can provide information on the inspection process and help exporters prepare their farms and products for inspection.

Phytosanitary certificates are essential for exporting ginger. These certificates confirm that the ginger meets the phytosanitary requirements of the importing country. Fiji has recently adopted an electronic phytosanitary certification system, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the certification process (Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation, n.d.). This digital transition facilitates a more streamlined procedure for acquiring the necessary Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) certifications for ginger exports. BAF will be able to guide new exporters through the different steps required to get the certificate.

The Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access (PHAMA) Plus program<sup>21</sup> offers technical support

#### 10 1 11 // 111 6

- 18 https://mcttt.gov.fj/
- <sup>19</sup> Besides the Fiji Development Bank, the Reserve Bank of Fiji and licensed financial institutions are also engaged in providing export support.
- 20 https://www.baf.com.fj/
- <sup>21</sup> PHAMA Plus Program is supported by Australian and New Zealand governments to enhance market access for agricultural products in various Pacific countries, including Fijian ginger. https://phamaplus.com.au/

to the Fiji ginger sector. This includes guidance on meeting quality and compliance standards, including food safety and organic certification; training programs to build capacity in areas like sustainable farming and export procedures; and assistance in navigating market access requirements, such as phytosanitary regulations.

### 2.3.2 Export promotion assistance

Several national and regional agencies, including the **Ministry of Trade, Cooperatives, Small and Medium Enterprise, Investment Fiji, Pacific Trade Invest (PTI)**<sup>22</sup> and the PHAMA Plus Program offer assistance to promote Fijian products in international markets. They organize trade fairs, trade exhibitions and trade missions, both domestically and internationally, or participate in those events on exporters' behalf. This creates opportunities for ginger exporters to meet potential international buyers and showcase their products.

These agencies also conduct market research to assist exporters in making informed decisions about product development, market entry, pricing and positioning. Also, they offer market access support by providing information on customs procedures, import regulations and regulations related to organic certification, labelling, and quality in various target markets.

In addition, **the Ministry of Trade**, **Co-operatives, Small and Medium Enterprise** runs the "Fijian Made – Buy Fijian Made" branding initiative. Details can be found under: https://mcttt.gov.fj/division/ economic/fijian-made/.

# 2.4 Finding a buyer overseas

Finding a buyer abroad poses significant challenges for exporters. Prospecting potential ginger buyers and engaging with established industry purchasers – such as foreign supermarkets – takes proactive and sustained efforts. However, finding a buyer abroad can make exporting simpler, as the partner can offer administrative support through the exporting process.

Here is a list of potential institutions that may help in finding buyers of ginger in the European Union, the United States of America, Japan or Australia:

- Ministry of Trade, Co-operatives, Small and Medium Enterprise (https://www. mcttt.gov.fj/)
- Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Industry (https://www.fijichamber.com/)
- Pacific Trade Invest (https:// pacifictradeinvest.com/)
- Fiji Missions abroa<sup>23</sup>

Additionally, participating in trade fairs and establishing an online presence by creating a website or opening a page on a social network, can be effective strategies to showcase products and identify potential partners.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> PIT is the trade and investment promotion network of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. https:// pacifictradeinvest.com/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> For instance, the Fiji High Commission in Australia, the Embassy in Japan or in the United States of America.



# **3.** Getting ready to export

# 3.1 Registering as an exporter

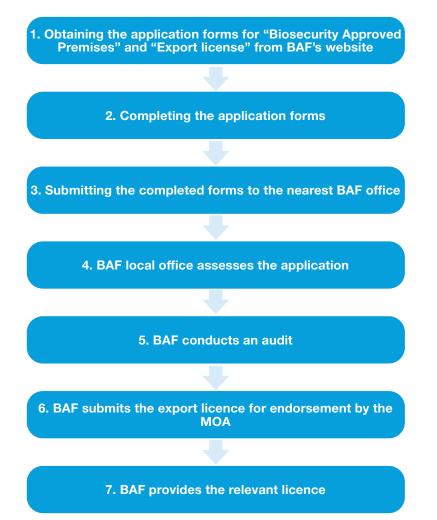
Figure 2 provides a flow chart detailing the export registration process. To export ginger and other agri-products, an exporter must first secure an export license. In addition, exporters of agricultural products are required to apply for Biosecurity Approved Premises status. After application, BAF conducts an inspection to verify compliance with their regulations. A recommendation for approval is then forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways (MOA) (Investment Fiji, 2021).

All farms producing crops for export must be registered with BAF, based on a recommendation from the MOA. After registration, BAF performs regular audits to confirm adherence to their standards.

#### Figure 2

#### Getting ready to export

Step-by-step export registration process



Source: Author's creation based on Fiji Export Guide (https://feg.investmentfiji.org.fj/export-process). Note: All forms and relevant information can be found on BAF's website: https://www.baf.com.fj/

Exporters also need to review the biosecurity requirements of their target import countries. BAF focuses on ensuring compliance with these requirements to facilitate secure and safe trade, in line with the World Trade Organization's Sanitary and Phytosanitary agreement.<sup>24</sup>

# **3.2. Meeting export** requirements

Exporters must diligently assess the specific requirements of different target markets before shipping their ginger to ensure smooth trade operations. Each market may have distinct regulations, quality standards, and labelling requirements, making it essential for exporters to adapt their practices and packaging to meet these specifications. The requirements described below apply to fresh ginger.25 The focus is again on the European Union, the United States of America, Japan and Australia. To learn more about exporting to specific markets, businesses may consult the guidelines provided by the importing countries on their official websites (see References) or on UNCTAD TRAINS portal (https://trainsonline.unctad.org/home).

#### 3.2.1. European Union

#### a. Hygiene and quality requirements

• The exporter needs to ensure adherence to European Union food safety and hygiene standards, including monitoring, general provisions, and detailed requirements throughout production and distribution.

- There are very strict maximum residue levels (MRLs) for ginger. The complete list can be found under the "European Union Pesticides Database".<sup>26</sup>
- Maximum level of Lead allowed in fresh ginger is 0.80 μg/kg and for Aflatoxins in dried ginger 5.0 (B1) 10.0 (Sum of B1, B2, G1 and G2) μg/kg.<sup>27</sup>

#### b. Testing

 An authorisation application must be sent to the national competent authority of an European Union Member State for genetically modified organism (GMO) export of ginger products.<sup>28/29</sup>

#### c. Inspection/Certification

- Phytosanitary certificate issued by the exporting country.
- Import certificate.
- Customs inspections at the designated Border Inspection Post at the point of entry into the European Union.
- To export ginger as an organic product, imports need an inspection certificate from the exporting country's competent authority or body.<sup>30</sup>

Each market may have distinct regulations, quality standards, and labelling requirements, making it essential for exporters to adapt their practices and packaging to meet these specifications.

- <sup>24</sup> https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/sps\_e/spsagr\_e.htm
- <sup>25</sup> Requirements for processed ginger may be different.
- <sup>26</sup> https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/eu-pesticides-database/start/screen/products/details/293
- <sup>27</sup> Maximum levels for certain contaminants in food at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ TXT/?uri=celex%3A32023R0915
- <sup>28</sup> Additional documents need to be attached for the GMO authorization application as per the article 17 of the document: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003R1829-20210327
- <sup>29</sup> The authorisation is valid for all European Union member states once approved by any one of the national competent authorities. The authorization must be renewed every 10 years.
- <sup>30</sup> Please find certificate of inspection for the import of organic and in-conversion products in the Annex: https:// eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02021R2306-20220701.

#### d. Labelling<sup>31</sup>

- Name of the food.
- Net quantity of the food (when prepackaged for retail).
- Date of minimum durability or "use by" date.
- Special storage conditions and/or conditions of use.
- Name or business name and address of the food business operator.
- Country of origin or place of provenance.
- Lot-marking, denoted by the letter 'L' must be placed on pre-packaged foodstuffs for easy lot identification.
- Allergen information for ingredients causing allergies or intolerances.
- Products conforming to European Union organic rules can use organic labelling with an equivalence certificate and the certificate of inspection from European Union authorities.<sup>32</sup>

#### e. Border measures

- The competent Member State authority verifies compliance by conducting document checks on all consignments and random identity checks, with physical checks based on potential non-compliance.<sup>33</sup>
- Complete the Summary Declaration once goods arrive at the customs (this is usually the responsibility of the carrier).

• Provide the customs authorities with the Importer's Declaration SAD (Single Administrative Document).<sup>34</sup>

#### f. Traceability

• Exporters must implement a strong traceability system for product tracking and ensure proper labelling for easy traceability through documentation.

#### 3.2.2. United States of America

#### a. Hygiene and quality requirements

- The exporter and its counterpart (the local importer in the United States) jointly confirm supplier adherence to the United States safety standards, identifying potential risks in imported foods (biological, chemical, physical) through regular audits, tests, or record reviews.<sup>35</sup>
- Restricted use of adjuvants, production aids and sanitizers during the production process.
- Exporters must pay attention to personnel hygiene and sanitary requirements at manufacturing premises to ensure food safety and adhere to regulations while processing ginger (also including facilities to pack ginger).
- The tolerance level of pesticides in ginger post-harvest are: inorganic bromides 100 ppm; fluoride 70 ppm; sulfuryl fluoride 0.5 ppm; and glyphosate 0.2 ppm.<sup>36</sup>

- <sup>34</sup> Presentation and use of the form: https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2016-09/presentation\_ and\_use\_of\_the\_form\_en.pdf
- <sup>35</sup> Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP) for Importers of Food for Humans and Animals.
- <sup>36</sup> Allowed pesticide residue requirements can be found at https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-40/chapter-I/ subchapter-E/part-180/subpart-C

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Labels must be in the language of the country where to product is being exported.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Please find request forms at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX%3A32008 R1235#d1e34-38-1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> The document check includes inspection certificate for organic products.

 Inks permitted for use in marking ginger are Acetone; Alcohol; SDA–3AAs; Benzoin; Copal; Manila; Ethyl acetate; Ethyl cellulose; Methylene chloride; Polyvinylpyrrolidone; Rosin and rosin derivatives; Silicon dioxide; and Terpene resins.

#### b. Packaging

- Adhesives in food packaging should meet safety conditions, including ingredient compliance and proper labelling.
- Maximum tolerance limit for Polychlorinated Biphenyls PCB content: 0.2 ppm in animal feed and 10 ppm in human food packaging.

#### c. Inspection

- The items will be inspected upon their arrival at the port of importation.
- Cold treatment/quick freeze treatment/ heat treatment/Irradiation treatment will be conducted before importation or entry into the United States of America.

#### d. Labelling<sup>37/38</sup>

The product label must contain the following information:

- Food name (Ginger).
- Food ingredients (Ginger).
- Net quantity of content (when prepackaged for retail).
- Name and place of business of manufacturer, packer, or distributor.

- Labelling claims.39
- Food and Drug Administration Registration (along with facility identifier).
- The word "Organic" and its symbol can be used in the principal panel of packaging and the information panel, if ginger is produced organically as per the definition by USDA.<sup>40</sup>

#### e. Notification

- Registration is required before a facility begins handling food for consumption in the United States and needs to be renewed every other year.
- Prior notice for Food and Drug Administration (FDA) review is required for shipments, with specific time frames based on the mode of transportation: 2 hours for land (road), 4 hours for land (rail) or air, and 8 hours for water arrivals.<sup>41</sup>

#### f. Authorization

 After registering, a facility must receive authorisation before starting manufacturing, processing, packing, or holding food for consumption in the United States of America. Registration by an authorized individual is allowed.<sup>42</sup>

#### 3.2.3. Japan

- a. Hygiene and quality requirements
- Processing, storage, transport and packaging must be carried out in a clean and sanitary manner.

#### 27 0 5 1 1 1 1

- <sup>7</sup> See Food Labelling Guide at: https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/ guidance-industry-food-labeling-guide
- <sup>38</sup> Nutritional labelling for ginger sold in retail packaging is optional.
- <sup>39</sup> Any claims made on the label, such as "organic," or "natural," must comply with specific regulatory definitions given by the FDA under the Food Labeling Guide (See Footnote 26).
- <sup>40</sup> Organic classification as per USDA is available at: https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic/labeling
- <sup>41</sup> Please see the guide to Prior Notice System Interface at: https://www.fda.gov/food/importing-food-productsunited-states/filing-prior-notice-imported-foods
- <sup>12</sup> https://www.fda.gov/food/guidance-regulation-food-and-dietary-supplements/registration-food-facilities-and-other-submissions

- Importers must verify food safety and maintain import records for potential checks.
- Any violations must be reported immediately.

#### b. Inspection and certification

- At the quarantine station, a customs officer decides whether an inspection is needed. If inspection is required, it can be either:
- 1. Documentary examination: Raw materials, production criteria.
- On-the-spot physical inspection: Appearance, foreign substances, storage conditions, and documentation.
- 3. Testing: Assessments of agricultural chemicals, microorganisms, and genetically modified foods.
  - Phytosanitary certificate must be obtained to determine the absence of quarantine pests.<sup>43</sup>

#### c. Labelling<sup>44</sup>

The following information is required:

- Item name (Ginger ショウガ or しょうが or 生姜).
- Country of origin.
- If organic, organic "JAS" mark is indispensable for labelling as organic food.

The following information is optional:

- Net content.
- Expiration date of the product (Y/M/D).45

- Name and location of production facility.
- Storage instructions.

#### d. Notification

 Import notification to quarantine station right after the arrival of a cargo or 7 days before planned arrival through an Advance Notification System.<sup>46</sup>

#### 3.2.4. Australia

#### a. Hygiene and quality requirements

- The ginger is required to be clean and free of contaminant seed, soil, animal and plant debris and other biosecurity risk materials.
- The maximum residue limits (MRL) for agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemicals in ginger exports vary, with several chemicals sharing similar limits:
  - Afidopyropen, Bifenthrin, and Fipronil all have an MRL of \*0.01 mg/kg.
  - o Cadusafos and Chlorantraniliprole share a common MRL of 0.1 mg/kg.
  - o Chlorpyrifos is set at \*0.02 mg/kg.
  - o Dithiocarbamates have a temporary MRL of 3 mg/kg.
  - o Fluazifop-p-butyl, Oryzalin, and Simazine have an MRL of 0.05 mg/ kg.
  - o Imidacloprid holds a temporary MRL of 0.3 mg/kg.
  - o Metalaxyl has an MRL of 0.5 mg/kg.

The ginger is required to be clean and free of contaminant seed, soil, animal and plant debris and other biosecurity risk materials.

- .....
- <sup>43</sup> Please check specific pest control under: http://www.pps.go.jp/eximlist/Pages/exp/conditionE.xhtml
- 44 https://www.caa.go.jp/en/policy/food\_labeling/
- <sup>45</sup> For packed ginger, the reference is the "best-before date".
- <sup>46</sup> The import notification form in English is available at: https://www.mhlw.go.jp/ content/11130500/000788796.pdf

- o Methomyl and Metribuzin both have MRLs of \*0.01 mg/kg
- Phosphorous acid is temporarily set at 100 mg/kg.
- Spinetoram has a temporary MRL of 0.02 mg/kg.<sup>47</sup>

#### b. Testing

- Any shipment may be subject to a physical inspection, or microbiological or chemical analysis may be required.
- A phytosanitary certificate from a recognized quality assurance provided (BAF in Fiji), or a food control certificate from Australia is required.
- Exporters must submit applications for food control certificates.
- Authorized officers determine the need for food inspection or analysis before issuing the certificate.<sup>48</sup>

#### c. Packaging

• Each consignment of goods must be packed in clean and new packaging.

#### d. Inspection/Certification

• Based on the analysis on the control certificate, the authorized officers may conduct an inspection.

#### e. Labelling

- For retail ginger packed in transparent packaging, labels must be written in English and contain the following information:
  - Food identification (name of food, lot identification, name and address of supplier in Australia).

- o Advisory Statements, Warning Statements, and Declarations
- o Statement of Ingredients.
- o Date Marking Information ("Use-by date" or "best-before date").
- o Storage Conditions.
- o Information about Characterizing Ingredients and Components.
- o Information for Irradiated Food.
- o Country of origin.49
- For whole or cut fresh ginger in a non-obscuring package, labels must be written in English and contain the following information:
  - o Food name.
  - o Advisory statements and declarations.
  - o Information relating to nutrition, health, and related claims.
  - o Country of origin.
- Food sold as loose ginger:
  - o If the food for sale is not in a package, it is not required to bear a label.
  - o Country of origin.

#### f. Traceability

• Country of origin, in the form of trade description.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> An asterisk (\*) indicates that the maximum residue limit is set at the limit of determination.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Control certificate form can be found at: https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/ sitecollectiondocuments/importing/ifn08-19-food-control-certificate.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Find the country of origin labelling guide at: https://www.accc.gov.au/about-us/publications/country-oforigin-food-labelling

#### 3.3. Certification

This section provides some brief details on certification schemes that may be relevant to stakeholders involved in exporting ginger from Fiji.

#### 3.3.1 Food safety standards

Respecting food safety regulations is crucial when exporting foodstuffs. Food safety always figures prominently among the requirements of customers, who want reassurances that the ginger they purchase is safe to use as food and has not been contaminated by harmful substances such as heavy metals, fungal toxins and household pesticides.

There are several international food safety standards that are widely used. Here we mention two of the most prominent international standards that are relevant for exporting ginger to international markets.

**ISO 22000**<sup>50</sup> sets out the requirements for a food safety management system and can lead to a certification. It explains what an exporter needs to do to demonstrate its ability to control food safety hazards in order to ensure that food is safe. This certificate is recognised in the food industry worldwide and can be obtained by locally registered companies.

The **Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points** (HACCP) certification is an international standard. It is a food safety management system that addresses food safety by analyzing and controlling biological, chemical, and physical hazards related to preparing, producing, handling, and consuming food products. Many top food manufacturers, food processors and food vendors worldwide use the HACCP food safety system to manage food safety throughout the food supply chain. Some customers may ask for this certification, which can be obtained by locally registered companies.<sup>51</sup>

Regardless of the chosen or mandated food safety scheme, a crucial consideration for exporters is having a dedicated storage facility that meets food safety standards.

### 3.3.2 Certification for exporting organic ginger<sup>52</sup>

With the rising demand for sustainable and ethically sourced products, obtaining an organic certification for ginger can open doors to high-value markets. However, labelling a product as "Organic" without certification is illegal in most markets. Organic products must adhere to specific standards, encompassing environmental, soil, water, and human-related aspects throughout the value chain; adherence to the standard must be proved by obtaining certification. Organic certification assures customers of the product's traceability, its separation from non-organic products, and compliance with a specific organic standard.

Understanding the types of certifications and their benefits is crucial to making an informed decision on whether to seek organic certification.<sup>53</sup> As such, thorough market research is essential. Securing long-term contracts with buyers can help offset the costs of obtaining certification. The "Assessment of Organic Certification in the Ginger Value Chain in Fiji" (UNCTAD,

Food safety always figures prominently among the requirements of customers

<sup>50</sup> https://www.iso.org/iso-22000-food-safety-management.html

- <sup>51</sup> There is not central repository of locally registered companies. A producer may seek support from BAF or the MOA to identify companies.
- <sup>52</sup> This section is based on the Vanuatu Virgin Coconut Oil Export Guide, UNCTAD (2023b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> The decision to seek organic certification should take into account: which standards and which types of certifications are recognised in the country of destination; which type of certification is allowed by the standard; which standards and which types of certifications are required by an individual buyer; and which standards and which types of certifications work best for an exporter.

2024), prepared in the framework of this project, offers additional insight into organic certification.

For Fijian ginger exporters, several organic certification options are available. One option is the local certification, which could serve well for regional markets, including Australia and New Zealand, although acceptance in these markets is determined on a caseby-case basis. Another option is third-party certification, which could serve not only regional markets but also other foreign markets including the European Union, the United States of America and Japan, each of which has its own national organic certification.

### A. Participatory Guarantee System – suitable for regional markets

The Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) is a local certification system.<sup>54</sup> PGS certification relies on peer reviews and internal monitoring. Smallholder farmers form groups, working collectively to uphold and strengthen organic standards, production methods, and even marketing strategies. By doing so, these groups facilitate understanding about the documentation processes necessary for obtaining certification.

The Pacific Organic Standard is the Pacific regional organic standard administered by the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (PoetCom). This standard considers both local agricultural traditions and the international standard requirements from IFOAM and Codex Alimentarius. The Pacific Organic Standard can be certified either by a third-party certifying body or through a Participatory Guarantee System (PGS).

In local and regional markets, including Australia and New Zealand, if a buyer

agrees, it is possible to sell ginger which complies with the Pacific Organic Standard and that is certified either by a PSG or a third-party certification, as organic ginger in the markets. This possibility to sell organic ginger certified through PSG, upon the buyer's agreement, is a big advantage to Fiji ginger exporters because certification through PGS is considerably more manageable than the third-party certification.

PoetCom can provide more information about the certification process. More information on how to contact PoetCom can be found here: https://www.organicpasifika. com/poetcom/ask-us/

Under the Pacific Organic Guarantee System (POGS), each PGS group has its own certification criteria tailored for local needs. By joining a PGS group, members can engage in peer reviews and farm visits, fostering knowledge exchange and overall skill development.

The following links provide more information about the PGS system, and how to join one:

- PGS FAQs: https://www.ifoam.bio/ our-work/how/standards-certification/ participatory-guarantee-systems/pgsfaqs;
- International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) PGS overview: https://www.ifoam.bio/ our-work/how/standards-certification/ participatory-guarantee-systems.

### **B.** Third-party certification – necessary for international markets

Third-party certifications are needed to access international voluntary sustainability standards (VSS) markets. Unlike PGS, which is localized, third-party certifications, recognized and mandated globally, often involve external inspections, stringent

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> The International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements' (IFOAM) – Organic International defines PGS as "locally focused quality assurance systems. They certify producers based on active participation of stakeholders and are built on a foundation of trust, social networks and knowledge exchange." See https:// www.ifoam.bio/our-work/how/standards-certification/participatory-guarantee-systems

checks, and full traceability from the farm to the consumer. As third-party certification represents an investment, which costs between FJD 10,500 to FJD 22,500 (as per POETcom, 2023), it is essential to have customers ready to buy the certified product. Nonetheless, obtaining certifications for various markets through a single auditor is possible, typically for an added charge of FJD 700-1,400 per extra certification.

The steps to obtain organic certifications are the following:

- 1. **Identify a target market:** Determining the target export market(s). Each has its distinct organic certification requirements.
- 2. **Contact a certification body:** Reaching out to the organization that provides organic certification for the targeted market.
- 3. **Apply for certification:** Submitting an application to verify compliance with the standards. Note: To export to multiple markets, separate certifications are needed.
- 4. **Undergo inspection:** An auditor will evaluate farm compliance with organic standards.
- Address any shortcomings: If the inspection identifies any areas that are not compliant, it is necessary to implement all recommended corrective measures and undergo re-inspection.

- Receive certification: Successful compliance results in certification, including permission to use a specific label for marketing.
- 7. **Renewing certification:** Organic certifications are not indefinite. Instead, they need to be renewed regularly to maintain certified status.

In the European Union, the United States of America and Japan, organic products must comply with the respective national organic standards and be certified by a third-party certifying body. Adherence to other organic standards or certification through other methods are not acceptable by law. Below is the organic certification agencies in these countries. Also, more details are available in Annex 1.

- European Union: EU Organic https:// agriculture.ec.europa.eu/farming/ organic-farming/organics-glance\_en
- United States of America: NOP(USDA) https://www.ams.usda.gov
- Japan : JAS https ://www.maff. go.jp/e/policies/standard/specific/ organic\_JAS.html
- Australia: NASAA Organic https:// nasaaorganic.org.au/

In the European Union, the United States of America and Japan, organic products must comply with the respective national organic standards and be certified by a third-party certifying body.



# **4.** Exporting ginger

#### 4.1. Shipping ginger

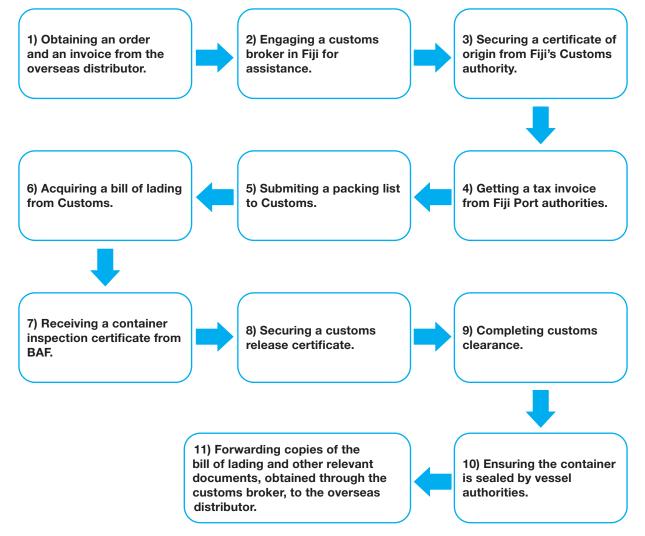
The least expensive method for shipping ginger is via sea transport, using one of Fiji's five international ports, the primary one being the Port of Suva. Sellers new to exporting are strongly advised to consult logistics services providers (Investment Fiji, 2021). The procedure for exporting ginger by ship is shown in Figure 3.

An alternative to sea transport is air freight. Although more expensive, air freight can sometimes be appropriate for products with a relatively short shelf life, such as fresh ginger. The shorter transport time associated with air freight helps to ensure

#### Figure 3

#### Following the right steps to export

Procedure to export a product by ship from Fiji



Source: Author's creation based on Investment Fiji (2021).

that the ginger is very fresh when it arrives in its destination. This can result in a higher price for the very fresh product, and a longer shelf-life after importation, measured from when the ginger arrives in the destination market.

Participants in the project workshops (2023) explained that most ginger exported from Fiji is transported via sea freight. The shipping time to Australia is around three days. After allowing for transit times through both the Fijian port of export and the Australian port of import, the shelf-life in Australia of imported ginger is shorter by approximately a full week. Transportation via airfreight could therefore add a week to the shelf life of the ginger after its arrival in Australia. However, the additional costs associated with air freight - an order of magnitude of ten to twenty times the shipping cost for sea freight - make airfreight uneconomic for Fijian ginger in the Australian market.55

# **4.2. Arrival in destination** country<sup>56</sup>

Before exporting, it is essential to liaise with the buyer and the commerce department of the export country to ensure compliance with the standards of the destination country.

Once the goods arrive at the destined port of entry, it is the buyer that is responsible for ensuring that the goods are cleared by the customs and biosecurity authorities. The documents sent to the buyer by the exporter are crucial for swift clearance at the port. Exporters must retain copies of all export documents, in case they are needed to facilitate importation. It is also advisable to retain a sample of the shipped goods. In the event of lost paperwork on arrival, these copies of documents can be presented as evidence. Similarly, if a quality issue or a discrepancy in the goods arises, having a sample provides a basis for comparison with the customer's complaint.

# 4.3. Payments, terms and insurance of goods<sup>57</sup>

When exporting products, managing risks related to payments and potential loss or damage of goods is essential. A legally enforceable contract with clear terms and conditions is crucial before shipping goods overseas, as taking legal action for nonpayment can be complex, especially when the customer is overseas.

Obtaining insurance, particularly Marine Transport Insurance, is advisable for ginger exporters. This insurance covers the goods during storage, transport to the port, and until delivery to the customer. Exporters can opt for annual policies covering multiple shipments or insure each shipment separately. It is important to remember that the exporter's responsibility for the goods typically extends until they reach the designated port, after which the buyer assumes the risk and costs of further transport. The customs broker can refer the exporter to insurance companies.

Exporters must retain copies of all export documents, in case they are needed to facilitate importation.

- <sup>55</sup> These insights were shared at the Fiji national MSG Green Trade Project and Joint IMPACT-SAFE workshop on non-tariff measures (NTMs) and International Trade Promotion which took place on 12-13 June 2023 in Lami, Fiji.
- <sup>56</sup> This section is based on the Papua New Guinea Vanilla Export Guide, UNCTAD (2023a).
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## Other useful resources to export

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# Annex 1: Key Contacts

#### Table 3

#### **Contacts for government agencies**

Government agencies/ Consulates	Telephone number	Email address	Website
Biosecurity Authority Fiji	+679 331-2512	info@baf.com.fj	https://www.baf.com.fj/
Digital Fiji	+679 910 37 21	digitalsupport@govnet.gov.fj	https://roc.digital.gov.fj/ Redirect/Authentication?Retu rnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Froc. digital.gov.fj%2F
Fiji Ports	+679 892 8301	info@fijiports.com.fj	https://fijiports.com.fj/
Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways	+679 3384 233 / +679 3383 583	agrihelp@govnet.gov.fj	https://www.agriculture.gov.fj/
Ministry of Trade, Co- Operatives, Small and Medium Entreprises	+679 3305411	info@mcttt.gov.fj	https://mcttt.gov.fj/
Revenue and Customs Service	Suva office: +679 324 30 00	info@frcs.org.fj	https://www.frcs.org.fj/

#### Table 4

#### **Contacts for laboratories**

Laboratories	Telephone number	Email address	Website
Institute of Applied Science University of the South PacificLaucala Bay Campus	+679 3232 965	iaslab@usp.ac.fj	https://www.usp.ac.fj/the- institute-of-applied-sciences/ laboratory-services/
Koronivia Research Station	+679 3477 044	kemueli.seuseu@govnet. gov.fj	

#### Table 5

#### **Contacts for financing organizations**

Laboratories	Telephone number	Email address	Website
Fiji Development Bank	+679 331 48 66		https://www.fdb.com.fj/



#### Table 6

#### Contacts for international and local organizations

Laboratories	Telephone number	Email address	Website
Pacific Trade Invest (PTI)	+679 3312600		https://www.pacifictradeinvest. co.nz/
Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation (PIPSO)	+679 7736 301	admin@fijiexportcouncil. com	http://www.pipso.org.fj/
Pacific Horticultural & Agricultural Market Access (PHAMA) Plus Program	+679 3379 345		https://phamaplus.com.au/

#### Table 7

#### Contacts for international certification agencies

Country / Entity	Label	Contact details	Website
Australia	NASAA Certified Organic	Tel: +61 8 7231 7700 info@ncocertifiedorganic. com.au	https://www.pacifictradeinvest. co.nz/
Australia	ACO Certification Limited	Tel: +61 07 3350 5706	https://aco.net.au/Pages/ ABoutUs/about.aspx
European Union	EU Organic		https://agriculture.ec.europa. eu/farming/organic-farming/ organics-glance_en
Japan	JAS	Tel: +81 36 744 2098 jas_soudan@maff.go.jp	https://www.maff.go.jp/e/ policies/standard/specific/ organic_JAS.html
United States	NOP(USDA)		https://www.ams.usda.gov
IFOAM	IFOAM Grower group		https://www.ifoam.bio/ our-work/how/standards- certification/internal-control



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