



Pacific R2R Programme Workshop

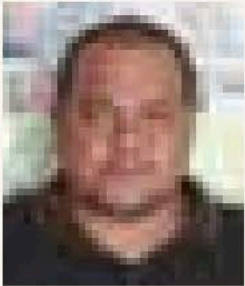
Most Significant Change

The GEF Pacific STAR R2R Project - FSM



Name of Person recording story	Marston Luckymis
Name of storyteller	Blair P. Charley
Date of recording	26 th of June 2019
When did it happened	2016

Dry Litter Piggeries in Kosrae



Blair P. Charley

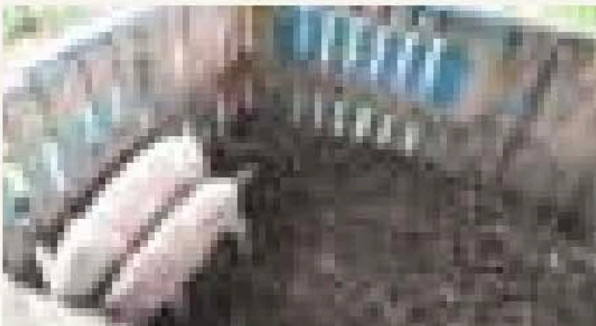
My name is Blair P. Charley. I'm from Kosrae, Federated States of Micronesia. I am the Administrator for the Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority (KIRMA). I became involved with the Ridge to Reef (R2R) project 2016. At that time, I was the R2R State Coordinator for the project. Since then, my involvement has continued through KIRMA as the focal-point for the R2R in Kosrae.

Some changes that have resulted from the project include improved collaboration between National and State governments, revival of the Kosrae Conservation and Environment Taskforce (KCET) to support enforcement of environmental laws, greater awareness and buy-in from stakeholders on the dry litter piggery technology, improved working relationships between government, NGOs and communities, etc.

Among all, I would say the dry litter piggery (DLP) efforts of the project has created the most impact in Kosrae. The project selected four farmers to pilot DLPs in each of the municipalities in Kosrae and funded trainings for farmers on the operation of DLPs, including the use of compost as fertilizers. The basis of having a state-wide demonstration of the dry litter piggery method was significant to ensuring wider education and awareness on the benefits of DLPs, as well as leverage support for sustainable farming practices such as the use of compost fertilizers. This effort has gained so much interest among the general public that the FSM Congress recently appropriated 20K to support further expansion of DLPs in Kosrae.



Portably Dry Litter Piggery (DLP) in Kosrae



Preparation of wood chips for DLPs in Kosrae

Prior to the Project Inception, there were no DLPs in Kosrae. We've heard stories of a successful DLP project in Uh, Pohnpei State, where famers can borrow from its revolving fund to construct their piggeries and pay back by selling their compost fertilizers. This financing mechanism not only helped maintain the funds to further expand DLPs in Uh, but also became a source of income for farmers. This was such a success that they expanded to extracting bio-fuel to support cooking. With support from the R2R project, we are now able to construct and promote DLPs in all of Kosrae. The Kosrae Women in Farming, for example, is one of our

partners actively promoting this concept to support their organization for farming purposes. One DLP, located at KIRMA, is regularly visited by interested community members.

After the project has completed, we will continue to seek support for more establishment of DLPs. With more and more buy-in from stakeholders on the DLP concept, the future of our water resources looks very promising.