

Federated States of Micronesia Ridge to Reef

Exit strategy

FSM R2R: Implementing an integrated “Ridge to Reef” approach to enhance ecosystem services, to conserve globally important biodiversity and to sustain local livelihoods in the FSM

Report prepared for Ridge to Reef and UNDP

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1. Introduction

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Ridge to Reef Project (R2R) project titled “*Implementing an integrated Ridge to Reef approach to enhance ecosystem services, to conserve globally important biodiversity and to sustain local livelihoods in the Federated States of Micronesia.*”

The project’s goal is to implement an integrated “Ridge to Reef” approach to enhance ecosystem services, to conserve globally important biodiversity and to sustain local livelihoods in the FSM.

The objective of the FSM Ridge to Reef Project (R2R) is to strengthen local, State and National capacities and actions to implement integrated ecosystem-based management through a “ridge to reef” approach on the High Islands of the four States of FSM. It is designed to engineer a paradigm shift in the approach to management of natural resources from an ad-hoc species/site/problem-centric approach to a holistic ecosystem-based management “ridge to reef” approach guided by planning and management processes that are informed by actual data.

The project’s intervention has been organized in two outcomes and implemented in the high islands of all four States at multiple spatial scales from site to municipal or landscape level.

- Outcome 1: Integrated Ecosystems Management and Rehabilitation on the High Islands of FSM to enhance Ridge to Reef Connectivity.

Under outcome 1, the project aims to improve decision-making in management of production landscapes to ensure maintenance of ecosystem services important for the global environment and for people’s livelihoods and avoiding deforestation and forest degradation.

- Outcome 2: Management Effectiveness enhanced within new and existing Protected Areas on the High Islands of FSM as part of the R2R approach (both marine and terrestrial).

Under outcome 2, the project aims to improve the management effectiveness and sustainability of marine and terrestrial Protected Areas (PAs) through a nationwide network of PAs, to establish and enhance sustainable land and marine management practices to reduce existing environmental stressors and increase the resilience of communities and natural ecosystems to the impacts of climate change. In doing so, the R2R project is promoting the use of ecosystem-based approaches to maintain the flow of vital ecosystem services and sustain the livelihoods of local communities.

1.1 Purpose and aims

A project exit strategy describes how a project intends to withdraw its resources while ensuring that achievement of the project goals is not jeopardized and that progress towards these goals will continue. An exit strategy can also be seen as a ‘sustainability strategy’ for a program or project (Rogers and Macias 2004; Gardner et al. 2005).

The FSM Ridge to Reef Exit and Sustainability Strategy aims to:

- Ensure the sustainability of project goals and impacts after the project ends.
- Inform stakeholders and beneficiaries of project closure and outline their roles and responsibilities to sustain post-project activities.
- Ensure the orderly closure of the project

1.2 Context

The R2R project was scheduled to commence on November 19, 2015 upon signature of the project document and was originally intended to be completed and close on November 19, 2020. However, approval was provided in June 2020 for a 18 month no-cost project extension to 19 May 2022, to accommodate delays in the recruitment of project staff, the execution of the inception workshop not occurring until October 2016, and the start of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. In May 2022, UNDP and GEF approved a no-cost extension of 6 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated impacts on project implementation. The project is now scheduled for operational closure on November 19, 2022.

2. Approaches to Exit Strategy¹

Phasing down is the gradual reduction of project/program inputs and/or activities. It can also involve a conscious and strategic reduction in project activity such that existing activities are completed, and no new ones started. Phasing down is often a preliminary stage to both phase out and phase over.

Phasing out is the withdrawal of project inputs (e.g., funding, service provision, technical assistance, other resources) and involvement, without turning it over to other institutions for continued implementation. A program is phased out after permanent or self-sustaining changes are realized, thus eliminating the need for additional external inputs.

Phasing over requires specific activities to continue and where there is an existing entity (government organization, NGO, and/or communities) to take responsibility for implementation. Specific project activities can be transferred to other institutions (national and local governments) or entities (e.g., local communities, NGOs), in this case the project has built capacity so that the services provided can continue.

3. Application to R2R

At the time of writing this strategy (June 2022), R2R is in an active stage of phase down and out with a strategic approach towards any further interventions (very limited activities post 19 August 2022). This active phase down is being driven by (a) the imminent operational closure of the project, and (b) the funding already budgeted and allocated to individual activities according to the work plan approved for the FSM R2R project extension.

Therefore, the FSM R2R Exit Strategy is developed considering two levels of exit:

- (i) Phase out: at whole of project level, R2R will cease to exist as a project after 19 November 2022 and there will not be handover or transfer of the project to another institution. Therefore, the R2R project will be phased out.
- (ii) Phase over: for some of the individual activities and interventions the R2R will use a phase over approach, with the transfer of these activities to other entities/institutions.

These levels will be accomplished through two (2) key stages:

¹ Definitions from: Twyford, K. & Weeks, H. (2021) Cook Islands Ridge to Reef Exit and Sustainability Strategy. Prepared for UNDP and Ridge to Reef Project.

- Stage 1: Exit and completion of all implementation activities - by 19 November 2022 (operational closure)
 - Completion of the majority of key activities by implementation partners by 19 August 2022
 - Completion of the Terminal Evaluation by 19 August 2022
 - Completion of a small number of high priority activities (i.e., consultancies/contracts, biological bird monitoring) by 19 November 2022
 - Final report 3 months prior to project closure
- Stage 2: Continued operation of the R2R Project Implementation Unit (PIU) (financial closure)
 - project financial closure activities, including development of key closure documents (ie., financial reports). This stage would occur before/up to full (financial) project closure on 19 May 2023

4. Exit Strategy

4.1 Project Objective: To strengthen local, State and National capacities and actions to implement integrated ecosystem-based management through a “ridge to reef” approach on the High Islands of the four States of FSM

Overview of Objective

The aim of the project objective was to strengthen local and national capacities to fostering sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation and effectively manage FSM’s Protected Areas by implementing a holistic ecosystem-based management “ridge to reef” approach, thus that the whole island systems are managed to enhance ecosystem services for the conservation of globally important biodiversity and the sustenance of local livelihoods.

Summary of activities undertaken for each Objective level indicator:

1. ***Integrated Land Management Plans and Sustainable Land Management.*** The FSM R2R project has invested considerably in the establishment of Integrated Land Management Plans at the 4 states. In both Pohnpei and Kosrae a Strategic Environmental assessment was conducted, and the consultants submitted their final draft reports. The SEAs laid the foundation for the development of the Integrated Environmental Management Plan (IEMP) in Pohnpei and the updating of the Kosrae Land Use Plan (KLUP). In Yap, the Weloy Forest Stewardship plan was updated and implemented, and in Chuuk, the Sapo, Oror and Ununo (SOU) Forest Stewardship Plan was implemented, and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with the SOU community. Additionally, the FSM R2R project team provided support for updating the FSM 10-year Forest Action Plan FAP through which States have identified specific strategies in

support of forest management and conservation. Some of the FAP strategies are being implemented under the R2R program.

2. **Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT):** The score of the METT was re-assessed in 2018 for the Mid-Term Review (MTR) and an informal assessment was conducted in 2020. The assessments indicated that improvements in the METT score could be achieved through the development or completion of the Protected Areas (PA) management plans, the demarcation of the PAs and the gazetting of those PA that are still pending the endorsement process. All three recommended actions were incorporated into the 2021 and 2022 work plans and are currently in progress in each of the states.
3. **Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Capacity Development Scorecards:** the SLM scorecards were assessed at (i) the beginning of the project for collection of baseline data, (ii) during the MTR for status and progresses. Additionally, an informal assessment was conducted in 2020 to provide guidance for scores improvement. Since the MTR the FSM R2R project has implemented supporting activities for the accomplishment of the SLM score cards. These include (1) preparations to implement Pohnpei's IEMP, and (2) completion of an SEA in Kosrae and consultations with communities and relevant partners to update its 2003 Land Use Plan.
4. **Protected Areas (PA) Management Capacity Development Scorecards:** the PA scorecards were assessed at (i) the beginning of the project for collection of baseline data, (ii) during the MTR for status and progresses. Since the MTR the FSM R2R project has implemented several activities to increase the scores. These include the following: (1) continued review of draft PAN regulation for Chuuk State; (2) endorsement of Pohnpei's revised PAN law – currently pending approval with Pohnpei State Legislature, and development of complementary PAN regulations-local consultant contract processing; and (3) finalization of a PAN operations manual for the FSM and states-expected completion by June 2022; (4) Completion of Kosrae's PAN fund legislation-awaiting endorsement, and update of Kosrae's PAN legislation-local consultant being recruited; (5) Development of PAN criteria for Yap State- approved by YapCAP's (agency hosting PAN) board members.
5. **Assessment of the % of the FSM population, MPA communities, benefitting in the long-term from the sustainable management of the fisheries resource which includes providing adequate refugia for sustaining the resource:** A socio-economic assessment was conducted with priority R2R MPA representatives from the 4 FSM states to determine the ' % of the FSM population, MPA communities, benefitting in the long-term from the sustainable management of the fisheries resource which includes providing adequate refugia for sustaining the resource'. Initial results have been presented back to stakeholders and report is being finalized. It expected for this component to be completed before the end of the project.

Recommendations

- 1) **Integrated Land Management Plans and Sustainable Land Management:** it is recommended for the ILMP indicator to be **phased over** to the states' responsible agencies that have the mandate to implement the plans at state level. Also, it is recommended to provide key stakeholders with a summary of the main outputs under this component so that they can further incorporate this information into plans and strategies.
- 2) **Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT):** the R2R project has consistently improved the efforts to ensure structured implementation of the activities identified to improve

the METT score by the project closure. It is recommended for this indicator (review of the METT scores) to be **phased out**, and to provide key stakeholders information on the project outputs so that they can further incorporate this information into plans and strategies. PA management activities will phase over to appropriate implementing agencies/organizations.

- 3) ***Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Capacity Development Scorecards***: taking into account that the FSM R2R project has identified areas where improvements are not likely to occur, because outside the control of the project and under direct jurisdiction of the States (i.e., mismatch between staff skills and job requirements, lack of motivation at work due to lack of incentives, etc.). It is anticipated that the end of the project target will not be met due to areas outside of the project's control. It is recommended to that this indicator is **phased out**, and that the SLM scorecard results are shared with key stakeholders to assist with planning future SLM activities
- 4) ***Protected Areas (PA) Management Capacity Development Scorecards***: the FSM R2R project has made considerable efforts to increase the scores of the PA scorecards. It is foreseen that this component will be **phased out**, although the operationalization of the PAN policy framework through the operations manual, and PAN-related activities will be phased over to FSM R&D as for the recommendations provided under [outcome 2](#).
- 5) ***Assessment of the % of the FSM population, MPA communities, benefitting in the long-term from the sustainable management of the fisheries resource which includes providing adequate refugia for sustaining the resource***: it is recommended for the indicator ' % of the FSM population, MPA communities, benefitting in the long-term from the sustainable management of the fisheries resource which includes providing adequate refugia for sustaining the resource' under the project objective to be **phased out**.

Exit strategy based in the indicators from the FSM R2R project Logical framework for the Project Objective: to strengthen local, State and National capacities and actions to implement integrated ecosystem-based management through a “ridge to reef” approach on the High Islands of the four States of FSM

LG#	Indicator	End of Project Target	Forecast status at End of Project		Exit Strategy	
			Information	Major R2R output	ES approach	Responsibility
1	Area of High Islands of the FSM where pressures from competing land uses are reduced (measured by no net loss of intact forests) through the implementation of Integrated Landscape Management Plans* *For example: Pohnpei Integrated Environmental Management Plan, Kosrae Land use Plan, Weloy (Yap) and Sapo, Oror and Ununo (SOU, Chuuk) Stewardship Plans)	(i) 62,133 ha (ii) No net loss of intact forest against the baseline	Progress has been made toward the development, revision and/or implementation of each of the four ILMPs.	Completion of SEAs in the states of Pohnpei and Kosrae which have informed the Pohnpei IEMP and are assisting Kosrae state in updating its KLUP. The Weloy SFP has been updated through a participatory process and 2 activities implemented. Similarly, 2 activities of the SOU's FSP have been implemented with communities	Phase Over	Priority for phase over: For the R2R team to engage with key stakeholders from states and national agencies to report back on relevant outputs
2	Average of METT Scores for: (i) 40 target PAs covering 24,986 ha (ii) 20 priority active PAs covering 35,816 ha (includes 12 of the original 40 target PAs and 8 new PAs)	(i) 65% with no drop in scores in any of the individual PAs (ii) 65% with no drop in scores	The next assessment of the METT will be completed ahead of the terminal evaluation. Previous assessment (2020) revealed a slight increase in states scores.	R2R has increased efforts and investments to ensure scores are increased. Demarcation, management plans development/update and support on legislation updates are ongoing	Phase out	Nil

LG#	Indicator	End of Project Target	Forecast status at End of Project		Exit Strategy	
			Information	Major R2R output	ES approach	Responsibility
3	Sustainable Land Management Capacity Development Score for FSM	75%	The next assessment of the SLM Capacity Development scorecards will be completed ahead of or during the terminal evaluation. Previous assessment revealed a score of 56%. It is foreseen that the that the end of the project target will not be met.	Due to the presence of areas that are outside the control of the project the FSM R2R has taken a strategic approach to supporting activities for enhancing the Integrated Landscape Management Plans.	Phased out	Nil
4	PA Management Capacity Development Score for FSM	70%	The next assessment of the SLM Capacity Development scorecards will be completed ahead of or during the terminal evaluation. Previous assessment revealed a score of 52%.	Several activities took place to increase the scores through the development and operationalization of the PAN framework and operations manual, state legislation updates to align to PAN, and development and/or endorsement of PAN regulations and criteria.	Phased out	Nil
5	% of the FSM population, MPA communities, benefitting in the long-term from the sustainable management of the fisheries resource which includes providing adequate refugia for sustaining the resource	20%	It is foreseen that the finalized report will be completed by the end of the project.	The assessment, data analysis and reporting will be completed in 2022.	Phased out	Nil

4.2 Outcome 1: Integrated Ecosystems Management and Rehabilitation on the High Islands of FSM to enhance Ridge to Reef Connectivity

Overview of Outcome 1

The aim of this outcome was to promote an integrated approach towards fostering sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation by seeking greater awareness, knowledge and participation of all stakeholders thus to reduce conflicting land-uses and land-use practices and improve the sustainability of terrestrial management. In doing so, the project has tested new sustainable land management tools and measures (i.e., Strategic Environmental Assessment – SEA; Integrated Environmental Management Plan -IEMP) with the purpose of reducing existing environmental stressors and institutional limitations.

Summary of activities undertaken for each indicator:

Some of the key activities undertaken include:

1. **Formulation of strategic land use management plans** (IEMP, KLUP, SOU stewardship plan and Weloy forest stewardship plan). Some of these plans have been developed but not yet endorsed (i.e., IEMP), others are still under finalization (i.e., KLUP). To ensure the Pohnpei's IEMP is effectively handed over, the R2R project has budgeted and allocated funds for the development of a specific exit strategy for the IEMP, with the purpose of identifying next steps and best options for endorsement after project closure.
2. Development of TORs for the **establishment of cross-sector working groups** has occurred. The cross-sector working groups will likely play a committee role also for future activities related to the Protected Areas Network (PAN; outcome 2 of the R2R project).
3. **Rehabilitation of degraded upland forest, and mangroves and wetlands**, in the 4 states.
4. Establishment of **innovative technologies for reduction of pollution and improved water quality** in high islands watersheds (i.e., dry litter piggeries), and relative monitoring of water quality for assessing effectiveness of these systems.

Recommendations

- 1) **Formulation of strategic land use management plans:** In order to ensure structured and sustainable implementation of the Pohnpei IEMP, the IEMP's exit strategy should identify options and barriers for the sustainability of the plan, taking into consideration the role that IEMP plays in integrating existing Pohnpei state plans (e.g., Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan, Strategic Development Plan and Forest Action Plan). This activity (R2R's implementation activities) will be **phased out**. The exit strategy for the IEMP, developed through financial assistance from the R2R project, will ensure continuation of the IEMP. Conversely, the project may not meet the objective of finalizing the KLUP for Kosrae due to administrative changes and COVID-19 restrictions not allowing for enough time to fully complete the update. Therefore, **to ensure it is complete as possible** the R2R project, as per the 2022 work plan, will continue to provide support to Kosrae towards updating, advocacy and awareness of the KLUP until project closure. It is recommended for the R2R PIU to identify with Kosrae state the most suitable options for completion of the KLUP after project

closure. This activity **may require phasing over** the KLUP finalization to Kosrae government and the lead agency for KLUP implementation (KIRMA).

- 2) **Establishment of cross-sector working groups:** The cross-sector working groups should be actively engaged in developing the group Strategic Action Plan (SAP), which will define the purpose of the working group, its role and responsibilities, including the role and responsibilities of its members, the means for meetings and reporting, and its decisional power. This activity will be **phased over**, with responsibility for each state working group to fully operationalize the groups.
- 3) **Rehabilitation of degraded upland forest, and mangroves and wetlands:** Most of the rehabilitation activities under the R2R project have been completed and it is recommended completion by 19 August 2022 for all, including the monitoring of the rehabilitated sites. Therefore, this activity of the project should be **phased out**.
- 4) **Innovative technologies for reduction of pollution and improved water quality:** The project is considered to have fully met its objective of providing dry litter piggeries in Yap (Dachngar), Pohnpei (Pehleng) and Kosrae (Tofol-Mutannanea) it is recommended for this activity of the project to be **phased out**.
- 5) **Monitoring of water quality:** Conversely, at the time of the development of this Exit Strategy, the objective of the water quality testing has been partially met. It is recommended that measures of *E. coli* at the identified sites are conducted before 19 August 2022, in order for this activity to be **phased out**.

Outcome 1- Phasing out key remaining activities as from the work plan approved for the R2R project extension

Activity	Recommended Actions to the End of the Project
Hiring of Local Consultant for Kosrae SEA, and updating of the Kosrae Land Use Plan/Advocacy for the Kosrae Land Use Plan	- Initiate a discussion on possible options for completion of the KLUP
Establishment of the Pohnpei IEMP Coordination Unit/Advocacy of the Pohnpei IEMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the IEMP exit strategy is developed within the timeline proposed for the project closure. - Initiate a discussion with state partners to identify entity/agency to whom to phase over this activity if not completed before the project closure
National GIS specialist -for training and validation of maps	- Initiate coordination with states for GIS coordinates collection and transfer

Exit strategy based in the indicators from the FSM R2R project Logical framework for Outcome 1: Integrated Ecosystems Management and Rehabilitation on the High Islands of FSM to enhance Ridge to Reef Connectivity

LG#	Indicator	End of Project Target	Forecast status at End of Project		Exit Strategy	
			Information	Major R2R output	ES approach	Responsibility
1	Number of Integrated Environmental Management Plans (IEMP) and Forest Stewardship Plans being implemented	<p>Pohnpei State IEMP finalized and implemented, providing a model for replication in other States and Pacific Island Countries.</p> <p>At least 2 activities under the Weloy and SOU Forest Stewardship plans implemented</p>	<p>The TORs to establish an IEMP unit responsible for implementation and finalization of the plan have been approved and TOR for developing and exit strategy for the IEMP has been complemented and approved.</p> <p>The implementation of Weloy Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) and Chuuk's Forest Stewardship Plan for SOU community has continued throughout 2021 and 2022 accordingly to the project.</p>	<p>The SEA and IEMP for Pohnpei have been completed within the timeline but delay relative to the endorsement of the two documents, due to SARS-CoV-2, have setback this activity.</p> <p>The Weloy's SFP has been updated through a participatory process and 2 activities implemented. Similarly, 2 activities of the SOU's FSP have been implemented with communities</p>	Phase out	Nil
		<p>Kosrae Land Use Plan updated and implemented</p>	<p>The SEA for Kosrae was developed and is currently being finalized, but it is most likely that the KLUP will not be finalized by the end of the project</p>	<p>A Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) has been completed for Kosrae along with community consultations to inform the update of Kosrae's Land Use Plan</p>		

LG#	Indicator	End of Project Target	Forecast status at End of Project		Exit Strategy	
			Information	Major R2R output	ES approach	Responsibility
2	Revival of cross-sector working groups for integrated landscape management [New indicator]	4 Revival of (i) Pohnpei Resource Management Committee, (ii) Utwe & Malem resource Management Committees, (iii) Yap Environmental Stewardship Consortium and (iv) Chuuk Environmental Working Group	Formal establishment of the cross-sector working groups at the 4 states continued to be delayed due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. Therefore, the R2R project have adjusted to now have each state to prepare the SAPs internally or with the assistance of on-island consultants. It is likely that the groups may not be fully revitalized by Project closure.	It is foreseen that the cross-sector working groups will play a key role in subsequent planning and implementation of sustainable land use management and PAN.	Phase over	Priority for phase over: Operationalization of the cross-sector working groups through Strategic Action Plans (SAP) and endorsement
3	Extent (ha) of ecosystems rehabilitated* resulting in increased delivery of ecosystem and development benefits: (i) Upland forests (ii) Mangroves & wetlands	(i) 30 hectares (ii) 20 hectares Monitoring and maintenance of rehabilitated areas.	Rehabilitation of upland forest and mangroves is still ongoing at some states, but targets were met.	Upland forest and mangrove/wetland rehabilitation targets were met.	Phase out	Nil
4	% of piggeries using the dry litter piggery system within targeted catchments resulting in increased water quality	100% (Sites: Pehleng, Dachngar, Tofol-Mutannanea)	Construction of dry litter piggeries (DLPs) in Yap, Pohnpei and Kosrae was completed.	100% of the expected DLPs were constructed, helping to reduce pollution, and overall improving water quality in waterways within the target catchments.	Phase out	Nil

LG#	Indicator	End of Project Target	Forecast status at End of Project		Exit Strategy	
			Information	Major R2R output	ES approach	Responsibility
5	Maintained/increase water quality in target catchments through measurement of (i) E. coli (Pohnpei, Kosrae, Yap) and (ii) sedimentation (Chuuk). [New indicator]	(i) Decrease of E. coli concentration from the baseline (ii) Chuuk: decrease of sedimentation rates from baseline	Converting pigpens into DLPs and undertaking sedimentation control activities is the expected improvement in water quality. Changes in water quality is measured by assessing concentration of E. coli, a pig waste contaminant, and sedimentation in waterways	It is expected that the newly established dry litter piggeries (LG# 4) are helping to maintain or increase water quality within the target catchments. Sedimentation control activities for Chuuk were discussed, but the main implementing agency was not able to confirm activities/methods, and the activity was cancelled despite multiple offers of support from the R2R project. It is anticipated that sedimentation activities will instead be prioritized under GEF 7.	Phase out	Nil

4.3 Outcome 2: Management Effectiveness enhanced within new and existing Protected Areas on the High Islands of FSM as part of the R2R approach (both marine and terrestrial).

Overview of Outcome 2

The aim of this outcome was to improve the management effectiveness and sustainability of marine and terrestrial Protected Areas (PAs) through a nationwide network of PAs, to establish and enhance sustainable land and marine management practices to reduce existing environmental stressors and increase the resilience of communities and natural ecosystems to the impacts of climate change. In doing so, the R2R project is promoting the use of ecosystem-based approaches to maintain the flow of vital ecosystem services and sustain the livelihoods of local communities.

Summary of activities undertaken for each indicator:

Some of the activities undertaken included meaningful contributions to the formulation of PAN laws (institutionalization) and operationalization of the PAN framework:

1. Development/update of **institutional and legal frameworks to support PA** Management, including funding mechanisms - Several frameworks and mechanisms were established during the R2R Project timeframe, with three key PA related legislation/regulation development/updates (Kosrae, Pohnpei and Chuuk) delayed due to SARS-CoV-2.
2. Development of the Yap PAN Criteria (passed by YAPCAP Board) - Yap has developed PAN regulations, and officially launched PAN criteria during the May 2022 Yap PA learning exchange.
3. Implementation of Management Plans at priority sites per the R2R work plans
4. A nationwide operational management support system is being established through the FSM PAN policy framework, and complementary draft PAN operations manual, with state specific chapters, is under review for finalization.

Recommendations

- 1) **PAN institutional and legal framework:** In order to ensure structured and sustainable implementation of the project PAN related outcomes, it is recommended to communicate with FSM R&D, who will be responsible for coordinating PAN in line with PAN national policy and States policies/regulations on appropriate close out measures. It will be responsibility of each state to implement PAN within their state laws, regulations and criteria. The FSM R&D will oversee the process of PAN membership and manage the system, providing assistance as required by states.
- 2) All FSM R2R PA outputs should be shared with the National and state government stakeholders involved in PAN, so they can further integrate these results into policies/plans/and activities under their custody.
- 3) The FSM project outcomes, together with the results of progressive implementation for Outcome 2 of the project, should be shared with other key stakeholders (i.e., community-based organizations, NGOs, etc.).

Based on the above stated, it is recommended that this component of the project be **phased over for (1) and phased out for (2) to (3)**.

Outcome 2- Phasing out Remaining activities as from the work plan approved for the R2R project extension

Activity	Recommended Actions to the End of the Project
Support the implementation of the FSM PAN Framework (PAN Operations Manual)	Ensure TOR requirements are met within the contract timeframe and that activities are closed out by June 2022 Ensure that all information and materials are passed over to FSM R&D
Implementation of Management Plans (PAN Actions, priority sites of Kosrae, Chuuk and Yap)	Monitor implementation activities status with assistance from the PAN coordinators
Development/update of institutional and legal frameworks to support PA Management, including funding mechanisms	Ensure regular communication with FSM R&D and invite State PAN coordinators to regular progress calls and TAC meetings through operational closure. Have a close out session with FSM R&D to discuss recommendations for PAN OM and PAN in general.

Exit Strategy based in the indicators from the FSM R2 R project Logical framework for Outcome 2: Management Effectiveness enhanced within new and existing Protected Areas on the High Islands of FSM as part of the R2R approach (both marine and terrestrial).

LG#	Indicator	End of Project Target	Forecast status at End of Project		Exit Strategy	
			Information	Major R2R output	ES approach	Responsibility
1	Coverage (ha) of statutory PAs in the High Islands (i) PAs gazette status verified (ii) Marine (iii) Terrestrial (iv) Total	(i) Legal status of 40 PAs verified - 27 existing and 13 new gazette (ii) 25,000 ha (iii) 10,033 ha (iv) 24,986	Out of the 40 PA sites totaling 25,182.50 ha: (i) 22 are existing PAs (ii) 13, 508 ha marine (iii) 3,415 ha terrestrial (iv) 16,922.50 ha total Roughly (18) PAs remains to be gazette, (ii) 1630 ha marine and (iii) 6630 ha terrestrial, totaling (iv) 8,260 ha.	16,922.50 ha of PA has been legally designated	Phase out [For rationale see Recommendation (1,) p.12]	Nil
2	Number of States having a fully operational PA management decision support system in place on which management decisions are based	4	A PAN operations manual for the FSM, including state specific chapters, is being finalized.	The operation manuals will be the foundation to operationalize the PAN framework	Phase over	Priority for phase over: Institutionalization of OMs by FSM R&D with assistance from PAN coordinators
3	Mean % of total fish biomass of (i) <i>Cheilinus undulates</i> (EN); and (ii) <i>Bolbometopon muricatum</i> (VU) across the States	Stable or increasing mean % against baseline at each State Baseline: Chuuk: (i) 1.14% (ii) 0.22% Kosrae: (i) 1.52% (ii) 0.00% Pohnpei: (i) 5.2% (ii) 0.48% Yap: (i) 2.47% ; (ii) 4.70%	Assessment was completed showing % increase for both species across states.	Chuuk: (i) 3.18% (ii) 0.36% Kosrae: (i.) 2.40% (ii) 4.07% Pohnpei: (i) 2.35% (ii) 9.60% Yap: (i) 2.56% (ii) 4.51%	Phase out	Nil

LG#	Indicator	End of Project Target	Forecast status at End of Project		Exit Strategy	
			Information	Major R2R output	ES approach	Responsibility
4	Mean Detection Rate of the following birds: (i) Kosrae: Zosteropscinereus (Kosrae White-eye) Endemic (ii) Pohnpei: Myiagrapluto (Pohnpei Flycatcher) Endemic (iii) Chuuk: Metabolusrugensis (Truk Monarch) Endangered (iv) Yap: Monarchagodeffroyi (Yap Monarch) Endemic (v) All States: Ducula oceanica (Micronesian Pigeon) Regionally endemic	Stable or increasing against baseline	Data collection is complete for Pohnpei, Kosrae and Yap, and ongoing in Chuuk. Some delays experienced due to weather, travel restrictions, data transfer, and slow procurement/agreement requirements from UNDP with the supporting consultant.		Phase out	Nil

LG: Logical Framework

4.4 Summary on priority actions identified to phasing over project components and/or activities

Logical Framework	Initiative	Justification	Responsibility	FSM R2R Priority Action
Project Objective	Area of High Islands of the FSM where pressures from competing land uses are reduced (measured by no net loss of intact forests) through the implementation of Integrated Landscape Management Plans* *For example: Pohnpei Integrated Environmental Management Plan, Kosrae Land use Plan, Weloy (Yap) and Sapo, Oror and Ununo (SOU, Chuuk) Stewardship Plans)	<p>R2R made substantial investments into the development and operationalization of ILMPs. Additional support will be required for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on ILMPs at the 4 states. - Ensure sustainability of the IEMP coordinator role. - Ensure endorsement of the Kosrae KLUP. - Use of spatial information resources for sustainable land use planning. - Continuous support to communities for sustainable land management, including capacity building and technical assistance. 	Lead: state implementing agencies and partners, and national R&D	It is important that key stakeholders are informed on the project outputs under this component to facilitate a transparent transition to the lead entities to fully realize legislative commitments and build awareness on pending legislations.

Logical Framework	Initiative	Justification	Responsibility	FSM R2R Priority Action
Outcome 1	Revival of four (4) cross-sector working groups for integrated landscape management	The establishment and operationalization of the states cross-sector working groups provide a strong foundation for subsequent planning and implementation of both sustainable land use plans and PAN.	Lead: Pohnpei Soil and Water Conservation District*, Utwe & Malem resource Management Committees, Yap Environmental Stewardship Consortium and Chuuk Environmental Working Group	It is crucial that the 4 states cross-sector working groups have in place, by the end of the project, SAPs detailing the role and responsibility of the group, their decisional power and operational framework. To ensure this, R2R has developed TORs for consultants to assist the groups stakeholders in developing their SAPs. The monitoring of these activities is important for its completion.
Outcome 2	Finalization of the National and States OMs	R2R made substantial investments into the institutionalization of PAN. Significant additional support will be required to continue important initiatives set up through R2R funding and fully realize legislative commitments. These initiatives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of a PAN National Coordinator - Ensure sustainability of PAN coordinators roles - Awareness on PAN and PAN operations manuals at national and state level - Endorsement of Operations manuals by states to effectively operationalize the PAN framework 	Lead: FSM R&D with assistance from States PAN coordinators	It is crucial to establish good communication with FSM R&D, who will be responsible for coordinating PAN in line with PAN national policy and States policies/regulations. Also, it will be important to continue R2R efforts in engaging with State PAN coordinators. The modalities of these communications will be defined by R2R and R&D. It is recommended to have a close out session with FSM R&D to discuss recommendations for PAN OM.

ANNEX 1. Overview of R2R implementing agencies and agencies mandated for the implementation of PAN

Overview of R2R implementing agencies (as for R2R Project Document) and national and states agencies mandated for the implementation of PAN

R2R Executive Entity: DECEM		PAN implementing agencies as for existing legislations or government decision	
R2R Implementing Entity/Responsible Partners			
Department/ Agency		Existing legislation- laws and regulations	PAN responsible Agency
National Government	Department of Resources and Development - Division of Marine Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PAN National Guiding Policy Framework - FSM PAN Operation Manual-<u>under review</u> 	FSM R&D PAN Focal point within the Division of Marine Resources
Chuuk State	Department of Agriculture; Environmental Protection Agency (MC* focal point)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chuuk Protected Areas Network Act of 2017 - Chuuk State Operation Manual <u>chapter</u>-under review 	Department of Marine Resources
Pohnpei State	R&D Division of Land and Natural Resources; Environmental Protection Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pohnpei Marine Resources Conservation Act of 1981 - Pohnpei Watershed Forest Reserve and Mangrove Protection Act of 1987 - Marine Sanctuary and Wildlife Refuge Act of 1999 - amended in 2017 to add protected areas - Pohnpei State Operation Manual chapter-under review 	Department of Resources and Development
Kosrae State	Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority (KIRMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protected Area Act of 2010 - Kosrae State Operation Manual chapter-under review 	KIRMA
Yap State	Department of Resources and Development; Environmental Protection Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yap State Operation Manual chapter-under review 	Under discussion

*MC: Micronesia Challenge