



Action Project Reference: 31-01

Organisation: National Rugby League Fiji

### Action Project Proposal:

## “Aligning NRL Fiji Development Programmes to Ministry of Education Curriculum”

### Who Are NRL Fiji?

The National Rugby League runs the world’s premier Rugby League competition, comprising 16 teams (15 from Australia and one from New Zealand).

NRL Pacific Outreach provides Rugby League education throughout Fiji and outer islands.

The NRL was formed in Fiji to work within schools and community groups to establish long term relations and partnerships with the ministries and Civil Society Organisation, helping the growth and development of children and youths. Our programmes also enable education on the importance of a healthy lifestyle, mental and physical wellbeing and how to tackle bullying.

### Mission:

Rugby League in the Pacific will inspire and unite people to create better communities.

### Long Term Aims & Vision:

Values: Inclusive, Discipline, Positive and United

Aims: Our key aims and objectives are to boost positive social cohesion influences, to assist with maintaining quality education for all students in Fiji, to drive for gender equality and

increase awareness around domestic and gender-based violence and to promote inclusiveness in sports and all sectors of the workplaces in Fiji.

### **Current Challenges:**

One of our current barriers is in aligning our health, wellbeing and physical activity programmes and our objectives with the Fiji Ministry of Education. Programmes like NRL have proved to be highly effective within primary school students, but we must ensure that the Ministry supports this. The exposure of NRL programmes in primary schools has allowed students to explore their key fundamental movement skills outside of the classroom, which has in turn created an open mindset and focus for students when returning to their daily studies inside the classroom. It has been most difficult to get in the door of the Ministry of Education and to highlight areas that both parties can benefit from. As one of over 16 sports in Fiji, it can be hard for NRL to get the attention it requires in order to have the best impact possible in schools.

Covid-19 has also created a new barrier as there are now new laws in place regarding the return to schools in Fiji. A lot of NRL Fiji's work is based in schools and is therefore going to need to reconsider new ways for their business to operate.

### **Further Information:**

NRL would like an intern to create a proposal for a partnership with the Ministry of Education. This proposal should showcase what NRL Fiji is all about including its long term objectives and aims and the benefits it can provide to a child's education. The aim would then be to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between NRL Fiji and the Ministry of Education.

The second part of the project therefore is to create a strong step by step plan for how the MoU partnership can be used to continue to help further integrate NRL into the curriculum.

Many of the ideas that will be included in this proposal have already been collated but the organisation lacks a full understanding of educational policy and is hoping that the intern can formally write up these ideas in a way that will effectively persuade the government.

### **Key Research & Discussion Areas:**

#### **Plan and deliver ...**

- Consider the Ministry of Education's curriculum, what are its main aims? What skills do they hope to teach? What sport provision is included in the curriculum?
  - In what ways does the curriculum overlap with NRL Fiji Development programmes?
- What is covered in the NRL Fiji Development Programme?
  - What could be adapted to fit more closely with the Ministry of Education's Curriculum?
- Consider your own experiences with learning rugby either at school or in a club, what key skills did you learn? How can these link to the educational curriculum?

- How will you present your suggestions and findings?
- Create a SMART goal (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely)
- Research NRL’s work with young people, do they currently operate in schools? If so, in what way?
  - How can this provision be developed?
- Will you need to persuade the Ministry of Education to see the benefits NRL can provide?
  - If so, how will you present these findings?
- What elements should you focus on in order to persuade the MofE?
- What resources are available to you? How can you find more resources?
- Consider the work of other sporting organisations in Fiji, do they have closer relationships with MofE? If so, how have they achieved that?
- Could you create partnerships with any other organisations to increase the effectiveness of your report?
- Can you find examples of other government partnership proposals?
  - What was good about these?
  - How could they be improved?
  - In what ways do these organisations have similar aims to NRL Fiji?
- Can you create a template of sorts so that NRL can continue to add to this after your internship ends?

**Evaluate ...**

- How can you evaluate the effectiveness of your findings?
- How can you use these results to continue to improve your work?

**Useful Links:**

- Organisational page: <https://thinkpacific.com/action-project-national-rugby-league/>
- Website: [https://www.playrugbyleague.com/?fbclid=IwAR3fUC2eBkyRinbOT036h0yMfkgFslzko0n\\_HzZ-kJdJkt-Hj5xzvgRmdE](https://www.playrugbyleague.com/?fbclid=IwAR3fUC2eBkyRinbOT036h0yMfkgFslzko0n_HzZ-kJdJkt-Hj5xzvgRmdE)
- Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/NRLFiji>

**Further Questions**

Are there any questions you would like to ask NRL Fiji to assist in completing this project?

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