

rd
3 Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

REPORT OF PLATFORM PROCEEDINGS

August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk



Federated States of Micronesia National Government
Department of Environment, Climate Change and
Emergency Management
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform was held in Chuuk, FSM at the Governor's Auditorium from August 30th to September 1st, 2023, under the theme “enhancing synergies for a resilient tomorrow”. Representatives from State and National Governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), regional and international partners, and community-based organizations presented on topics related to environment, disaster risk management, and climate change, sharing updates, challenges, and opportunities to collaborate. Vigorous discussions were held in each session, resulting in recommendations that were further deliberated and ranked. The top five (5) ranking recommendations for each day were refined at the conclusion of the event, resulting in fifteen (15) final priority recommendations:

1. That a resolution is in place for R&D to take the lead in developing legislation on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) to be adopted by Congress
2. That State EPAs/KIRMA work with DOJ to investigate and cite responsible parties to remove abandoned vessels in the harbors and shorelines, including airplanes.
3. That the States ensure sufficient planning, accurate, timely and quality reporting for COMPACT funds
4. That State and National Governments update the State of Environment Report and National Environment Management Strategy (NEMS).
5. DECEM to support the States in building their capacities for accessing and implementing COMPACT funds, provided that DECEM receives the proposed annual \$650K from Compact.
6. That the State and National leadership consider allocating dedicated emergency funds that can be immediately mobilized during disasters
7. That the States adopt the proposed Coordination Unit by DECEM, and help strengthen the capacities of the States EPAs in accessing COMPACT Funds and timely submission of quality reports.
8. That the States and National government agree on a standardized procedure for assessment damages for disasters
9. That the States develop sea safety plans
10. That State and National Governments update the JSAPs, State Disaster Response Plans and SOPs
11. That the State allocate Compact Funding for the LIDAR
12. Recommend to have at least 1 per person per State to be trained as grant writers
13. That the States create permeant positions and allocate funds to sustain the Climate Change Officers post termination of the NAP Project
14. That future projects consider investing portions of their respective grant awards into admin costs for host agencies
15. That the States train dedicated staff for data analysis

These recommendations will be reported on in the next (4th) Joint Platform, proposed to be held in Yap State in 2025.

All presentations and other relevant documents from the 3rd Joint Platform can be found in the Annexes for the Report of Platform Proceedings, and on the FSM Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Data Portal.

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INTRODUCTION

Background

The 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform took place in Chuuk, FSM at the Governor’s Auditorium from August 30th to September 1st, 2023. Funded by the FSM National Government, in collaboration with the Chuuk State Government and other donor partners including the Micronesia Conservation Trust, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), USAID, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China, the platform was held under the theme “enhancing synergies for a resilient tomorrow” with the following objectives:

- Take stock of and review recommendations from previous platforms
- Discuss and strengthen collaboration of National and State Activities related to the Environment, Climate Change and Resource Management.
- Sharing of disaster preparedness, response and recovery plans, activities and projects. Improve effectiveness of disaster response

Nearly 200 participants, representing State and National Governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), regional and international partners, community-based organizations, and students from the Saramen Chuuk Academy (SCA), participated in the 3-day event to discuss key environmental topics, and build consensus on strategies for strengthening collaboration to increase resilience. Refer to Annex 1 for participants.

OPENING CEREMONY

Opening Remarks

The Master of Ceremony, Mr. Richard Moufa, officiated the opening ceremony, first by expressing the FSM National Government’s gratitude to the government and people of Chuuk State for hosting the event. In his remarks, the MC acknowledged the traditional owners of the land, and the Chuuk State Government, in particular the Narruhn and William administration, for its leadership and gracious support to the event.

The Honorable Alexander Narruhn of Chuuk State delivered the welcoming remarks by reinvigorating the Platform with the reminder that while “climate change is here to stay...resilience is in our DNA”. Mr. Andrew R. Yatilman, Consultant for the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management (DECCEM), during his opening statement on behalf of his Excellency, President Wesley W. Simina, stressed the importance of working together to address cross-cutting issues affecting the environment and sustainable livelihoods, which have the greatest impact on FSM’s most vulnerable communities. He concluded by urging the participants to take advantage of the opportunity to be actively engaged by sharing their experiences, voicing their concerns, and offering recommendations so that everyone can walk away with a shared commitment for enhanced collaboration.

Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Following the conclusion of the formal opening, the MC opened the floor by inviting the participants to nominate a Chair and Vice Chair for the 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform. The Director of the Pohnpei State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Mr. Francisco Celestine, nominated Mr. Bradford Mori, whose nomination was seconded by the Director of the Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority (KIRMA), Mr. Steven Palik. For the role of Vice Chair, the Chuuk State Disaster Coordinating Officer (DCO), Mr. Justin Fritz, nominated Mr. Nena William, whose nomination was seconded by the Yap State DCO and Director of the Office of Planning and Budget (OPB), Mr. Ivan Kadannged.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Chair directed the platform participants to the agenda, and invited them to review and provide their comments, if any. No changes were proposed; therefore, Director Francisco Celestine proposed to adopt the agenda and was seconded by Director Ivan Kadannged. The agenda was adopted without modification. Refer to Annex 2 for a copy of the final agenda.

SESSION 1: REVIEW OF PREVIOUS PLATFORM RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 2018 Recommendations

Mr. Chair invited Ms. Cynthia H. Ehmes, Acting Secretary for DECEM, to the stage where she provided an update on the status of the twenty-two (22) recommendations, adopted during the 2nd joint platform in 2018, and three (3) recommendations retained from the 1st platform in 2016. Unlike previous years, the 3rd joint platform undertook a stock take of prior recommendations, an attempt intended to improve tracking of progress against the platform's endorsed actions. In her presentation, the Acting Secretary shared that seven (7) recommendations were complete, six (6) were ongoing and twelve (12) remained pending. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 1.1 presentation.

Discussion

An update on the proposed Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) legislation was requested, as it had been a recommendation for years with very limited progress. Additionally, to acquaint those unfamiliar to the ABS, it was advised that the platform provides the contextual information for sound decision-making. The ABS, a concept under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), establishes that when an individual/institution seeks access to genetic resources in a foreign country, the person/institution must negotiate and agree on the terms and conditions of access to the resources, including sharing of benefits arising from the use of the resources. In the FSM, an ABS framework exists at the national level through the FSM Department of Resources and Development (R&D) as the focal point for CBD. However, no legislation is in place due to complex land tenure systems in the FSM, and the States are therefore encouraged to develop their own respective legislations. Kosrae has an ABS act, and Chuuk has an ABS section in its Protected Area Network (PAN) legislation which could be extended beyond protected areas. Recognizing the rights of landowners to the benefits arising from their resources, it was recommended to retain the ABS recommendation from 2018 with slight modifications, i.e., that DECEM and R&D secure a legislation for adoption by Congress.

Another issue raised was regarding the inclusion of La Nina as a priority recommendation for 2018, despite El Nino presenting far greater concerns for the nation. In response, it was clarified that La Nina was prioritized in 2018 due to pre-existing efforts for addressing El Nino. Further discussions revealed that more could be done to address El Nino, hence, it was recommended that the States and the National government secure projects to address both La Nina and El Nino.

Key to the discussions was the issue of the lack of appropriate reporting, which was brought up in recognition that the last platform did not having a meeting report for reference, particularly on the recommendations. This issue was made apparent in the earlier discussion of why La Nina was prioritized over El Nino. While the participants were able to rely on clarifications from those who participated in the 2018 platform, it was evident that capturing the discussions through a formal meeting report was crucial to understanding how such decisions/recommendations were made. This also raised an important point i.e. accurate and timely submission of quality reports, which is a requirement under the renegotiated Compact of Free Association (COFA). To access Compact Funds, recipients must demonstrate the ability to plan effectively, as well report against their performances. As such, it was recommended that the States should ensure accurate, timely and quality reporting for Compact Funds.

The issue regarding abandoned vessels in the harbors and shorelines was shared as still pending, bringing the discussions to the hazard that this poses to the environment. When vessels deteriorate, they can discharge debris and potentially harmful substances into the marine environment. Therefore, it was recommended to maintain it as a priority recommendation for the platform, but to include airplanes now that there is a rise in deserted crashed aircrafts in the FSM.

Further to the aforesaid issue were discussions around the need to maintain a registry of man-made disasters and natural disasters, including any damage responses by the States. This came out as a result of concerns over limited information/awareness on effort responses, and the need to make better informed decisions based on lessons learned. Hence, it was recommended that the States maintain and upkeep a record to inform future decision-making when responding to disasters.

Additionally, the recommendation to develop community drought response plans was retained, noting that the development of community disaster plans is in progress, but not drought plans. Other suggestions included the need to revisit key plans and policies that are due for updates. These include disaster response plans, the Joint State Action Plans (JSAPs), the State of the Environment (SOE) Report, National Environment Management Strategy (NEMS). The value of capacity building in all aspects of planning and development in each state was further stressed, along with the need for any state or agency plan to consider the following for sustainability, effectiveness and success: technical feasibility in relation for the practices/recommendations to be conducted in communities, social acceptance by the communities considering gender sensitivity; environmental safety and soundness; economic viability; and political acceptable at all levels, including local and traditional leaders.

SESSION 2: UPDATES ON ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

2.1 Kosrae State Environmental Activities

The Chair invited Kosrae State to take the stage and present on Kosrae’s environmental activities. Mr. Steven Palik, Director for the Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority (KIRMA), presented on Kosrae’s activities, noting one particular highlight i.e. Kosrae’s ABS Act. Challenges include limited funding, resources and capacity to effectively carry out their roles. For opportunities to collaborate, several ongoing projects were identified, including the need to establish MOUs with State, Communities and NGOs to avoid duplication of efforts. As a recommendation, Kosrae State requested that a resolution be in place for the development of an ABS legislation for the FSM, and for DECEM to take the lead. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.1 presentation.

2.2 Pohnpei State Environmental Activities

Pohnpei State’s presentation, led by Director Francisco Celestine, noted among its highlights the completion of a recycling facility, establishment of a dredging moratorium and climate change policy, demarcation of the Kitti Watershed, and restoration of 4.6 acres of mangrove forests and 6.7 acres of watershed areas (the last two achievements were made through the R2R project). Similar to Kosrae, funding and human resources were identified as key challenges, including enforcement and compliance. As a way forward, Pohnpei State recommended working with DECEM and other agencies to secure funding of key activities, the AG’s office for deputization of enforcement officers, and the Pohnpei Department of Health and Social Affairs to mainstream GEDSI into its efforts. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.2 presentation.

2.3 Chuuk State Environmental Activities

Ms. Joyce Sewell, the Solid Waste Management Manager for Chuuk State EPA, presented on Chuuk’s activities, noting the rehabilitation of the Neauo dumpsite was near completion (90% complete), removal of used oil from sunken ships in the lagoon, and R2R project highlights, i.e., completion of resource management plans for Kuop and Witipon and implementation of the SOU Forest Stewardship Plan. The geographical distance of the islands in Chuuk was noted as a major challenge, including limited technical capacity and illegal dumping. Interagency partnership and data-sharing was a key area for collaboration, identified by Chuuk. To help address these, Chuuk State recommended additional trainings for capacity building, and funding of policies/legislations to be secured to improve enforcement. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.3 presentation.

2.4 Yap State Environmental Activities

Yap State’s environmental activities were presented by Acting Director for the Yap State EPA, Mr. Jordan Mautaman. In his presentation, he noted the completion of the R2R project, JPRISM 2 and the RENI project, among others, as Yap’s major achievements since the last platform. Similar to the previous presenters, Yap noted COVID as a challenge and poor coordination between projects and relevant stakeholders. As a way forward, Yap recommended better planning and coordination between State and National governments, and ensuring that communities are involved with State agencies during the planning stage. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.4 presentation.

Discussion

Kosrae State was recognized for its efforts in pursuing an ABS Act. Furthermore, with the absence of a legislation at the National level, it was recommended that DECEM work with R&D to develop a proposed legislation for consideration by Congress.

Pohnpei State's proposed bill for banning of export on resources was discussed, with clarifications made that there is a rise in exporting of resources, e.g. sand and gravel, to other States and foreign countries. As such, Pohnpei State will be looking into funding options to build the capacities of State agencies to implement the law, should it be adopted.

Additionally, the issue of plastics was deliberated, with concerns raised regarding the continued use of plastics despite laws banning them. Chuuk, who recently adopted a plastic law that also includes banning of Styrofoam, was challenged with the other States to strengthen their enforcement efforts with their counterparts, i.e., FSM Customs and Tax. Plastics, as discussed, continue to be distributed by businesses for various reasons, i.e., lack of enforcement, limited alternatives, and lack of awareness on its environmental impacts. To strengthen enforcement, Customs recommended that the EPAs and KIRMA exercise their authority to confiscate plastics when seen on store shelves, as Customs can only confiscate them if caught during importation, noting that not all containers get inspected. Furthermore, relevant agencies were encouraged to look at other countries within the region to learn from their best practices and lessons learned, e.g., increase awareness through public awareness campaigns, educate the public on alternatives, i.e., reusable bags, eco-friendly food containers and utensils, and planting bamboo trees, as they serve multiple purposes including plates, baskets, prevention of erosion, etc. Taking into consideration the need to further strengthen enforcement on plastics, it was recommended that EPAs and Customs increase enforcement of their plastic laws through improved awareness, alternatives, incentives and inspections.

Further to the discussions on lessons learned and best practices, mainstreaming Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) into environmental work was raised as a critical intervention. Since there have been numerous projects implemented by women groups, youth groups and other social groups in the FSM, it was pointed out that there may be lessons learned and drawn from their experiences that could provide potential interventions to translate into policy. This brought up a critical point: the need for monitoring and evaluation. While the FSM is fortunate to have agencies such as SPC maintain data on its behalf, the issue of ensuring the transfer of information and knowledge from the grassroots up to the national level for policy-making remains. Therefore, a recommendation was put forth for monitoring and reporting to be standardized, and data-sharing to be improved.

Lack of funding for implementation of priority activities was also discussed as a major challenge for the State governments. Potential funding sources were discussed, including the Environment Sector Grant under the renegotiated Compact, which is expected to increase from approximately 20 million to 30 million USD annually. With the anticipated increase in funding, States were encouraged to prioritize building their capacities to access project funds. While lack of funding does contribute to project delays, spending is also a major challenge, as evident in the Adaptation Fund (AF) and similar projects. Furthermore, with the requirements of the new Compact becoming more stringent than in previous years, it is crucial that the States have strong and robust systems

(i.e. reporting, monitoring and evaluation, etc.) in place demonstrating that they have the ability to spend such funds prior to accessing them. Therefore, the panel recommended that that DECEM support the States in building their capacities for accessing Compact Funds.

For recycling and removal of other hazardous materials, i.e., oil spills and junk cars, questions were raised on why aluminum cans are being recycled in Pohnpei, but not plastic bottles, and what efforts are in place for the removal of oil spills and junk cars. It was clarified that it can be challenging to get companies interested in purchasing used plastic bottles at such low volumes of plastics, which would require more collaborative collection compared to aluminum cans. Thus, the States are looking into other technologies for recycling plastics. Some plastic recycling is scheduled to begin in Pohnpei in 2024 with an 11-month contract with CREATE, supported by USAID CLEAN CITY, BLUE OCEAN, and Yap has an ongoing plastic recycling program. For oil spills, using the example of Chuuk, it was shared that Chuuk previously requested the assistance of Japan to extract oil from the WWII wreck, but they are being stored. If leaked, these could potentially be harmful to the environment and the people. Recently, a company based in Guam was identified to assist Chuuk with its oil removal efforts. While the company is willing to assist with removal of other waste materials, the services are quite costly and require funding. End-of-Life Vehicle (ELV) removal in Pohnpei, with support from the Nett Scrap metal company, is in progress. It was shared that the state is collecting ELVs, to be shipped once funding is secured through the legislature. Given the costs of exporting solid and chemical waste, it was recommended that States cost-share to remove plastics, vehicles, oil, etc.

2.5 National Ozone Unit

Presented by Ms. Natasha Nakasone, progress made since the last platform from the National Ozone Unit include amendment of the FSM regulations on controlled substances and completion of HPMP (Stage 1) and Institutional Strengthening (IS) Phase VII in 2022, and 67.5% reduction step for HCFC (1.66 metric tons). Challenges include lack of capacity for proper storage and/or disposal of refrigerants, limited involvement from the private sector, and failure to comply with the regulations on controlled substances. Recommendations to address such challenges include working closely with state counterparts to ensure compliance with the regulations on controlled substances, conducting consultations with the private sector for the amendment of said regulations, and placing of additional staff under the NOU to assist with monitoring and implementation of project activities. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.5 presentation.

2.6 Chemical Waste Management Project

The presentation on the FSM Chemical Waste Management Project was conducted by Mr. Yota Oue, the lead consultant for the project. An overview of the project was provided, including ongoing project activities and opportunities for collaboration. These include developing Databases and Reporting Mechanisms, using technology tools to automate reporting and communications with stakeholders, strategic Planning for State EPAs and Policy Development & Technical Training. Additionally, the project recommended improving the quality and frequency of data collection, especially with projects/programs that depend on customs import data to obtain baselines on chemicals, vehicles, fuel, refrigerants, etc., establishing Standard Operating

Procedures for chemical imports and exploring ways to collect data to improve current operational or reporting processes. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.6 presentation.

2.7 INFORM Portal

A presentation on the INFORM portal, an online data repository, was presented by DECEM's Communications and IT Specialist, Mr. Skiis Dewey. In his presentation, Mr. Dewey provided a short tutorial on how to navigate the portal, and shared information on the types of data that can be found on the portal, which can be accessed by anyone. More importantly, the need to utilize the portal for storage of key documents was highlighted, noting that trained personnel at State level can upload documents as needed. Key environmental documents, including project reports, newsletters, policies, and legislation, can be found on the portal. To wrap up, he encouraged the States to take advantage of the portal by uploading their key documents for data sharing and storage. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.7 presentation.

Discussion

The lack of compliance to the FSM regulations on controlled substances, under the Montreal Protocol, was discussed with concerns relating to fees being too high for businesses. Businesses that import hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) must obtain licenses, and fees are charged per shipment and each type of HFCs imported, prompting the need to revisit the regulations for amendment to ensure manageable fees for businesses, including increased awareness and enforcement of the needed laws. Furthermore, the industries impacted the most are those that use refrigeration and air conditioning, i.e., fishing vessels, car shops, hardware stores, etc.

Penalties regarding illegal imports were discussed, including when businesses misreport the amount of HFCs being imported. It was explained that the licenses clarify how much each business is allowed to import. If businesses exceed how much they can import, they are automatically penalized. To help build the capacities of relevant agencies in monitoring of such gases, DECEM, in collaboration with Customs, holds a training every year to ensure appropriate agencies at State and National level are able to detect importation of illegal HFCs and if businesses are importing more than they're allowed.

Questions regarding consumption of HFCs were raised, with clarifications made that all parties to the Montreal Protocol are allowed a certain amount that they can consume. The FSM is allowed to import 1.6 metric ton, but to date it has only been importing a negligible amount. As a party to the Montreal Protocol, and champion at the world stage, the FSM aims to phase out ozone depleting gases due to their high global warming potential.

2.8 US EPA – Region 9

Ms. Angela Sandoval, the Freely Associated States (FAS) Circuit Rider for the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), presented on the agency's efforts in the FSM. The Circuit Rider is a newer position, based in Guam, that provides a point of contact for the FAS nations, enabling more effective and efficient travel and communications related to environmental issues and solutions. Ms. Sandoval summarized EPA's support to the FAS, i.e., inspection of water and wastewater

facilities, solid waste management systems, drinking water surveys, waste inventories and assessments, and regulatory and technical assistance. Funding opportunities for prioritized environmental projects in the FSM were shared, including unallocated Compact Funds which was also identified as an area for collaboration. In summary, the US EPA aims to safeguard the environmental health of the FAS by addressing environmental deficiencies such as inadequate water infrastructure, open dumps, and unaddressed hazardous waste sites, and building local protection by providing resources, technical assistance and trainings. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.8 presentation.

2.9 Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT)

Mr. Winfred Mudong, the Deputy Director for Capacity Building and Livelihoods, presented on MCT's ongoing and upcoming activities, with a focus on its Bill Raynor Micronesia Challenge (BRMC) Scholarship. Since its launch, the Bill Raynor Scholarship has funded 21 scholars from across the Micronesia Region, 11 of which are from the FSM. While it has been successful, recruitment rates are still low, and keeping them within the region is also a challenge. Furthermore, to sustain the program, MCT recommended funding raising for the BRMC endowment fund to help improve the capacity gap within the FSM. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.9 presentation.

2.9 The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Ms. Elizabeth Terk, the Director for Conservation Science and Planning, presented on TNC's progress since 2018, noting development of Local Early Action Plans (LEAPs) for communities in the FSM and support provided to Pohnpei EPA for the amendment of its Climate Change Policy to include nature-based solutions (Nbs). Challenges include limited capacity and lack of coordination, inefficient use of resources and duplication of efforts. For opportunities to collaborate, TNC noted its learning exchanges for women groups and technical support. The presentation concluded with the following recommendations: development of CCA/NbS/DRR curriculum for schools (at all levels); improved coordination –DRR/CCA working group and standardized content/requirements for DRR or CCA planning. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 2.10 presentation.

Discussion

Discussion included the types of parameters the State EPAs and KIRMA, with assistance from the US EPA, are able to measure. Currently, the State EPAs and KIRMA can only measure water quality, but there have been on-going discussions regarding the need to expand the parameters. To do so, it was shared that the States need to look into their relevant regulations to determine what they're allowed to do. However, the main challenge in expanding the parameters has been associated with the costs. For example, most samples require being sent to the US mainland for testing. The remoteness of islands in the Pacific makes this a challenge, particularly in meeting the requirements of the sampling. Furthermore, with water quality being a priority, the States were encouraged to take advantage of Compact as a source of funding, as they will require technical capacities to effectively carry out their roles.

Additionally, queries were raised on previous and current food security projects for purpose of aligning efforts between State and National projects, to which responses include collaborating with State level agriculture agencies help small-scale efforts towards community-established nurseries, and building capacities of women groups through trainings. While at a small-scale level, these food security projects aim to diversify food options for communities to reduce their reliance on imported goods, and supports erosion control and food security through re-planting of lemon grass and fruit trees that complement/supplement work done on a National scale.

Deliberations also covered limited technical skills in country as a major issue. Opportunities to help build the capacities of FSM citizens were discussed, including the Bill Raynor Micronesia Challenge Scholarship, which provides the opportunity for Micronesian citizens to undertake either a Master's or Doctorate degree in any resource management or conservation field at any institution in the Pacific or the US. The scholarship also requires that scholars return to their respective homes to work for at least two years. This allows them to gain working experience, as well as the opportunity to contribute to the sustainable development of the FSM. In order to support this important endeavor, donating to the scholarship fund was encouraged, and many platform participants made contributions. The total amount raised by the end of the platform was \$1,300.

SESSION 3: UPDATES ON DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

3.1 Yap State DRM Activities

Mr. Ivan Kadannged, Yap State Disaster Coordinating Officer (DCO) and Director for the Yap Office of Planning and Budget, provided updates on Yap's ongoing disaster preparedness efforts, such as the renovation of the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) building. The Yap DCO also shared the need to update the State Disaster Plan and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), while recommending to improve collaboration amongst partners. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 3.1 presentation.

3.2 Chuuk State DRM Activities

Mr. Justin Fritz, Chuuk State DCO, presented on progress made since 2018, including recovery after Typhoon Wutip in 2019 and the King Tide event in 2021, and noted ongoing awareness efforts on topics such as tsunami readiness and disaster risk reduction. It was highlighted that Chuuk is the first and only state with a dedicated DCO office that doesn't have a dual role. Mr. Fritz also shared some emergency response challenges, such as mobilizing funds and the logistical difficulty of reaching Chuuk's many inhabited islands. In response, Chuuk recommended securing a dedicated vessel for response, and establishing a disaster fund to support emergency related activities. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 3.2 presentation.

3.3 Pohnpei State DRM Activities

Lt. Jason Gonzaga from the Pohnpei State Department of Public Safety (DPS), representing the DCO, elaborated on Pohnpei's ongoing public safety and disaster response activities, including trainings, evacuation drills, and the radio awareness program. He also emphasized the need for

collaboration, in particular with the municipal governments. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 3.3 presentation.

3.4 Emergency Division

Mr. Michael Yarofaitoar, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Response & Recovery, and Mr. Morthy Solomon, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Hazard Mitigation, from the Emergency Division of DECEM gave an overview of activities at the national and state level, including state tabletop exercises, both completed and planned. They reiterated some of the challenges previously mentioned by the DCOs, and provided additional recommendations, including that the State DCO, DECEM, FSM TC&I (Infrastructure Division) and FSM R&D (Agriculture Division) work together to Standardize a Formula for estimation cost of damages. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 3.4 presentation.

Discussion

Initial discussion in this segment involved understanding of the contributors during an emergency in which it was shared that the DCO collaborates with the Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRCS), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other partners, and that for inclement weather and approaching disasters, the states utilize information from NOAA initially to warn outer island communities. It was shared that in recent Table Top Exercises hosted in Yap and Chuuk State, a shared challenge between the 2 State DCOs includes access to quick and immediate funding in an emergency, describing that current processes can delay assistance. This was a sentiment shared also in earlier presentations. It was stated that such a shared challenge required intervention from State and National level. Thus, it was recommended to have a dedicated emergency fund that can be immediately mobilized without a long process, or with a simplified means of accessing funds.

Similarly, it was noted that key services, *i.e.*, electricity, water, transportation etc., are often-impacted by a disaster or emergency, and delays in accessing funds to restore them further contributes to slow recovery efforts. To address the issue, the option of enrolling in an insurance scheme was proposed. There was interest from the platform in enrolling in an insurance program, as there are limitations with the existing disaster fund due to required thresholds and the need for concurrence from the US Embassy. While efforts are underway with the World Bank, which has approximately 6 million available to the FSM for disaster relief, it is crucial that the FSM expands its options to improve recovery efforts. It was noted that currently Congress contributes 200K annually to the existing emergency fund, and if the decision is to enroll in an insurance scheme, participants need to encourage their State policy makers to contribute to the annual fee. Thus it was recommended that DECEM promote FSM's membership to the Pacific Catastrophic Risk Insurance Company, and State corporations commit to funding the premium costs and obtain the policy payouts.

It was noted during the presentations, and further mentioned during the discussion, that, while the JSAPs had been updated since the previous platform in 2018, they were currently due for an update along with the disaster response plans. It was recommended that both be updated.

While state-level disaster plans are in place, there were inquiries in the room regarding municipal level disaster plans. Participants inquired about the number of completed and endorsed municipal level disaster response plans, as it has been a longstanding action item. It was then reported back that the development of municipal level plans has been a challenge, as each state has its own land tenure system, governance, and plan development process requiring the involvement of many support agencies. While preparing the plans can take time, the need to increase development efforts was stressed, as disasters can occur at any time. Having completed plans readily available helps to ensure that the National government is aware of municipal level needs, and enables it to develop concepts for projects and support if opportunities arise that have limited time for preparation. Municipal level plans are also often requested by donors who offer assistance to the FSM. Thus, it was recommended that the States develop at least 12 disaster response plans at the Municipal level.

It was shared that for the Kosrae State DCO, as they are piloting community, municipal and state joint enforcement initiatives, the struggle to secure effective communication equipment, which includes VHF radios and walkie talkies, remains. Improving communication equipment is crucial, not just for outer islands, but also in places where the terrain such as mountains inhibits the use of walkie talkies. Some projects are currently enhancing equipment, and it's also included in a new concept submitted to Japan for Phase 2 of the EDCR project.

There was an inquiry regarding dissemination of disaster response protocols, whether a manual was available for sharing especially for students in Science courses who could potentially assist in knowledge transfer of such protocols to their families. It was noted that awareness materials, such as brochures with comics, are available, which are better suited for schools and the public to learn about being prepared.

Additional discussion focused on post-disaster assessments, and the ways in which these are conducted in the States. It was pointed out that there have been instances where the DCOs and TC&I conducted damage assessments of a same area that resulted in varying outcomes, e.g. costs analysis, which have led to frustrations in both communities and DCOs, highlighting that there is no established standard formula that is being followed. Thus, it was recommended that the States and National government agree on a standardized procedure for assessing damages for disasters.

Students from the Saramen Chuuk Academy (SCA) joined the audience to listen in during Session 3, and as requested by participants, DECEM provided them with a brief explanation of the background and purpose of the joint platform for their understanding. Platform participants then encouraged the students to ask questions during the conference, reach out to DECEM staff for further information after, and to continue their studies in science related fields. Opportunities, such as becoming SIDS ambassadors or Red Cross volunteers, were also shared.

SESSION 3: UPDATES ON DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

3.5 International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Mr. Ahmadi Gul Mohammed, Deputy Chief of Party for IOM, presented on support provided by IOM since 2018 and ongoing, including provision of supplies, trainings, youth summits, technical assistance, and infrastructure. He noted challenges related to the weather, procurement and shipping, including opportunities for collaboration toward better preparedness. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 3.5 presentation.

3.6 Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRCS)

Mr. Frank Isao, Jr., Executive Director for MRCS, provided an overview of progress made, such as a strategic action plan, a community resilience project and ongoing activities. He also noted challenges of MRCS operating in the FSM with multiple humanitarian actors. Mr. Isao also recommended that DECEM have a Planning Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) specialist. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 3.6 presentation.

3.7 Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience (EDCR) Project (virtual)

Ms. Yoko Ebisawa, Project Manager for the Japan funded EDCR Project, shared the Project's objectives and progress, including upgrading disaster communication equipment, securing equipment, construction of the Pohnpei Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and improvement of water resources. Challenges include COVID-19, logistics, limited availability of local resources, etc. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 3.7 presentation.

3.8 Catholic Relief Services

Ms. Starla Robert, Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) Field Officer for the Catholic Relief Services, presented on CRS's assistance, particularly in Yap and Chuuk, such as Community Led Disaster Risk Management (CLDRM) process to develop and implement disaster preparedness plans. She also noted challenges of recruiting local staff, difficulties in traveling to targeted remote islands, limited suppliers and recommended sharing of resources to improve services provided to vulnerable communities. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 3.8 presentation.

3.9 SPC/Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific (BRSP) II Project (virtual)

Mr. Kevin Maitava from the Pacific Community (SPC), provided virtual updates on the BRSP II project activities, which commenced activities in 2023, and is expected to go through 2027. The objective is to reduce the impacts of disasters including those caused by climate change, with actions including revising the Joint State Action Plans (JSAPs), supporting EOCs, and improving communications technology across the FSM. Similar to other presentations, collaboration was emphasized, along with the need to streamline information sharing between agencies. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 3.9 presentation.

Discussion

Communication equipment was brought up again. It was confirmed that Chuuk's radio station was upgraded under the EDCR project, and that there is funding available for Kosrae's radio station if needed parts can be found.

Additionally, deliberations covered the need to avoid duplication of efforts by partner agencies. It was noted that the forum was created to help address such issues, but looking back 5-10 years, the same issues continually resurface as everyone focuses back on individual efforts once they return to their respective states. Even when agencies are mandated to coordinate with each other, it can be difficult to do so, especially when there can be extended time between planning and implementation of projects. Cross-cutting collaborative efforts in the States were shared, which include Pohnpei State's Joint Risk Management Network consisting of key stakeholders and agencies that work to alleviate duplication of efforts and avoid working in silos. As it was recognized that such networks can also meet virtually, it was recommended that the Joint Risk Management (JRM) Network meet quarterly and include DCOs in their meetings with additional suggestion of clarifying roles through an MoU, having all efforts go through one National agency such as DECEM, and utilizing joint networks to improve collaboration and ensure that critical needs are prioritized.

SESSION 4: PLENARY DISCUSSION FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE

4.1 Plenary

The Chair invited Consultant Andrew Yatilman, Acting Secretary Cynthia Ehmes, Assistant Secretary Abigail Kim-Lambert, Assistant Secretary Lucille Apis-Overhoff, Kosrae DCO Nena William, Pohnpei DCO representative LT. Jason Gonzaga, Chuuk DCO Justin Fritz, and Yap DCO Ivan Kadannged to take the stage for a plenary session. The aim was for the National and State DCOs to share experiences, challenges and discuss opportunities in preparing for and responding to disasters to strengthen current response efforts in the FSM.

The Chair also requested that Ms. Rachael Nash, Project Development Technical Advisor for DECEM, moderate the discussion. After paying respects, re-introducing panel members, and explaining the purpose and procedures of the panel, Ms. Nash asked four primary guiding questions to the panelists, with responses summarized below:

1. What are the biggest concerns for FSM regarding disaster management (i.e., climate change)? How can planning and response be better linked to other sectors? *Question initially directed to Consultant Yatilman and DECEM*

The platform was originally only focused on the environment, but became a joint forum to include disaster risk management in 2016 due to the need for collaboration. FSM consists of fragile island states which have always faced environmental concerns and hazards. However, due to climate change, threats are growing, and disasters are becoming more frequent and severe, and the impact on other sectors, such as health, and on the most vulnerable groups, such as women, is a concern. Global disaster costs are in the trillions, and increasing resources are required to adequately prepare and respond. Since FSM consists of five semi-autonomous islands states and a national government, emergency response efforts can be hindered by procedures and logistics. With these challenges and limited available resources, it's important to improve planning before disasters occur, refine procedures, prioritize assistance, strengthen collaboration with partners, and have

realistic expectations about support during emergency response efforts. Having a healthy, resilient environment and continuing to refine preparedness is crucial.

2. Based on your experiences in coordinating response efforts, what are the key roles at State and the National level when responding to a disaster/emergency, what partners should be involved, and what are some opportunities to strengthen response efforts? *Question directed to the Emergency Division*

Everyone, from the community to international level, has roles and responsibilities when it comes to disaster preparedness and response to both manmade and natural disasters. Initial damage assessments are compiled at the municipal level, the states declare a state of emergency, and then the President and National government work with the international community to provide funding and resources to aid the State. These efforts can be strengthened if there are uniform assessment templates, and if the states are able to clearly advise what is needed. It was therefore recommended once again to develop a uniform template, and for the states to take the responsibility to be ready with prioritized needs for when opportunities arise.

3. What are some opportunities for your state and the FSM to strengthen its response and recovery methods? *Question initially directed to the State DCOs*

Response and recovery efforts can be strengthened if there are uniform assessment templates that capture critical statistics, and if the states are able to clearly advise on their needs. There are ongoing challenges with disaster response, including the need to refine procedures which can slow down efforts, difficulty collecting data, and unique logistics and communication needs (especially in the outer islands). Staff capacity is limited, with key positions wearing multiple hats, and many emigrating once trained or educated. Thus it was recommended that DECEM explore the possibility of amending the operational blueprint, ensuring that they are appropriate for the FSM rather larger countries from where the blueprint was shared, and the process should involve all key stakeholders.

Limited staff capacity is an ongoing challenge, with key positions wearing multiple hats, and many emigrating once trained or educated. It was recommended that the DCOs be separate offices/positions focused on DRM and emergency response, and for the capacity of personnel to be increased, including the consideration of incentives such as increasing salaries to retain skilled staff.

4. What are the types of support available to the FSM in preparation for, and in response to a disaster, and briefly explain if or how the States can access them? *Question initially directed to the Emergency Division*

FSM collaborates with many donors and partners to provide emergency assistance, as heard from agencies during Session 3, and will be increasing support in the future, such as through US military exercises and the renegotiated Compact, which will be detailed further during Session 5. Most resources will come through the National government, so the states can be in the best position to access them by having updated plans and needs ready, echoing previous recommendations.

Discussion

Partners concurred with the recommendation to update JSAPs and disaster plans and involve stakeholders down to the municipal level in the process, with IOM offering support. Improved planning and a proactive approach, rather than reactive, was emphasized by several participants, including the need for ideas and requests to be ready for donors and partners when opportunities arise. It was also emphasized that readiness should not breed dependency on foreign aid, but rather efforts should remain collaborative. Utilizing FSM's veterans was suggested, since they have both skills and willingness, and the activeness of the Kosrae Island Veteran's Association in emergencies was highlighted. The benefits of investing in a healthy environment, such as food security, was also reiterated. As there were discussion and reflection in regard to disasters such as hurricanes and their impact on fisher families, the use of EPIRBS was discussed as a form of proactive safety measures. A new recommendation was made to consider developing a sea safety/response plan, which could include actions to protect local fishermen such as providing them with IPURBs/other safety equipment.

SESSION 5: COMPACT FINANCING

5.1 Environment Sector Grant & Disaster Assistance Emergency Fund (DAEF)

Mr. Asterio Takesy, Chairman for the Joint Committee on Compact Review and Planning (JCRP), provided a summary of the FSM's renegotiated Compact of Free Association (COFA) funds and proposed changes, which were approved by the FSM. Once US Congress approves, more funding will be available annually, with an anticipated increase from approximately US \$83 million in 2023 to \$140 million. The amount that will be allocated to each sector, including environment, will need to be determined. The Fiscal Procedures Agreement was also updated, and planning, budgeting, reporting and monitoring requirements will be more stringent. In addition, the US has assured the FSM that Disaster Preparedness and Response Services will continue under the new compact. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 5.1 presentation.

5.2 Compact Coordination Unit

Acting Secretary, Ms. Cynthia Ehmes, presented on DECEM's proposed Compact coordination unit, which, if funded by the renegotiated compact funds, will provide support to the states in the development of work plans and budgets, M&E and reporting for their respective activities. More importantly, the unit will help states access the COFA funds by building their capacities to meet the new planning and reporting requirements. It was recommended that that states support the establishment of the unit through Compact funds in the requested amount of \$650,000. Refer to Annex 3 for Session 5.2 presentation

Discussion

There was continued emphasis on the need to have a healthy environment, which underpins a robust economy, safe society and the existence of people on the planet. With the renegotiated compact, there will be increased funding for infrastructure, and therefore, the opportunity to ensure

that new infrastructure is environmentally sound and considers climate change, and to consider climate finance and further involve the finance sector in the platform. There was also a challenge to strive for safe drinking water throughout the FSM, in which the US EPA offered technical assistance.

Clarification was requested regarding how the amounts proposed for the renegotiated compact were determined, and it was again explained that the figures came from several consultations conducted with the states over a few years. Regarding funding approval and disbursement, it was highlighted that JEMCO membership consists of equal membership between the FSM and the US, which should be an improvement from the past where the US had the majority membership, and thus had the final say in States accessing Compact Grants. FSM will put together a budget for submission to JEMCO for consideration. Some platform participants expressed concern that some sectors might be favored over others, but it was clarified that the states will also be involved in determining the allocations. The need to secure annual funding for the environment sector was repeated. The importance of realistic budgeting, planning, and prioritizing was also once again emphasized, as previous compact funds haven't been fully utilized, and this should not happen moving forward when even more funding is potentially available compared to the past. It was therefore recommended to have timely and clear compact fund planning and reporting, and to fund the proposed DECEM coordination unit from the compact funds to help build states' capacity to achieve this.

SESSION 6: GEF8 PROGRAMMING AND OTHERS

6.0 Center for Excellence and Humanitarian Assistance

Mr. James Kenwolf, Branch Chief for Training and Engagements, shared information pertaining to the US Department of Defense's Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (CFE-DM). This included its desire to increase humanitarian assistance in the FSM through capacity-building activities such as civil coordination and training for disaster response, enhanced collaboration to conduct foreign humanitarian assistance before, during and after a crisis, and advising of US Indo-Pacific leaders in disaster management and humanitarian assistance decision-making, that will address readiness and potential conflict implications of climate change. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 6.0 presentation.

6.1 GEF8 Programming Exercise

Ms. Cynthia H. Ehmes provided a background on the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as the world's largest environmental multi-donor trust fund, which has enabled the implementation of five international environmental conventions of which the FSM received \$9.15M under the GEF8 STAR allocation to address climate change, biodiversity, and land degradation. It was explained that \$3M has been dedicated to "Blue Green Islands", a project to scale up the Ridge 2 Reef Project, with the IUCN as the Implementing Agency (IA). Following the presentation, a GEF8 Programming Exercise was conducted to begin discussing potential focal areas/projects for the remaining \$6.15M, which were done through breakout groups organized by State delegations. Additional state consultations will be held to make the final determinations. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 6.1 presentation.

Discussion

Discussion centered around accessing GEF funding and whether there were proficient grant writers in-country, as it would enable the FSM to invest in its local capacity. It was recognized that this is a needed skillset as evident in DECEM's past efforts to hire a grant writer, which were unsuccessful and necessitated the Implementing Agencies (IAs), such as UNDP, to assist in identification of consultants for development of project proposals. Therefore, it was recommended to have at least 1 person per State to be trained as grant writers.

There was also an inquiry regarding the selection of IAs for GEF projects, and FSM's decision to switch from UNDP to others like IUCN and UNEP. It was explained that Implementing Agencies are selected based on various criteria of which include area of expertise, aligned priority areas and understanding of an IA's admin/finance reporting requirements. However, it remains at the discretion of the applying department to select the Implementing Agency.

SESSION 7: UPDATES ON CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIVITIES

7.1 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)/TNCBUR

Ms. Chandra Legdesog, DECEM Climate Change Technical Advisor, presented the status of FSM's reporting requirements under the UNFCCC via the Third National Communication and First Biennial Update Report (TNCBUR) project. She highlighted various chapters in the final report that detail FSM's Greenhouse Gas Inventory, mitigation and adaptation measures, climate change laws and policies, and actions and activities that reduce the harmful impacts of climate change and increase resilience in-country. It was shared that all results in the final report were determined through consultations, interviews, surveys and workshops to ensure thorough, detailed, and up-to-date information from the States, with the final report now accessible both on the DECEM Portal and the UNFCCC registry. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 7.1 presentation.

7.2 Nationally Determined Contributions

Ms. Ann Albert, DECEM Deputy Assistant Secretary for Mitigation, presented the status of FSM's reporting requirements under the UNFCCC via the updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), highlighting the development of the NDCs via consultations and literature review that led to the official launching of the updated NDCs at COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, in November 2022. It was explained that there are 8 sectors for which the NDCs commit to emission reduction, and that on-going efforts remain to implement the NDCs in the FSM. This includes a concept note submitted to the Mitigation Action Facility (MAF) to access \$25M focusing for the Energy Sector, FSM's largest emitter, by shifting to renewable energy. Refer to Annex 3 for the 7.2 presentation.

7.3 National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Proposal

Mr. Correy Abraham, DECEM Deputy Assistant Secretary for Adaptation, presented the status of FSM's obligation requirements under the UNFCCC via the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), of which a proposal was developed to access \$3M from GCF, with SPREP as the Implementing

Agency. It was shared that this process started in 2019 with stakeholder consultations, and, as of May 2023, has been approved by the GCF Secretariat. Thus, efforts are underway to prepare for SPREP's mission to FSM in September 2023, with the intent to establish a NAP Project Team including state-based climate change coordinators. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 7.3 presentation.

7.4 SUPA Plus

Mr. Sean Kadannged, SUPA PLUS Project Coordinator and representative for the Tamil Resource Conservation Trust (TRCT), presented the results of the recently concluded EU funded Global Climate Change Alliance's Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation+ (GCCA-SUPA Plus) project. He highlighted the completion of the Readiness for El-Nino (RENI) Project conducted in Yap and Pohnpei State, and the GCCC+SUPA project conducted in Chuuk State. Activities included water security adaptation through the installation of rainwater harvesting systems, purification systems, training for maintenance of the systems, water quality testing, and other WASH activities with the intention of expanding to other outlying Outer Islands and Atolls. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 7.4 presentation.

7.5 SUPA IA

Mr. Koshak Keller Jr., DECEM Program Manager for Adaptation, highlighted the Impact Assessment (IA) tool under the EU funded Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation (SUPA) project, that was piloted and used to assess the impact of adaptation activities and analyze adaptation interventions through detailed data collection e.g. checklist ratings, field observations, surveys, and spatial mapping that were then stored in a database repository. It was shared that this methodology can be applied to any climate change adaptation intervention to monitor progress of the impacts of activities and ensure the improvement of local communities' livelihoods. It was also stressed that local community involvement and ownership was critical in ensuring accurate findings that guide policy and decision-making. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 7.5 presentation.

Discussion

Discussion in this segment included the ways in which climate change has become an elevated issue in-country, evident through the newly created Climate Change division at DECEM, the notably increased funding within the revised COFA agreement for the Environment Sector, and number of climate change projects to be implemented at the State level envisioned to increase in the next few years with the increased COFA funding. A concern expressed in the room included the States' capacity to absorb increased workloads, especially as current State Focal Points for Environment and Disaster Coordination are recognized to already hold multiple roles and responsibilities. Thus, it was recommended for State and National Government to revisit the State FCs and create Climate Change focal points at the State-level to assist the States in securing assistance from the COFA agreement. Notably, it was highlighted that within the upcoming National Adaptation Plan (NAP) project, there will be Climate Change Officers recruited in each State within the Project Management Unit (PMU). It was then recommended to create permanent positions through allocation of funds to sustain the Climate Change Officers post termination of the NAP project, potentially as the State Climate Change Focal Point.

Other discussions in this segment continued around recurring costs for small sectors under the COFA Grants. Several years ago, the Joint Economic Management Committee (JEMCO), responsible for reviewing and approving Compact grant proposals, introduced a resolution to remove recurring costs from sectors such as Environment. Furthermore, it was highlighted that although National projects are funded by donors, the bulk of the activities are implemented at the State level and thus come with associated costs that host agencies must absorb, and subsequently struggle to cover. To alleviate the financial burden on State agencies, it was recommended that future projects consider investing a portion of their respective grant awards into admin costs to the State host agencies.

Additionally, there was discussion around the ways in which climate change projects are measuring success and impact on local communities long-term, especially in that data analysis of impacts could inform critical policies. It was shared that while projects are typically designed to include monitoring and evaluation tools for tracking progress and impact, those methods are often donor driven and do not reflect the actual impacts in-country, especially beyond a project's life cycle. To measure long-term impact, the SUPA Impact Assessment tool was discussed further. It was shared that the SUPA IA tool provides viable options for long-term impact assessment as the open-source online platform, accessible both on and off-line, was designed to make data collection, analysis and storage reliable and easy even in the most challenging settings. Users access simple ways to create surveys, share results, and export data into a shared repository utilizing a library function to perform basic analysis and mapping functions, a feature that can be shared across projects and changes that can be monitored over time. It was highlighted that impact must be measured over time to determine the effectiveness of actions. Taking into consideration the various assessments conducted and tools provided, it was recommended that the States train dedicated staff for data analysis.

SESSION 8: PROJECT UPDATES AND OTHER RESOURCES

8.1 Micronesia Challenge

Mr. Dave Mathias, R&D Marine Conservation Management Specialist, shared the status of the Micronesia Challenge (MC), a regional initiative originally launched in 2006 by the FSM, Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas with the goal to effectively conserve 30% of near-shore marine resources, and 20% of terrestrial resources by 2020. Substantial progress has been made toward standardizing monitoring and data storage, supporting Protected Areas, and building the MC Endowment. In 2019, the leadership recommitted the MC, with new targets to effectively manage 50% of marine resources and 30% of terrestrial resources, and an emphasis on reducing the risk of climate impacts, increasing community members deriving livelihoods from sustainably managed resources, reducing invasive species, and restoration of habitats. It was shared that current efforts focus on strengthening the MC Regional Office, supporting the operationalization of the FSM Protected Area Network (PAN), and collaborating with the Blue Prosperity Micronesia (BPM) Marine Spatial Planning process. Development of a MC 2030 Strategic Plan and a Communication Plan is in progress. The Micronesians in Conservation (MIC) network is also being re-launched to ensure capacity-building and learning exchange. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 8.1 presentation.

8.2 Adaptation Fund Project

Mr. Jason Louis, DECEM Adaptation Fund (AF) Communications Officer, shared the status of the AF Project activities conducted in the 4 States, which include water infrastructure improvement, water management plans for main and outer islands and atolls. He also elaborated on upcoming plans for improved sanitation at elementary schools in Yap, Chuuk and Pohnpei, and coastal protection and inland road design in Kosrae. It was shared that challenges in providing supplies included limited in-country suppliers/supplies, and travel hindered by as sea transportation dependent on the limited availability of sea vessels. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 8.2 presentation.

8.3 GEF 6 Invasive Alien Species Project

Mr. Jorg Anson, Project Manager, shared the status of the GEF 6 project created to safeguard biodiversity from the impacts of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in the FSM, through prevention, control, awareness-raising and capacity-building of IAS in terrestrial and marine ecosystems as well as in agricultural and fisheries production systems. It was shared that ongoing activities include procurement, renovation and refurbishment of Biosecurity equipment, Biosecurity Training programs at COM-FSM, development of a Biosecurity Information System and demonstration sites for IAS awareness raising that can support the institutionalizing of a governance framework for Invasive Alien Species. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 8.3 presentation.

8.4 SPC Enhancing Direct Access (EDA) Project

Mr. Floyd Robinson, Project Manager, introduced the new Enabling Direct Access (EDA) project as a bottom-up approach intended to build capacity of municipal and state government in accessing Green Climate Fund (GCF) grants. It was shared that there are currently 30-40 grant awards available in the range of \$75k-\$1M that could be used towards climate change adaptation measures such as disaster risk reduction, coastal protection, food security and water security to be supported through the establishment of the Resilient Communities Grant Facility (RCGF), to be handed over from SPC to and managed by Government by 2029. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 8.4 presentation.

8.5 GCF Food Security Project

Mr. Mark Kostka, Project Manager, shared updates on the GCF Food Security Project, as the “first comprehensive national effort” intended to increase resiliency to climate change in vulnerable communities through climate smart agriculture (CSA) and climate-resilient agroforestry. The project would be economically and nutritionally beneficial through the planned establishment of local food markets and stable availability of locally grown food. It was highlighted that a nationwide baseline survey for staple crops has been completed, and climate-resilient agroforestry practices identified while ongoing efforts remain to establish Farming Coops at State level and to conduct capacity-building, i.e., trainings for CSA, agroforestry, poultry production, and food processing, preservation, and storage. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 8.5 presentation.

8.6 FAO (virtual)

Mr. Swapnil Mindhe, Program Support Specialist, shared the FAO's mission to improve food security in the Pacific region through various means, which include integrated addressing of environment, plant, animal and human health through One Health, and digital agriculture to improve productivity. It was highlighted that FAO has offered assistance for Technical Coordination Projects (TCPs) for both National and Multi-country projects that enable Food System Transformation Pathways to enhance food security, water security, inclusive and resilient fisheries and climate smart traditional farming system. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 8.6 presentation.

Discussion

Discussion topics in this segment included questions around the Micronesia Challenge, including clarification of the increase in marine targets from 30% to 50%, of which was explained that the FSM originally endorsed the MC to promote biodiversity and conservation, but has now shifted focus to effective management. The MC has received global recognition and inspired similar initiatives due to the ambitious pledge that came from the Micronesian leaders, and the MC serves as an enabling mechanism that has resulted in increased partnerships, funds and resources that wouldn't have otherwise been accessible. Debate ensued regarding the pros and cons of such high ambition that impact local communities. It was explained that although the MC targets have been expanded, the States ultimately decide how the protected areas (PAs) are defined and managed. What needs to be understood, is that the targets will be measured based on the "effective management" of the sites, not by size or style of management, i.e., no take zone, locally managed area, etc. Ongoing efforts include the development of the PA management plans, the FSM PAN Operations Manual, State PAN legislation, and management effectiveness tools and indicators. It was requested that clear definitions of such conservation terms and strategies be established via a communication plan to fill in the gaps at the state and grassroots level, as there have been misunderstandings of the MC, given that the goal was top-down from the leadership. However, management takes place from the bottom-up, and it was noted that throughout the platform the need for effective resource management has been emphasized, which should be in line with the MC. Thus, it was recommended that the FSM Micronesia Challenge Focal Points improve awareness and communications.

Another discussion inquired over the SPC EDA project given its bottom-up approach enabling municipalities and States to access GCF funds directly. Questions included funding capacity, timeline for proposals for accessing of funds, prioritization between States and Municipalities and long-term sustainability of projects. It was explained that there are 30-40 grants to be awarded ranging from \$75k - \$1M, of which the initial call for expression of interest in 2024. It was shared that although States are currently given priority, there are ongoing discussions surrounding accessibility for specific municipalities within the States. It was highlighted that there are National programs factored into various projects to sustain such activities beyond a project's life cycle, and to ensure long-term sustainability of projects. Thus, it was recommended that project managers, State and National agencies hold continuous dialogue with Implementing Agency counterparts to understand challenges and identify appropriate solutions.

SESSION 9: LIDAR PROPOSAL

9.1 FSM Lidar Proposal

Mr. Arthur Webb, UNDP-Fiji Advisor for Coastal Adaptation, shared results from a recent sea level rise scoping mission to the FSM that estimated up to 60% of FSM's national population are exposed to sea level rise impacts within foreseeable future. The use of Lidar was then presented as a tool to improve long term adaptation measures as this new technology provides improved accuracy of predictions of areas that are safe, prone to flooding, or would be inundated and therefore, alerting decision-makers to which communities, infrastructures, and food sources are highly vulnerable. It was stressed that current IPCC climate change predictions are dire for small islands and as such, accurate, high-quality data and mapping is priceless for long-term adaptation. Refer to Annex 3 for the 9.1 presentation.

Discussion

Discussions in this segment revolved around the costs and benefits of a LIDAR project in the FSM. The cost of a LIDAR project ranges between \$6-\$10M, thus, it was suggested that the states prioritize utilizing the renegotiated Compact Environment Sector Grant, which has been significantly increased, to support such costs, especially as infrastructure planning, environmental management, and hazard mapping would be improved with the LIDAR position accuracy of less than 1 cm and vertical accuracy of 2 inches. Such data would provide detailed information of the impacts of sea level rise, storm surge, tides, and shoreline erosion. It then was shared that a past LIDAR project with another Pacific Island Country spanned over 2 years with 9 islands covered, whereas the FSM has many more islands to cover and therefore it would be at FSM's discretion to select representative areas to make the task manageable and informative. It was suggested that since States have historically been unable to spend all of their compact funds allotted per year, that with the incoming increased funding, they frontload projects with big ticket items like a 2-4yr LIDAR project to absorb increased compact funding while also giving States a break to ensure capacity building and timely planning for future projects with the recommendation that the States allocate Compact Funding for LIDAR.

SESSION 10: RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 2023 Priority Recommendations

Ms. Rosalinda Yatilman, DECEM Project Development Manager, presented the recommendations that were captured throughout the duration of the 3rd Joint Platform meeting for adoption. It was explained that the recommendations were captured and recorded during the discussions by a team of rapporteurs, prioritized by the platform participants through sticker exercises. The Top 5 ranking recommendations per day resulted in 15 high priority recommendations over the course of the 3-day Platform. These were shared back to the participants for any final discussion and adjustments before being put forth for adoption. The priority recommendations will be monitored and reported back in the next Joint Platform meeting, anticipated to be held in 2025. For all of the

recommendations made during the Platform, refer to the discussion sections of this report. Refer to Annex 3 for the Session 10.1 presentation.

Additionally, a proposed resolution requesting the Joint State and National leadership to allocated \$30M US dollars to the Environment Sector to support priority environmental activities in the FSM, was adopted by the 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform. Refer to Annex 4 for more details on the resolution.

Discussion

Deliberations were limited to suggested changes in the language of the recommendations to ensure they correctly reflect the outcomes of the discussions. For recommendation #1, DECEM was removed as a lead entity for developing the ABS, as R&D is mandated to oversee and report against FSM's commitments to the CBD treaty. Recommendation #2 was adjusted to include planes, as it was not captured when presented back originally. Recommendation #3 was reworded to include sufficient planning, accurate and timely reporting of Compact Funds. Recommendation #4 was modified to remove the JSAPs as they are already covered in the recommendations #10, limiting the focus of the recommendation to the SOE and NEMS. Recommendation # 5 was adjusted to include such provision the DECEM will support the States in building their capacities, provided that its proposed \$650K to the Compact Sector Grant is approved. Recommendation #10 was adjusted to include the update of disaster response plans for the States.

With no additional comments, Pohnpei State motioned to adopt and was seconded by Yap State.

The list of 15 high priority recommendations below is representative of the language that was adopted by the platform participants:

1. That a resolution is in place for R&D to take the lead in developing legislation on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) to be adopted by Congress
2. That State EPAs/KIRMA work with DOJ to investigate and cite responsible parties to remove abandoned vessels in the harbors and shorelines, including airplanes.
3. That the States ensure sufficient planning, accurate, timely and quality reporting for COMPACT funds
4. That State and National Governments update the State of Environment Report and National Environment Management Strategy (NEMS).
5. DECEM to support the States in building their capacities for accessing and implementing COMPACT funds, provided that DECEM receives the proposed annual \$650K from Compact.
6. That the State and National leadership consider allocating dedicated emergency funds that can be immediately mobilized during disasters
7. That the States adopt the proposed Coordination Unit by DECEM, and help strengthen the capacities of the States EPAs in accessing COMPACT Funds and timely submission of quality reports.
8. That the States and National government agree on a standardized procedure for assessment damages for disasters
9. That the States develop sea safety plans

10. That State and National Governments update the JSAPs, State Disaster Response Plans and SOPs
11. That the State allocate Compact Funding for the LIDAR
12. Recommend to have at least 1 per person per State to be trained as grant writers
13. That the States create permeant positions and allocate funds to sustain the Climate Change Officers post termination of the NAP Project
14. That future projects consider investing portions of their respective grant awards into admin costs for host agencies
15. That the States train dedicated staff for data analysis

Following the discussion on the recommendations, the platform deliberated on the location for the next Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform. Yap State was motioned to be the next host by Kosrae, which was seconded by all and adopted. Yap will hold the 4th Joint Platform in 2025.

Similarly, comments put forth on the proposed resolution were mainly concerned with the language to ensure it accurately captures the need to prioritize funding for key environmental activities. Noting the information presented by the JCRP on the amended Compact, the resolution was modified to highlight the importance of preserving FSM's natural resources, and the need to prioritize funding for the Environment Sector to ensure effective protection and management of key natural resources.

CONCLUSION

The 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform concluded with closing remarks from the Director of Chuuk EPA, Mr. Bradford Mori, and DECEM Consultant, Mr. Andrew R. Yatilman, thanking all participants for remaining actively engaged over the last 3 days, and in particular, their contributions which have led to the adoption of 15 recommendations to be prioritized over the next two years as well as a State-led resolution to be presented at the National Government. Again, Chuuk State was recognized for hosting the platform, including the following donors for their generous support: the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT), the International Organization for Migration (OIM), USAID, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China.

All presentations and other relevant documents from the 3rd Joint Platform can be found in the Annexes for the Report of Platform Proceedings, and on the FSM Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Data Portal.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform Participants

Annex 2: 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform Agenda

Annex 3: 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform Presentations

Annex 4: 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform Resolution

Annex 1: Platform Participants

3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform Participant Photo

3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform Participant List



3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform



Day 1: Wednesday, August 30, 2023

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3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

THURSDAY
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235	Isabella	Student				
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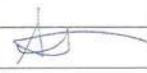
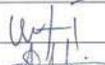
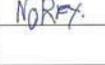
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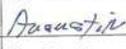
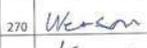
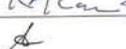
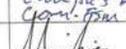
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IOM

Annex 2: Agenda

3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform Agenda



3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform
August 30-September 1st, 2023
Weno, Chuuk

“Enhancing synergies for a resilient tomorrow”

OBJECTIVES:

- Take stock of and review recommendations from previous platforms
- Discuss and strengthen collaboration of National and State Activities related to the Environment, Climate Change and Resource Management.
- Sharing of disaster preparedness, response and recovery plans, activities and projects. Improve effectiveness of disaster response

TARGETED OUTCOMES:

- Improved understanding of previous recommendations and establish M&E for current/ongoing platform
- Participants come to a consensus on how to strengthen Natl/State/private sector plans and activities?
- Participants understand gaps related to disaster preparedness and response, and agree on steps needed to streamline procedures
- Increased familiarity with FSM’s international environment and climate change commitments

Time	AUGUST 30, 2023	AUGUST 31, 2023	SEPTEMBER 1, 2023
8:30	Sign-in of participants		
9:00	OPENING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invocation • Welcoming Remarks • Opening Remarks • Introduction of participants • Selection of Chair and Co-Chair • Review and adoption of agenda • Group photo 	RECAP OF DAY 1 DECEM/TBD SESSION 3: UPDATES ON DRM ACTIVITIES National and State Governments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Yap DRM Activities 3.2 Chuuk DRM Activities 3.3 Pohnpei DRM Activities 3.4 National DRM Activities *Q&A	RECAP OF DAY 2 DECEM/TBD Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (CFE-DM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. James Kenwolf (virtual) SESSION 6: GEF 8 Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1 Programming Exercise
10:30	MORNING BREAK	MORNING BREAK	MORNING BREAK

Annex 3: Presentations

3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform Presentations

1.1 2018 Recommendations

- 2.1 Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority
- 2.2. Pohnpei State Environmental Protection Agency
- 2.3 Chuuk State Environmental Protection Agency
- 2.4 Yap State Environmental Protection Agency
- 2.5 National Ozone Unit
- 2.6 Chemical Waste Management Project
- 2.7 INFORM Portal
- 2.8 US EPA Region 9
- 2.9 Micronesia Conservation Trust
- 2.10 The Nature Conservancy

3.1 Yap State DRM Activities

- 3.2 Chuuk State DRM Activities
- 3.3 Pohnpei State DRM Activities
- 3.4 National DRM Activities
- 3.5 International Organization for Migration
- 3.6 Micronesia Red Cross
- 3.7 Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience
- 3.8 Catholic Relief Services
- 3.9 BSRP II

5.1 Environment Sector Grant And Disaster Assistance Emergency Fund

- 5.2 Proposed Coordination Unit
- 6.0 Centre For Excellence And Humanitarian Assistance

6.1 GEF 8 Programming Exercise

- 7.1 UNFCCC/TNC-BUR
- 7.2 Nationally Determined Contributions
- 7.3 National Adaptation Plan
- 7.4 Supa Plus
- 7.5 Supa IA

8.1 Micronesia Challenge

- 8.2 Adaption Fund Project
- 8.3 GEF 6 Invasive Species Project
- 8.4 GEF Enhancing Direct Access Project
- 8.5 GCF Food Security Project
- 8.6 Food And Agriculture Organization (FAO)

9.1 FSM LIDAR Proposal

10.1 2023 Priority Recommendations



3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

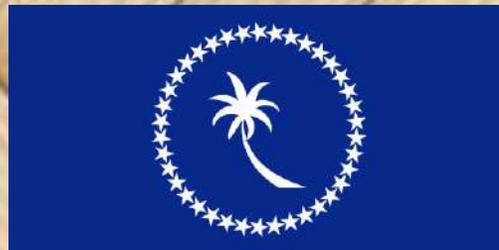
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

1.1 2018 Recommendations

Cynthia H. Ehmes, Acting Secretary, DECEM

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Completed recommendations since 2018
 - That the State EPAs/KIRMA to explore waste to energy technology
 - That DECEM creates a geospatial office to centralize spatial data and coordinate the activities of the GIS network
 - The Department of Health and Social Services to develop to create a fully functional national medical response team to support public health and healthcare emergency responses.
 - That R2R Project to report on its co-financing and improve its monitoring and evaluation framework and disbursement rate



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Completed recommendations since 2018 continued
 - That FSM Finance Green Climate Fund unit continue to educate stakeholders and develop proposals for submission to the Fund immediately
 - That the PMU of the Adaptation Fund Project to expedite implementation immediately
 - That social media and collaboration with FSM Telecom be used as a one of the means for early warning system while DCOs explore other mediums of early warning for the outer island communities (carried over from 2016 platform)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing recommendations since 2018
 - That DECEM assist the States to extend climate change and disaster risk management mainstreaming to municipal level
 - That DECEM to assist the States in securing LIDAR equipment and services through the Government of India Grants
 - That DECEM look into potential international/regional conventions/agreements to support marine oil spill or pollution response
 - That the Department of Foreign Affairs to share trainings, scholarships and other opportunities from external partners in a timely manner
 - Recommend DECEM to work with IOM in assisting the State DCOs when developing community disaster plans.
 - Recommend the Department of Justice to share a copy of the search and rescue plan (new plan 2yrs ago endorsed) and assist the states in developing their SAR Plans.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Pending recommendations since 2018
 - That DECEM work with the Compact Management Office and JEMCO members to reconsider or withdraw the constraining ‘recurrent cost’ JEMCO Resolution
 - That State EPAs/KIRMA [FSM DOJ] to investigate and cite responsible parties to remove abandoned vessels in the harbors and shorelines
 - DECEM to consolidate any types of services/assistances offered from agencies in the area of environment management and disaster risk resilience – those available include Catholic Relief Services, Red Cross Chapters of the Micronesia Red Cross Society, Salvation Army, Pro-bono Climate Change and Environment Services, etc. – and send it to the states for their references and use.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Pending recommendations since 2018 continued
 - That National Government strengthen the agreements on transportation requirements for vessels operating in the FSM are insured and able to cover costs of grounding and other related environmental accidents
 - Recommend DECEM to work with DOJ on how to access the SAR trainings and capacity building services.
 - Recommend DOJ to amend the MoU on search and rescue protocol to expedite mobilization
 - That DECEM look into insurance schemes for disaster for the States



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Pending recommendations since 2018 continued
 - That DECEM work with the FSM Department of Transportation, Communications and Infrastructure and provide a uniform reporting template to all state DCOs
 - Recommend that DECEM to look into options on the regional side that consider projects on La Nina.
 - That the National Government/FSM R&D/Private Sector ensure that the Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) legislation is adopted by Congress (**carried from 2016**)
 - That DECEM work with IOM to assist DCOs in developing drought response plans
 - That the FSM National Government work on developing a law to ban asbestos in the FSM (**carried from 2016**)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Q&A and Discussion
 - Should any of the 2018 recommendations be kept moving forward?



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

2.1 KOSRAE ENVIRONMENT

Steven Palik

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- **Progress since 2018 from 2019 – 2023 FSM National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS)**

- 1. Theme 1 Atmosphere and Climate**

RE (ground and roof top solar farm); AF Project; ODS

- 2. Theme 2: Terrestrial Resources**

- GEF-5; ‘20’Coconut Rehabilitation Project; ‘19’ SWARS; MICCO 19

- 3. Theme 3: Marine Resources**

- GEF-5 Biological Data Collection; MPA & R2R sites; CEAFM; Enforcement and Compliance; BPM-OUS; COT Control

- 4. Conservation of Biodiversity**

- PAs; PA Management Plans; Clam Reseeding; Rabbit-fish Cage farming; Bird Assessment

- 5. Build Environment**

- MCD ELV collection; Recycling Project Operation; Inter island Trash Collection System; Plastic law (year); Utwe Water System; 5% out of 30% RE accomplished

- 6. Culture and Heritage**

- **ABS Act (joint Research with NIBR)**; ‘21’ Citizens Science Project

- 7. Environmental governance, mainstreaming and capacity development**

- KSA PA Legislation amended; KCET Recertification; KLUP Updated



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - Enforcement and Compliance
 - PA Management
 - Data Collections (cultural, biological, socio economic)
 - Rehabilitation Project (historical sites, invasive species management)
 - Water and Energy Development Project
 - **ABS –Two plants species to be patented in collaboration with NIBR**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- Funding sources
- Climate change
- Limited resources (Under staff/out migration)
- Limited capacity and technical know-how
- **Lack FSM National Legislation (ABS Act for GR &TK)**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
- Increase on local revenue and sector grant
- National and regional projects and partners (BPM, PROPER, RISC, MC, SPC, SPREP, US Federal grants, GEF projects, Chemical project, US EPA Region 9, JICA, JICS, NIBR and etc)
- Enhanced political support
- MOU between partners (state, community, NGOs)
- Ongoing support and coordination from DECCEM
- **Enhance collaboration with NIBR on joint research**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations
- Collaborate with Vital and other regional agencies to explore used oil collection and recovery from ship and boat servicing
- MCES decisions to be consented by states (MC goal)
- Capacity building (GIS, Chemical certification, EIS)
- Long term investment toward students
- **Resolution to develop national ABS legislation & DECCEM to lead**
- Support DECCEM request for sector grant (capacity building, support and coordination)





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

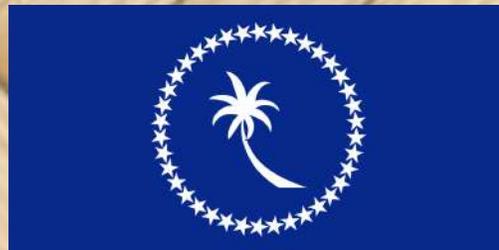
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

2.2 Pohnpei State Environmental Activities

Francisco Celestine, Director, EPA

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk

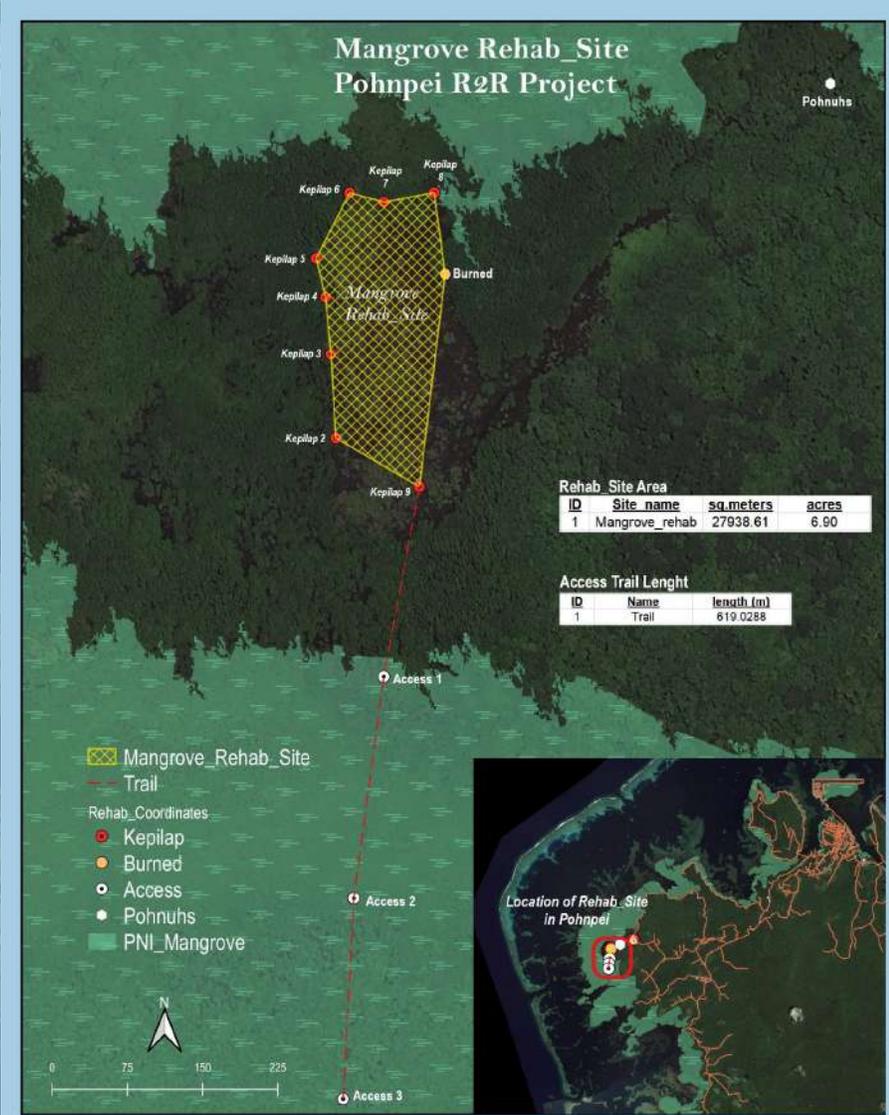


“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018
 - Construction of new Recycling Facility
 - Demarcation of Kitti Watershed
 - Dredging Moratorium
 - Climate Change Policy
 - Marine Cleanup
 - Restoration of 4.6 acres of mangrove and 6.7 acres of watershed







“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - Purchased and installation of new pressing machine
 - JPRSM 3- Expansion of Dekehtik Dumpsite
 - PROPS- Waste oil and battery
 - Junk car/ELV removal
 - Green Roadshow
 - Bill to ban export of Pohnpei resources to other states or countries



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- Funding

- Manpower

- Enforcement & Compliance

- Covid19



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Waste management
 - ELV removal
 - Climate Change
 - Ecosystem Approach and Nature-Based Solution Initiatives



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- Work with DECEM and partner Agencies & offices for funding
- Work with State budget office and personnel office for additional manpower
- Work with State AG’s office for Deputization EPA staff
- Work closely with Dept. Health & Social Affairs to mainstream GEDSI
- Capacity building



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

**2.3 Chuuk Environmental Protection Agency
Joyce Sewell, Solid Waste Management Manager, EPA**

**August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- **Progress since 2018**

- Rehabilitation of Neauo Dumpsite – 90% complete
- JMAS – used oil removal from sunken vessels in the lagoon - # gals??
- Ridge 2 Reef Projects
 - Kuop LEAP (local early action plan)
 - Witipon Mgmt Plan
 - SOU (Sopo, Oror, Ununo) Forest Stewardship Plan
- Removal of sunken vessels at Penta Dock (Public Works/EPA) Rehabilitation of Neauo Dumpsite – 90% complete
- Recycling Program – 2 Baler machine donated by EOJ. Recycling operator identified
- Chuuk State Clean Environment Act of 2018 – ban on, plastic shopping bags, plastic straws, etc
- Collection of junk cars ongoing



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- **Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities**

- Removal of Micro Dawn – US Military Team
- Renovation of Bio Security facility for agriculture
- JMAS – continuous used oil collection(on break)
 - Australia group to help JMAS
- Transition of dumpsites – Reopening of Neauo Dumpsite and Closure of Marina Dumpsite
- Coral Reef Monitoring Program since 2007 established, monitoring 2008 – data base with UOG Marine Lab – yearly assessment by DMR
- Monthly clean-up by CWC and collaborating offices/DPS daily clean-up ongoing
- Construction of a Compost Facility at Neauo Dumpsite – Recent waste audit conducted on Weno last month of July funded by European Union
- 27 Earth Moving Projects received: 2 major projects, 14 new permits, 11 pending due to incomplete documents
- Water Testing of water bottling companies, CPUC, hospital



UOG Marine Lab – yearly



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Challenges

- Technical

- Man power –
- Capacity – technical expertise,

- Geographic distance of islands

- Financial Resources

Cost sharing of used oil collected – transferring and shipping

- Climate change

- Water security
- Food Security

- Over Capacity of Marina Dumpsite

- Illegal Dumping



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - US EPA Region9 - direct assistance
 - Enhance Data Collection and awareness between collaborating offices/departments – inter agency collaboration – cost sharing
 - Proper, Blue Prosperity, GEF 6 (Invasive & 7) – multiple state, national, donors collaboration and etc.
 - Collaboration with municipal governments, traditional leadership and resources owners



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

1. Capacity training opportunities

2. Policies and Legislations

- Funding be provided
- New approve policies with budget
- Speed up Recycling Law

- 3.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

**2.4 Yap State Environmental
Protection Agency**

Jordan S. Mautaman

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018...
 - Item 1: Ridge to Reef Project
 - Enhanced Management and Capacity building for new and existing Marine Protected Areas and Terrestrial Sanctuaries.
 - Project Completed 2022
 - Item 2: JPRISM 2
 - Revision of SSWMS (Completed)
 - Improvements & Expansion of State Recycling Program
 - Equipment Acquisition and Operation
 - Expansion of Recycling Programs recyclable categories
 - Item 3: RENI Project (Disaster Risk Management)
 - Water Security Project
 - 2 EPS sites established
 - 4 Rainwater Harvesting Systems Installed
 - Completed a hydrogeological survey and study for the largest underground Aquifer within the state (Gagil-Tamil Aquifer)
 - Project Completed 2020



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018 Continued...
 - Item 4: Adaptation Fund Project:
 - Project Launched in 2019
 - Item 5: PacWaste Project
 - Special Programme Proposal (SPREP)
 - Project Coordinator Hired
 - Project Launched earlier this year...
 - Item 6: PAN Regulation and Establishment
 - PAN Regulation and Establishment completed by 2020.
 - PAN Coordinator Hired
 - Program activities overseen by the state R&D.
 - Item 7: GEF 7 Program Exercise
 - Program Exercise
 - Key prioritized areas was being identified by each respective state virtually.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - Item 1: PacWASTE Plus Project
 - Enhancing capacity for the ongoing composting activities implemented by the R&D’s Agriculture Division.
 - Item 2: GEF 6 Project
 - Support the activities regarding the Alien Invasive Species (Marine and Terrestrial)
 - Activities ongoing...
 - Item 3: PAN Activities
 - Continued support for community environmental groups
 - PAN activities ongoing
 - Item 4: Adaptation Fund:
 - Continue the implementation of the projects water security component activity.
 - Item 5: GEF 7 Project
 - Continue to work with the stakeholder on project planning
 - Item 6: State Plans
 - Finalizing the Yap State Disaster & Risk Management Plan
 - Finalizing the State Oil Spill Response Plan
 - Item 7: State IDP’s
 - Oversee the Environmental Impacts and Aspects of upcoming major infrastructure projects



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- Item 1: Global Pandemics i.e. Covid -19

- Hampered the implementation of all ongoing and projected state projects and activities
- Strained the implementation timeline of the aforementioned projects and activities

- Item 2: Project Coordination

- Better coordination between Project Coordinator and Relevant Stakeholders on the efficient implementation of project activities.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Item 1: Better Planning and Coordination between state entities in response to disaster.
 - Item 2: Utilization of better and newer communication mediums i.e. Virtual Conferences
 - Item 3: Frequent Coordination between Project Management Team and all relevant state entities/stakeholders on project progress updates and projected activities.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- Item 1: Improve communication coordination between the National and State Governments.
 - Community Involvement in all state project planning
 - State support for communities capacity to have an effect on all proposed projects.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

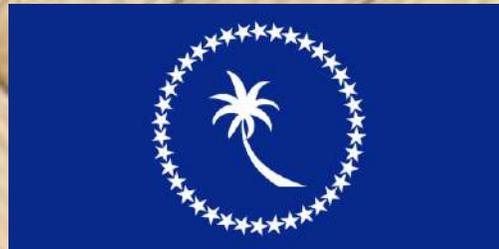
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

2.5 National Ozone Unit

Natasha Nakasone, DAS for Natural Resources and Gas Unit, DECEM

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



Montreal Protocol

- Global agreement to protect the stratospheric ozone layer by phasing out the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances (ODS)
- Over 100 parties to the Protocol; FSM is a party
- FSM does not produce but consume substances



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018
 - FSM Regulations On Controlled Substances under the Montreal Protocol (amended in February 2021)
 - Completion of HPMP (Stage 1) and Institutional Strengthening (IS) Phase VII in 2022
 - HPMP Renewal (Stage 2) and approval of IS VIII
 - E-licensing platform (launched early 2023)
 - In 2022- 2023 , capped at 1.66 metric tons; last reporting, 0.22 metric tons



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) for PIC countries (Stage II, Tranche I) with USD 99,000
 - Institutional Strengthening (IS) Project (Phase VIII) with USD 85,000
 - Regional Kigali- HFC Implementation Plan (KIP) with USD 27,500



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- Lack of capacity for proper storage and/or disposal of refrigerants
- Limited involvement from the Private Sector
- Failure to comply with Regulations On Controlled Substances



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Seek support from Chamber of Commerce to support cooperation and compliance of the private sector
 - Build capacity at state level through state counterparts (i.e. EPA)
 - MOU with EPAs to increase monitoring efforts



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- Work closely with state counterparts to ensure compliance with the Regulations on Controlled Substances
- Consultations with private sector for possible amendment of Regulations on Controlled Substances
- Request for more staff under NOU to assist with monitoring and implementation of project activities



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!



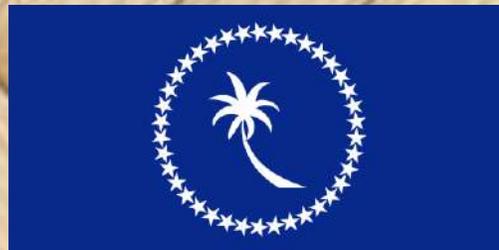


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“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

**2.6 Chemical Waste Management Project
Yota Oue, Consultant, OCEA**

**August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

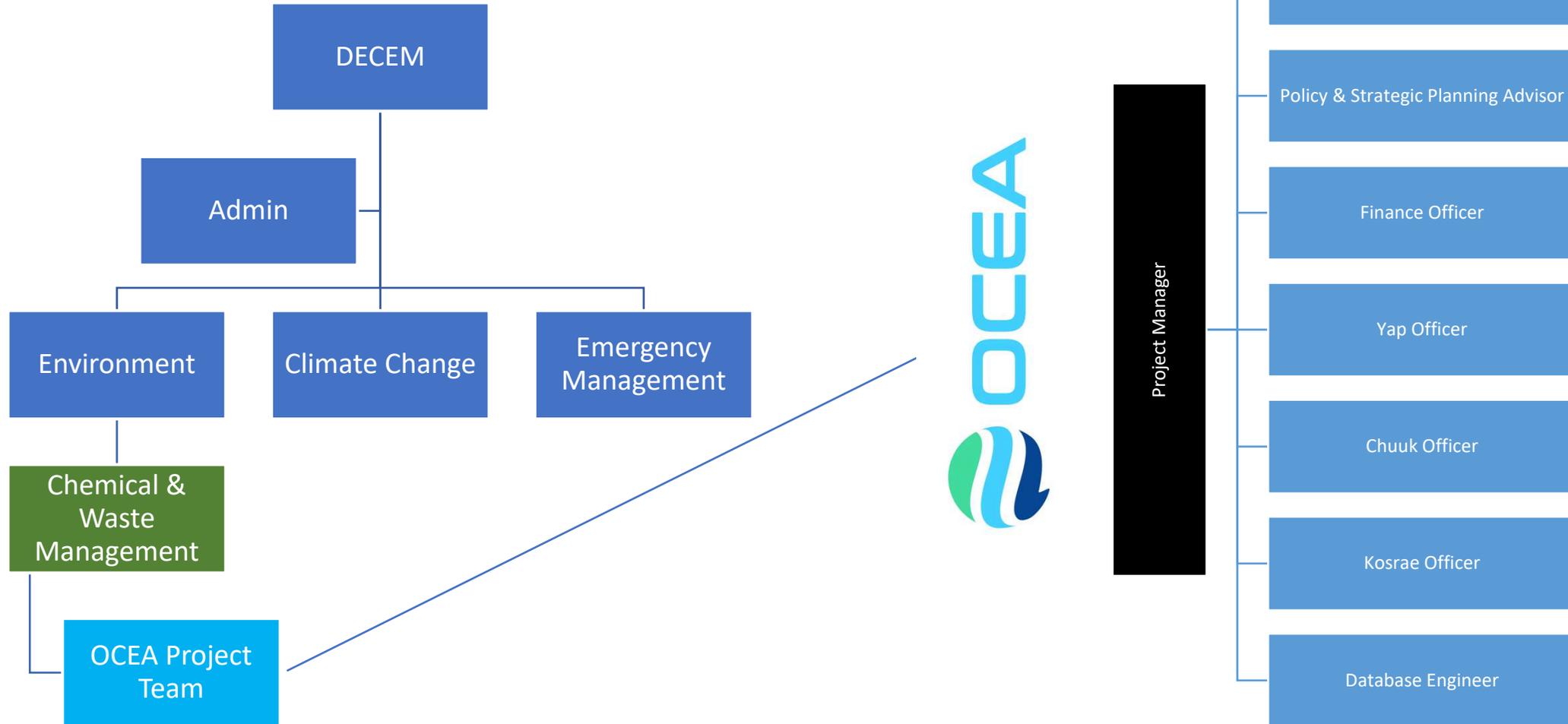
Background – DECEM Chemical Management Institutional Strengthening Project

- Purpose of the project - Bolster FSM’s capacity to monitor and evaluate chemical use by sector; provide policy recommendations to improve state and national legislative and regulatory frameworks on chemical management; establish a central database for chemical imports to meet reporting requirements under the Basel and Stockholm Convention
- Donor/Budget – UNEP \$180,000
- Timeline – June to December 2023 (Yes very small implementation window!)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Institutional arrangements – Contracted Firm



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Ongoing Project Activities

- National Chemical Profile & Updated Chemical Inventory – Drafting
- National Chemical Management Policy & Action Plan – Planning/Research
- Review of Policy and Regulatory Framework on Chemical Management – Drafting
- Policy Recommendations for State and National Frameworks on Chemical Management - Drafting
- National Chemical Database & Reporting System – Soft Launch

Planned Activities

- Stakeholders Meetings to review draft NCP, NCPM&AP, & Policy Recommendations
- User Access Testing of National Chemical Database – 8 to 10- users



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Opportunities for collaboration

- Developing Databases and Reporting Mechanisms – consolidating quantitative data derived from surveys or customs imports to increase ease of reporting, fulfill reporting requirements to depts, implementing agencies, donors, etc.
- Using technology tools to automate reporting and communications with stakeholders
- Strategic Planning for State EPAs – generate ideas and explore avenues for the EPA to engage with new funding opportunities under Compact III
- Policy Development & Technical Training



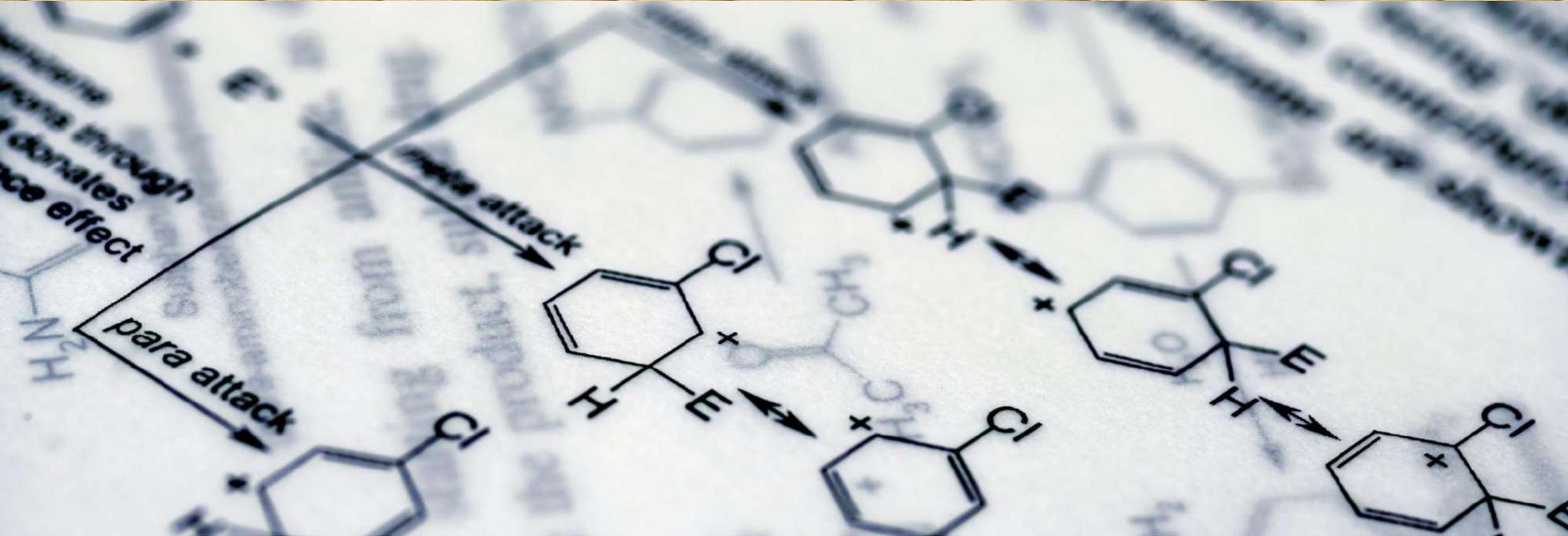
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- Improve the quality and frequency of data collection, especially with projects/programs that depend on customs import data to derive baselines on chemicals, vehicles, fuel, refrigerants, etc.
- Establish Standard Operating Procedures for chemical imports
- Explore ways to collect data to improve current operational or reporting processes – you cannot improve what you cannot measure!



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



Preview of Preliminary Findings of DECEM's Chemical Imports from 2019 -2021



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Chapter 28 Inorganic chemicals; organic or inorganic compounds of precious metals, of rare-earth metals, of radioactive elements or of isotopes

Chapter 29 Organic chemicals

Chapter 30 Pharmaceutical products

Chapter 31 Fertilisers

Chapter 32 Tanning or dyeing extracts; tannins and their derivatives; dyes, pigments and other colouring matter; paints and varnishes; putty and other mastics; inks

Chapter 33 Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery, cosmetic or toilet preparations

Chapter 34 Soap, organic surface-active agents, washing preparations, lubricating preparations, artificial waxes, prepared waxes, polishing or scouring preparations, candles and similar articles, modelling pastes, “dental waxes” and dental preparations with a basis of plaster

Chapter 35 Albuminoidal substances; modified starches; glues; enzymes

Chapter 36 Explosives; pyrotechnic products; matches; pyrophoric alloys; certain combustible preparations

Chapter 37 Photographic or cinematographic goods

Chapter 38 Miscellaneous chemical products- pesticides and related chemicals

Chapter 39 - Plastics and Articles Thereof

Chapter 40 - Rubbers and Articles Thereof



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Nominal Value of Chemical Imports per Chapter per State in 2019 - 2021

Year	State	Albuminoi..	Essential ..	Explosive..	Fertilizers	Inorganic..	Organic C..	Pesticides..	Pharmace..	Photogra..	Plastics a..	Rubbers &..	Soap, surf..	Tanning, ..
2019	Chuuk	98,452	674,231	15,586	4,952	402,996	104,359	659,738	2,017,408	3,120	3,806,335	599,489	1,499,900	1,289,906
	Kosrae	2,733	103,484	423	2,208	19,171	21,802	115,535	92,494	6,375	1,611,733	185,603	130,984	87,517
	Pohnpei	149,144	493,586	13,425	24,200	316,418	91,875	334,902	1,250,289	22,073	3,783,688	966,310	1,097,142	684,472
	Yap	12,684	170,831	6,087	39,373	54,952	18,138	404,441	921,587	1,871	757,560	166,138	267,629	307,680
2020	Chuuk	76,486	784,959	153,075	11,537	155,536	283,759	758,980	1,013,347	4,769	3,229,788	476,070	1,720,932	778,892
	Kosrae	10,761	132,737	208	7,950	113,424	45,649	59,284	144,619	1,369	1,632,072	80,956	111,638	40,661
	Pohnpei	230,431	433,543	6,092	26,577	204,273	119,406	493,983	1,484,410	48,997	3,695,778	1,556,931	1,359,548	648,688
	Yap	22,591	122,072	3,141	8,761	109,890	67,958	473,911	790,221	3,266	2,118,311	438,772	344,158	380,585
2021	Chuuk	111,458	998,390	115,987	13,425	176,756	105,872	678,460	1,731,854	12,938	4,705,737	755,608	1,876,222	1,065,322
	Kosrae	162	63,109		220	12,257	71,698	69,179	200,196		1,628,566	263,644	101,592	123,172
	Pohnpei	121,445	647,311	58,617	15,575	62,604	98,640	515,608	1,316,134	183,154	3,500,721	1,098,303	1,209,157	721,502
	Yap	18,837	232,701	4,893	29,320	4,400	29,388	269,706	865,594	3,984	761,235	309,364	329,920	263,945



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

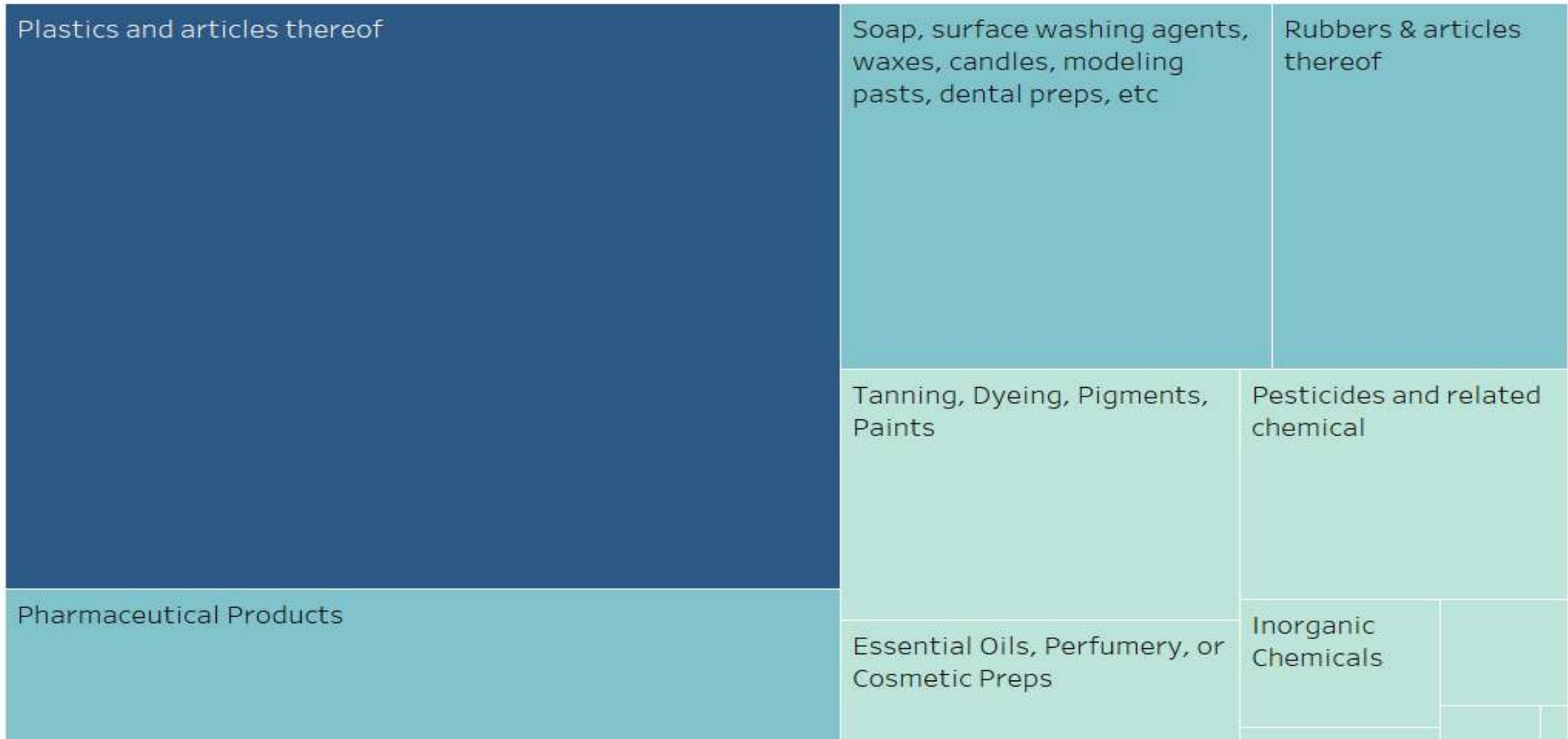
Year	State	Fertiliz..	Photog..	Explosi..	Albumi..	Organic..	Inorgan..	Pesticid..	Essenti..	Tannin..	Rubber..	Soap, s..	Pharma..	Plastics..
2019	Chuuk	0.04%	0.03%	0.14%	0.88%	0.93%	3.61%	5.90%	6.03%	11.54%	5.36%	13.42%	18.05%	34.06%
	Kosrae	0.09%	0.27%	0.02%	0.11%	0.92%	0.81%	4.85%	4.35%	3.68%	7.80%	5.50%	3.89%	67.72%
	Pohnpei	0.26%	0.24%	0.15%	1.62%	1.00%	3.43%	3.63%	5.35%	7.42%	10.47%	11.89%	13.55%	41.00%
	Yap	1.26%	0.06%	0.19%	0.41%	0.58%	1.76%	12.93%	5.46%	9.83%	5.31%	8.55%	29.45%	24.21%
2020	Chuuk	0.12%	0.05%	1.62%	0.81%	3.00%	1.65%	8.03%	8.31%	8.24%	5.04%	18.21%	10.73%	34.18%
	Kosrae	0.33%	0.06%	0.01%	0.45%	1.92%	4.76%	2.49%	5.57%	1.71%	3.40%	4.69%	6.07%	68.54%
	Pohnpei	0.26%	0.48%	0.06%	2.24%	1.16%	1.98%	4.79%	4.21%	6.29%	15.10%	13.19%	14.40%	35.85%
	Yap	0.18%	0.07%	0.06%	0.46%	1.39%	2.25%	9.70%	2.50%	7.79%	8.98%	7.05%	16.18%	43.38%
2021	Chuuk	0.11%	0.10%	0.94%	0.90%	0.86%	1.43%	5.49%	8.09%	8.63%	6.12%	15.19%	14.03%	38.11%
	Kosrae	0.01%			0.01%	2.83%	0.48%	2.73%	2.49%	4.86%	10.41%	4.01%	7.90%	64.27%
	Pohnpei	0.16%	1.92%	0.61%	1.27%	1.03%	0.66%	5.40%	6.78%	7.56%	11.50%	12.66%	13.78%	36.66%
	Yap	0.94%	0.13%	0.16%	0.60%	0.94%	0.14%	8.64%	7.45%	8.45%	9.91%	10.56%	27.71%	24.37%

Chemical Chapters as % of Annual Imports per State & Year



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

2019 – 2021 Imports of Chemicals and Chemical-related Products into FSM



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



Kalahngan, Kinisou Chapur, Kammagar, Kulo

Any Questions?





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

2.7 FSM DATA PORTAL

Skiis Dewey, IT & Communications Officer, DECEM

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



<https://fsm-data.sprep.org>



Data Portal Background

- FSM Environmental Data Portal implemented by SPREP INFORM project in 2018.
- Upgraded to EKAN data portal platform in 2021.
- Climate change and disaster risk management features incorporated in 2023



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



FSM Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Data Portal Main Menu

The screenshot displays the main menu of the FSM Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Data Portal. The page features a dark teal header with a 'LOG IN' button in the top right corner. Below the header, the portal's logo and name are displayed on the left, accompanied by the tagline 'Building resilience through increased access to information.' A navigation menu with the following items is located below the logo: DATASETS, ABOUT, CLIMATE CHANGE (with a dropdown arrow), EXPLORE SPATIAL DATA, STORIES, DASHBOARDS, and HELP & SUPPORT. The main content area has a background image of a traditional wooden house on stilts. It includes a search bar with the placeholder text 'Enter search term' and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar are two dropdown menus for 'Topic' and 'Content', both currently set to '- All -'. A section titled 'Popular search terms' lists three terms: 'disaster emergency (36662)', 'tse (20634)', and 'natplan (886)'. On the right side of the main content area, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Email. At the bottom of the page, a video player is visible, showing a progress bar at 0:00 and the title 'Key Findings of the 2018 State of'.





“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Searchable Information Repository

554 results

Search Sort by Relevance Order Desc Apply

State of the Environment and Conservation in the Pacific Islands: 2020 Regional Report: Indicators 19-20 - Managing invasive species in the Pacific

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

Invasive species are the primary cause of extinction on islands (IUCN Red List 2020, SPREP 2016, SOCO 2017). Invasive species have been formally identified as a threat for 1,531 species in the Pacific islands region to date (IUCN Red List, 2020). Pacific leaders have established two core regional indicators for invasive species management. Efforts for invasive management are ongoing in almost all Pacific island countries and territories.

State of environment and conservation in the Pacific Islands: 2020 regional report.

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

Pacific islands are hotspots of unique biodiversity. Our ancestral traditions are linked to nature. However, these traditions, the natural environment, and biodiversity are threatened by changing global and regional environmental pressures, ecological degradation, growing human populations, changing demands of our societies, and the impacts of climate change and sea level rise.

Call Number: [EJ]

ISBN/ISSN: 978-982-04-0905-7/978-982-04-0906-4

Physical Description: 156 p., 29 cm.

Projects and Funding Page

FSM ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT DATA PORTAL

LOG IN

DATASETS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE EXPLORE SPATIAL DATA STORIES DASHBOARDS HELP & SUPPORT

Home / Projects / FSM Ridge to Reef

26 MAY 2023 | PROJECT

FSM Ridge to Reef (R2R)

Atmosphere and Climate Built Environment Coastal and Marine Culture and Heritage Disaster Risk Management Inland Waters Land Biodiversity

The Federated States of Micronesia consist of four major island groups with over 600 islands in the northern Pacific. These vary geographically from high mountainous islands to low lying coral atoll and volcanic outcroppings on Pohnpei, Kosrae and Chuuk.

About 60% of water resources in FSM exist as surface water in the form of small, intermittent streams that drain catchments areas of limited aerial extent and are dry for about 20% of the year. The topography in the stream basins is not conducive to the construction of economical dams and requires extensive and costly treatment. The remaining 40% of the islands' water resources exist as groundwater. Many households use roof catchments and are particularly prevalent in the outer islands where there is no piped water.

All of the four focal islands have coastal mangrove fringes and development is largely focused on the coast with minimal vegetative cover is dense on all islands and has not generally been disrupted for



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management

A screenshot of the website for the FSM Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Data Portal. The page features a header with the portal's name and a navigation menu including 'DATASETS', 'ABOUT', 'CLIMATE CHANGE', 'EXPLORE SPATIAL DATA', 'STORIES', 'DASHBOARDS', and 'HELP & SUPPORT'. A 'LOG IN' button is in the top right. The main content area has a dark blue background with a landscape image and the title 'Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management'. A search bar is located below the title. At the bottom, there are four icons representing different categories: a globe with a plant (Projects), a hand holding a plant (Legislation and Policies), a classical building (Legislation and Policies), and an open book (Educational Resources). A video player is visible in the bottom left corner.



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Education Resources Landing Page

FSM ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT DATA PORTAL

Building resilience through increased access to information.

LOG IN

DATASETS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE* EXPLORE SPATIAL DATA STORIES DASHBOARDS HELP & SUPPORT

Home / Climate Change Educational Resources

30 MARCH 2023 | DATA DASHBOARD

Climate Change Educational Resources

What is Climate Change

What Are Government Actions

What is Climate Resilience

0:00

Legislation and Policies Landing Page

FSM ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT DATA PORTAL

Building resilience through increased access to information.

LOG IN

DATASETS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE* EXPLORE SPATIAL DATA STORIES DASHBOARDS HELP & SUPPORT

Home / Climate Change Legislation and Policies

30 MARCH 2023 | DATA DASHBOARD

Climate Change Legislation and Policies

National Legislation and Policies

0:00



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

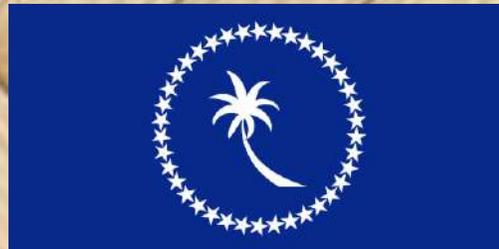
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2.8 US EPA, Region 9

Angela Sandoval, P.E., FAS Circuit Rider, US EPA

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



• EPA Overarching Regional Goals

- *Safeguard the environmental health of the U.S. – Affiliated Pacific Islands*, by addressing environmental deficiencies such as inadequate water infrastructure, open dumps, and unaddressed hazardous waste sites.
- *Build local environmental protection capacity* by providing resources, technical assistance and training.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



- EPA Region 9 Freely Associated States Circuit Rider Engineer
 - New position funded by an interagency agreement with US Department of State and US Department of Interior as of July 2022 – initial 2-year detail
 - “Local” point of contact for the FAS – based in Guam
 - Better communication, opportunities and ability to visit the FAS more easily and frequently
 - Voice for the FAS inside the EPA/US Government to focus specifically on environmental issues
 - Provide “on the ground” technical assistance
 - Match funding and technical assistance opportunities available to the Freely Associated States



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



- Specific Activities

- Tour Infrastructure and Meet with Local Utilities – Water and Wastewater facilities, Solid Waste Management systems (dumps/landfills, recycling, hazardous waste), Incinerators, Fuel Systems, etc.
- Drinking Water Sanitary Surveys – Pohnpei Iron Removal, Pohnpei Central, Utwe, Chuuk Groundwater and Pou Nefo Water Plant, as well as bottling water companies
- Waste Inventories and Assessments
- Regulatory Assistance
- Technical Assistance



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Prioritizing Environmental Projects and seeking US Government Funding or other Donor Funding Opportunities – USDA, DOI, NOAA, etc.
 - Chuuk Old Transformer Inventory Storage- other Islands also
 - Pohnpei Waste Oil Issues at Landfill
 - Drinking Water Bacteriological Contamination
 - Drinking Water Operator Certification Program
 - Unallocated Compact Funding and New Compact Environmental Sector Funding
 - Pohnpei Ipat Finished Water Tank
 - Looking forward to new funding and most effective use
 - US Department of Defense collaboration and coordination
 - Chuuk MICRODAWN
 - Yap Projects
 - US EPA subject matter experts and input
 - Regulatory Updates
 - Training/Technical Assistance



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

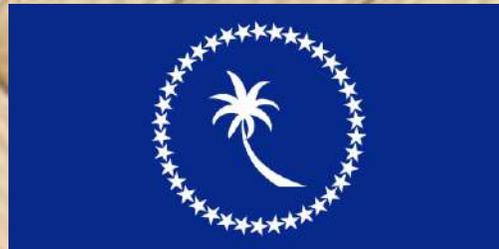
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

2.9 Micronesia Conservation Trust

Winfred Mudong

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018

Bill Raynor Micronesia Challenge Scholarship Fund



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - 21 Scholars
 - 13 Master’s Degrees
 - 2 Doctorates
 - 6 Currently enrolled in School
 - Scholars by Jurisdiction
 - FSM – 11 Scholars
 - CNMI – 3 Scholars
 - Palau – 3 Scholars
 - RMI – 3 Scholars
 - Guam – 1 Scholar



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Bertha Reyuw (Yap)



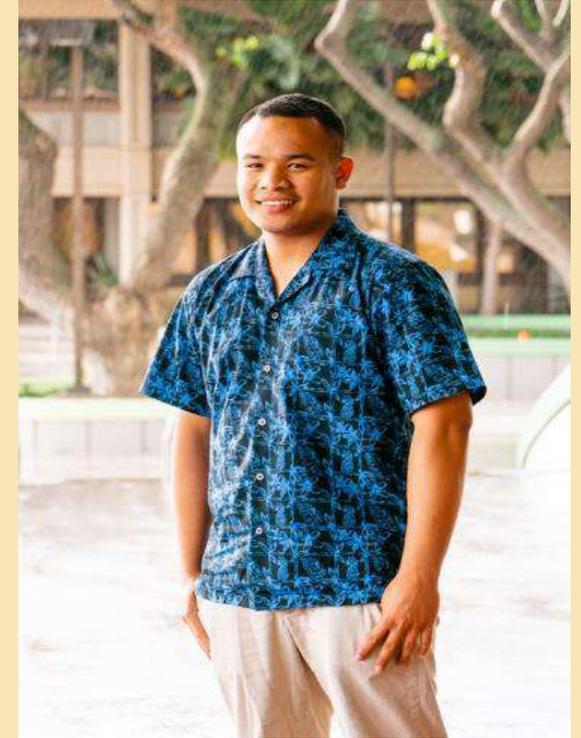
- Sophia University, Tokyo Japan
- Class of 2019
- MA Global Environmental Studies
- Capacity Building Program Manager, MCT

Tamae E. Waguk (KSA)



- Sophia University, Tokyo Japan
- Class of 2020
- MA Global Environmental Studies
- Technical Officer, R2R

Rockner Hadley (PNI)



- UH Manoa
- Class of 2020
- JD Environmental Law
- Maui Court



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Dr. Harmony Yomai (CHK)



- University of Tennessee
- Class of 2021
- PhD Ecology & Evolution Bio
- Co-develop HS Science programs

Dr. Nicole Yamase (PNI)



- UH Manoa
- Class of 2022
- PhD Marine Biology
- Science Advisor

Bradford Mori (CHK)



- Sophia University, Tokyo Japan
- Class of 2022
- MA Global Environmental Studies
- Executive Director Chuuk EPA



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Darla Yatilman (Yap)



- Sophia University, Tokyo Japan
- Class of 2022
- MA Environmental Studies
- Technical Coordinator (CSP)

Annette Ludwig (PNI)



- Sophia University, Tokyo Japan
- Class of 2022
- Masters Degree
- Researcher Land Use

Natasha Gorong (Yap)



- Sophia University, Tokyo Japan
- Class of 2023 (expected)
- Masters Degree
- Researcher Policy



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Shaniah Arnold (CHK)



- **Sophia University, Tokyo Japan**
- **Class of 2023 (expected)**
- **Masters Degree**
- **Researcher Solid Waste**

Maybeleen Apwong (PNI)



- **UH Hilo**
- **Class of 2023 (expected)**
- **Masters Degree**
- **Researcher Mangrove Forest**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges/Opportunities
 - Recruiting BRMC Scholars for higher education
 - Maintaining Scholars in our region



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Fund raising for the BRMC endowment



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- Enroll all scholars in the MIC
- Mentors to be active in the scholar's program and career path
- Continue to highlight our scholars and their contributions



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

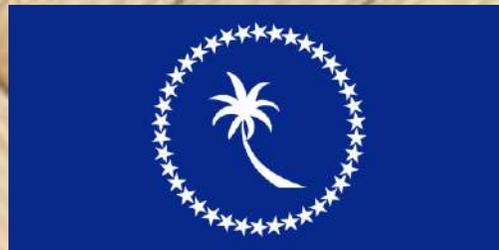
2.10 The Nature Conservancy

Liz Turk

Micronesia Conservation Director

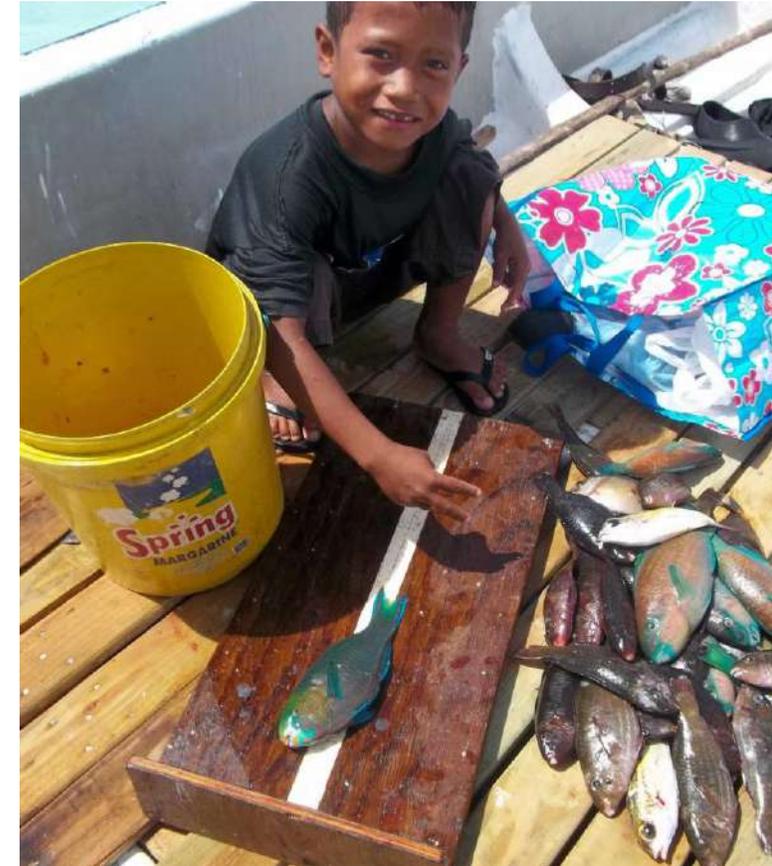
August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018
 - Nature Protecting People: Blue Guide for Disaster Risk Management
 - Development and Implementation of Local Early Action Plans
 - Supported EPA with amendment of Pohnpei State CC Policy to include NbS



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - Continue increase the capacity of women, youth and most vulnerable communities to implement NbS and increase food security (3 projects)
 - Improved resilience of coral reef ecosystems



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges
 - Capacity
 - Lack of coordination/ inefficient use of resources/effort duplication



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration

- Partner participation in Women’s Group Learn Exchanges

- Shared technical support



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- Development of CCA/NbS/DRR curriculum for schools (at all levels)
- Improved coordination –DRR/CCA working group
- Standardized content/requirements for DRR or CCA planning



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

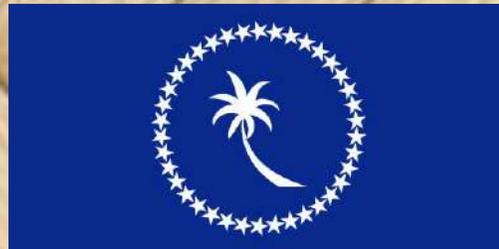
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

3.1 Yap DRM Activities

Ivan E. Kadannged, Director, OPB

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018
 - Yap State Disaster Plan & SOP was updated and signed in 2019
 - Multiple costal improvement project in the last 5 years
 - Tabletop Exercise in 2023



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - Tsunami Ready
 - Enabling Direct Access Program (GCF)
 - Updating the State Disaster Plan and SOP
 - EOC building and State DCO



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges
 - Personnel
 - Knowledge
 - Time
 - Budget



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Need for the State/Community
 - Strengthen Partnership



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations
 - Collaboration



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!



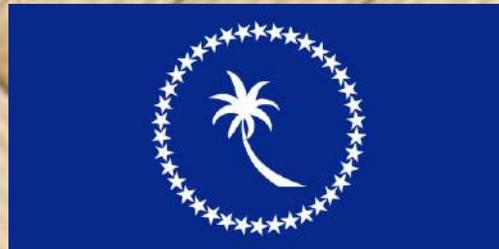


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“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

3.2 Chuuk State DRM Activities
Isen Ainis, DRR Coordinator, CDEOC

August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Progress since 2018

- International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction
- World Tsunami Awareness Day
- Recovery phase (TYPHOON WUTIP(2019) & KING TIDE (2021))
- Municipal Disaster Preparedness Plan/ SOP
- Radio VHF/HF COMM



Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities

- Disaster Municipal Preparedness Plan/SOP
- Disaster Risk Reduction Awareness ---IDDR (October 13)
- World Tsunami Day (November 5)
- Tsunami Ready Awareness
- Updated for JSAP and Chuuk State Disaster Plan



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Challenges

- Funding
- Reporting (Assessment)
- Logistic



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Opportunities for collaboration

- Planning
- Collaborate with agencies and NGOs
- Participate in activities, workshops, trainings, etc.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Recommendations

- Collaboration and working together on assessments
- Secure Vessel for emergency operation
- Establishment of Disaster Fund



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

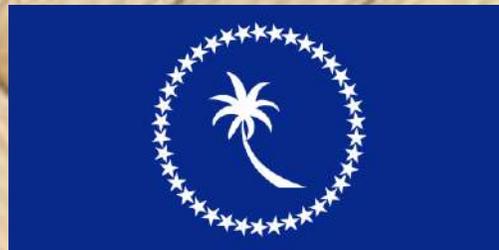
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

3.3. Pohnpei State DRM Activities

Lt. Jason Gonzaga, DPS

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018

- A dedicated division was created in 2016 by law and 2018, activated and operate 24/7 with 13 firefighters (All EMR Certified).
- 2019 – 2022 – Manage EOC during COVID19
- 2021, hired 8 additional firefighters
- Received a new ambulance vehicle
- Received 2 x (2000 gallons) water trucks
- 2021 – 3 firefighters are certified instructors in CPR/First Aid & AED
- Revived 5 unconscious patients (CPR cases)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - Data collections
 - Evacuation drills on Novembers
 - Constructing of the new EOC since 2021
 - Disaster preparedness through radio program awareness
 - Follow ups on Municipal Disaster Preparedness Plan (MDPP)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- Lack of Coordination between Municipal Governments and State Government (building capacity needed)
- Manpower
- Trainings needed



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - DECEM
 - Municipal Government
 - Communities



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- To improve relations between Municipal Government, State Government, National Government, & International Partners.

- Trainings



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

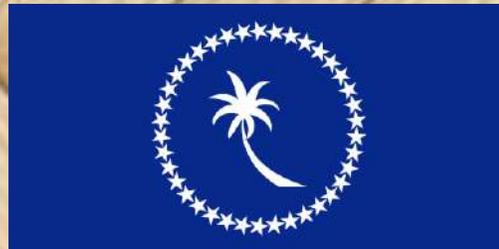
3.4 Emergency Management

Michael Yarofaitoar- Deputy Assistant Secretary (Response & Recovery)

Morthy Solomon- Deputy Assistant Secretary (Mitigation)

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Progress since 2018:

- National Standard Operation Procedures Updated
- Development of Several Municipal Disaster Preparedness Plans
- National Response to Typhoon Wutip and King Tide
- Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience project



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Ongoing and Upcoming Projects & Activities:

- Table Top Exercise for all States
- Awareness on International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction and World Tsunami Day
- Support in assisting the development of Municipal Disaster Preparedness Plan for all local governments and communities
- Implementation of Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific (BSRP II project)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Challenges:

- Transportation and logistics mechanism.
- Limited Funding support for Outreach Awareness Program and development of Municipal Disaster Preparedness Plans.
- State DCOs holds multiple roles
- Lack of dedicated staff to manage the Information Management System for all Emergency Division activities and disaster related data.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Opportunities for collaboration:

- Include Center for Excellence and other international partners in tabletop exercises.
- State DCOs share their priorities and annual activities with DECEM to identify funding support.
- Grant management training for DECEM (EM Division) to identify other sources of funding.
- Sharing disaster related data for the Information Management System (Municipal, State and National).



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations:
 - DECEM identify trainings in disaster management/response and recovery from international partners for National and State counterparts.
 - State SOPs and Disaster Response Plans must be updated
 - State DCO, DECEM, FSM TC&I (Infrastructure Division), FSM R&D (Agriculture Division) work together to Standardized Formula/Estimation for recovery efforts.
 - State DCOs to develop Crisis Communication Plans & MOU with FSMTC for mass texting before & during disasters.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you



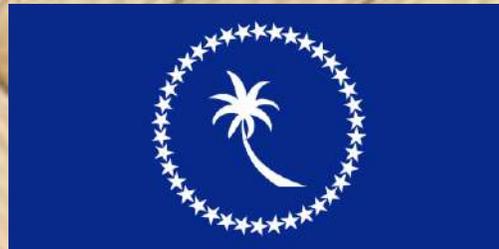


3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

**3.5 International Organization for Migration
Ahmadi Gul Mohammad, Deputy Chief of Party, IOM**

**August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018
 - 93 New houses handed over to beneficiaries under TWRP
 - 7 Public infrastructure (Repairs & New construction) completed under TWRP.
 - In collaboration with DECEM and DCOs, 8 TTX attended by 600 participants
 - Assisted 5 policies/legislation/guidelines/SOPs and plans review/update/development focusing on disaster response and/or reconstruction
 - 4 Essentials of Humanitarian Assistance (EHA) ToT attended by 60 participants
 - 3 strategic warehouses across FSM with preposition relief supplies
 - Trained 257 (155 males, 102 females) community members on climate change adaptation for food and water security
 - Engaged 245 community members (145 males, 100 females) and developed 8 Community Disaster Preparedness Plans (CDPPs)
 - Organized 4 youth summits, trained 65 youth (31 males, 34 females) on Youth Leadership and climate change adaptation and implemented 8 ‘mini-projects’



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - Ongoing construction of 4 Public Infrastructure facilities with 23 in queue.
 - 40 new houses are to be constructed during the coming days and voucher assistance activities are ongoing targeting 228 beneficiaries.
 - EHA TOT, TTX, IDA trainings, development of CBI, AAP SOP, warehousing and preposition supplies
 - Review and update of the state/national disaster plan and SOP
 - Development of Information Management System (IMS) for DCO/DECHEM
 - Finalizing 8 climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction interventions in 8 communities across FSM (2 food security, 5 water security and 1 emergency communication)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- Rough weather is impacting the mobilization of staff, delivery of materials and construction activities.
- International procurement and shipment of construction materials takes time as local market has no capacity to fulfill these needs.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Capacity building, Resilience and DRR initiatives
 - Strategic partnership and collaboration at policy and strategic level to enhance preparedness



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations
 - Strengthening Coordination
 - Government priority areas on resilience, DRR and climate change adaptation



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!



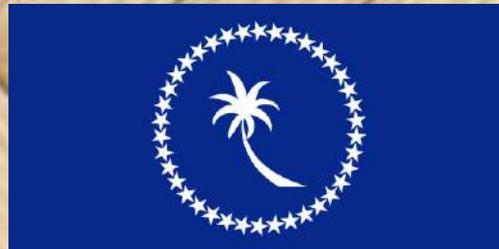


3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

**3.5 International Organization for Migration
Ahmadi Gul Mohammad, Deputy Chief of Party, IOM**

**August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk**



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“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- Rough weather is impacting the mobilization of staff, delivery of materials and construction activities.
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“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Capacity building, Resilience and DRR initiatives
 - Strategic partnership and collaboration at policy and strategic level to enhance preparedness



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations
 - Strengthening Coordination
 - Government priority areas on resilience, DRR and climate change adaptation



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!



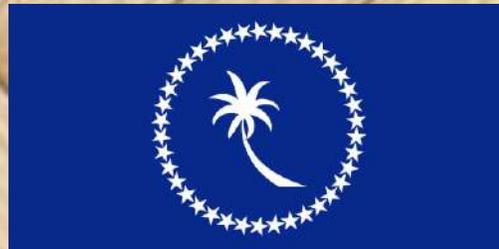


3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

**3.6 Micronesia Red Cross Society
Isao Frank, Jr., Executive Director, MRCS**

**August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018
 - 2 Strategic plans 2016-2020 and 2021-2021
 - Community Resilience Project (Chuuk and Kosrae)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - IFRC/USAID (BHA) VCA
 - IFRC EAP/AA
 - IFRC/American RC Climate HUB



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges
- **Humanitarian Space in FSM:** MRCS does not operate in a vacuum. There are other humanitarian actors. The critical question is - How is MRCS seen within this humanitarian space? How is MRCS faring against the other humanitarian actors?



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - greater innovation and flexibility to respond to changing, emerging or more complex client needs and changing operations and operational environments.
 - access to up-to-date information, new ideas and strategic thinking. improved capacity to demonstrate best practice.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations
 - PMER specialist at DECEM



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!



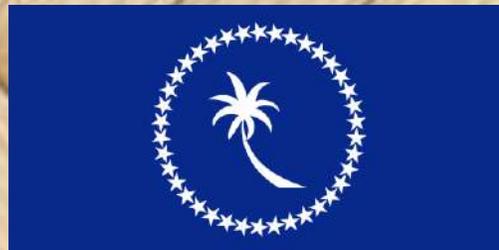


3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

3.7 Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience in the FSM
Yoko Ebisawa, Project Manager, UNDP

August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience through Improved Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure (EDCR) project

Donor: Government of Japan

Total Resource: USD 7,400,000

Duration: Mar 2029 – Sep 2023

Partner: DECEM, DCOs, Pohnpei Department of Safety, Kosrae Fire Department, Kosrae Public Safety, CPUC, SYWA

Objectives:

To effectively address the consequences of, and responses to, geo-physical and climate-related hazards to protect lives, sustain livelihoods, preserve the environment and safeguard the economy

Components:

- 1. Strengthened gender sensitive disaster communication and climate monitoring system
- 2. Enhanced gender sensitive national and state disaster responders readiness capacity
- 3. Enhanced community disaster resilience through improved water resource management, and integrated gender and social inclusion awareness



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Key Results:

- Disaster communication was upgraded at all planned 68 sites in National government, Pohnpei, Kosrae, Chuuk and Yap states by installing/upgrading **HF/VHF radios** and solar system to power radios, which will be indirectly benefitted approximately 73,155 people (36,945 men and 36,210 women).



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Key Results:

- Technical and operational capacity of the National Emergency Operation Center was improved by completing **extension of the NEOC building** in May 2022. An official handover ceremony was concluded in December 2022.
- **Construction of Pohnpei State Emergency Operation Center (NEOC)** has completed in May 2023 to enhance Pohnpei State Disaster Readiness Capacity.
- The project has also supported **Kosrae State** Government to reinstate fire department capabilities and improve debris management by **supplying a fire truck, a bucket truck for tree clearing, a woodchipper**, rescue equipment and three chainsaws between November 2019 and November 2021.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Key Results:

- 513 registered customers which represents a population of around 3,898 people (estimated 1,976 men and 1,922 women) are benefited from **improved water resource management** in **Chuuk State** with an increased production rate by 25 percent. CPUC has rehabilitated 14 **deep wells** and a **water treatment plant** which provided an opportunity to increase water production from surface water by up to 50%. The project has also supplied a **portable water tanker** to CPUC in May 2021. Which has delivered more than 2 million gallons of portable water to resident in the outer villages that do not have access to water by February 2023.
- 314 connections estimated 2031 people (893 men and 1138 women) are benefitted from improved **water resource management** in **Yap State**. The project supported South Yap Water Authority to supply a **drilling rig, rehabilitation of wells, storage tank, water filtration and securing additional water sources** which was completed in March 2023.
- The project contributed to increase capacities of 111 persons (60 men and 51 women) in Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) and the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) by organizing trainings in October 2020 and July 2021 respectively.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities

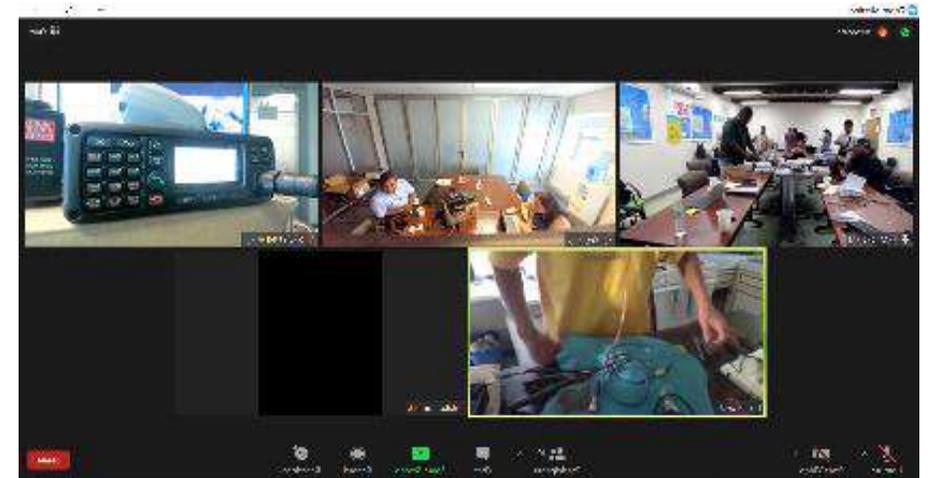
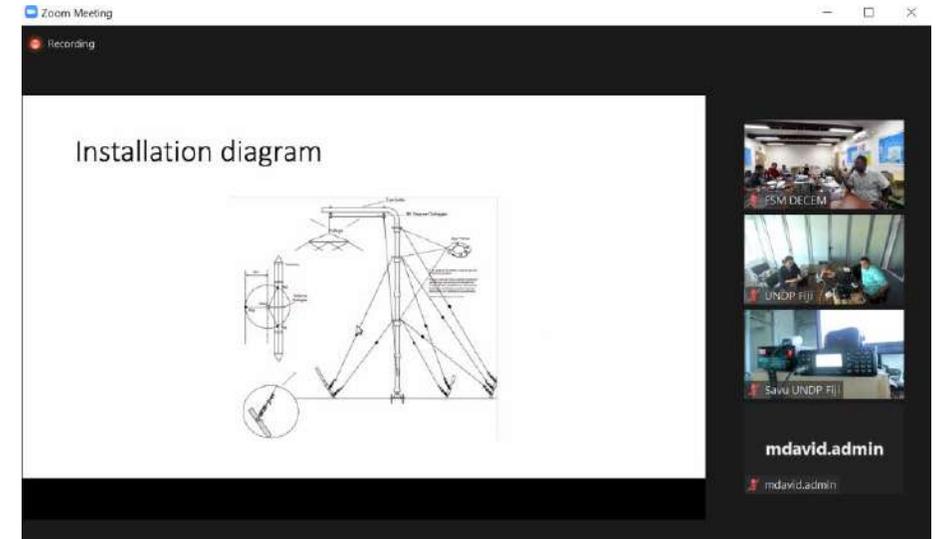
EDCR Project will be closed by 30 September 2023.



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• Challenges

- COVID-19 Pandemic
- Logistics to Outer Islands
- Availability of local resources
- Short timeframe



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Compliment for upgrading radios
 - Community outreach and drill more wells
 - EOC management
 - Programming joint mission to the outer islands



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- Trainings

- Maintenance



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!



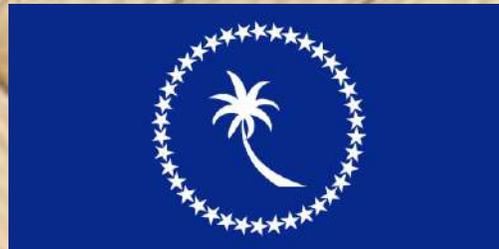


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3.8 Catholic Relief Services
Starla Robert, SILC Field Officer, CRS

August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018
 - Completed **Adaptative Community Transformation (ACT) on Yap 1 Project** in 2019- included DRM planning with 5 municipalities and 6 outer island settlements as well as SILC, agriculture, and community WASH interventions. Agriculture component implemented by Yap COM-CRE.
 - Opened CRS Office in Chuuk in 2019.
 - Completed **Growing Resilience On Wutip-affected-islands (GROW) Project** in 2022– Funded by USAID-OFDA/BHA – providing tools and inputs for short cycle crop agriculture activities on 30 islands across FSM. Project was implemented with partner, CWC.
 - Completed **Ready Environments Addressing COVID-19 and Hygiene (REACH) Project** which prepositioned WASH emergency kits and promoted key hygiene behaviors in all 4 states. Pre-positioned kits were distributed through partner organizations (DOH, DEOC, DCO) during COVID outbreaks or other emergencies such as the 2021 King Tide flooding in Chuuk.
 - Completed **ACT on Yap 2 Project** in 2022- included DRM planning on 3 Neighboring Island Communities and 5 municipalities in Yap Proper, as well as SILC, agriculture and WASH interventions.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

• Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities

- Formation of Disaster Management Committee/taskforces at Municipalities and targeted villages in Yap and Chuuk and facilitate training for
- Organize TOT for project staff on Community Led Disaster Risk Management (CLDRM) module (will invite members from CDEOC, IOM and other partners)
- Facilitate CLDRM process in the Outer Islands and lagoon Islands (municipalities and villages) to develop disaster preparedness plan in project areas, and implement some of plans through small scale grants from project
- Formation of farmers groups in Weno villages, Fefen, Parem, Siis and PiisPanue Island (ADAPT) & ASPIRE (Yap) and facilitate training for them on the process and techniques on how to cultivate crops and protect them from disaster
- Formation of 25 Savings groups (consisting of 375 members) and helping them to save money to use in the time of needs (specially for disaster preparedness and response)
- Identify WASH volunteer from project targeted areas and provide training so that they can support communities in remote areas.
- CRS working to open Office in Pohnpei soon to implement CREATE project



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

• Challenges

- Recruitment of Local Staff took several months-CRS coordinated with local leaders, Churches and announced through Radio station
- Difficult to travel to targeted Outer Islands and Lagoon Islands during bad weather-CRS follow the weather forecast and rearrange events with Mayors and Chiefs
- Limited number of suppliers to supply required materials for agencies required to implement project activities (laptop, printing equipment, seeds and agriculture kits etc.)- CRS coordinating with several suppliers well ahead and check whether they can provide supply in time of need



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

• Opportunities for collaboration

- CDEOC/DCO is very much open and willing to coordinate with organizations working in resilience building activities-BIG support for partners
- All the agencies are coordinating to avoid overlapping and duplication-CDEOC/DCO is supporting in this process
- CDEOC/DCO, IOM and State government can implement Disaster Preparedness Plan developing by CRS in targeted municipalities and communities
- Agencies inviting each other while organizing any training/meeting for capacity building of local and national staff (it is happening).



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• Recommendations

- Sharing resources (training module, posters etc.) among agencies will reduce work of other organizations and we will not reinvent the wheel.
- Sharing human resources across agencies to facilitate training for communities in specific technical issues (e.g. Red Cross can support in First Aid training while Sanitation Department and EPA can support in WASH training)
- Boat/Flight Chartered sharing to make it cost effective
- Continue to be intentional to avoid duplication and overlapping



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Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

3.9 Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific (BSRP II)

Herman Timmermans, Project Manager, SPC

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



EUROPEAN UNION



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique

Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific Phase II



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- **Background**

- **Overall Project Objective:** To reduce the impacts of disasters including those caused by climate change
- The Project is funded by the European Union across 15 countries
- The Project is implemented in 14 Pacific Countries and Timor Leste
- The total Project Budget is **14 million Euros**; Federated States of Micronesia Budget is **505,000 Euros** or approximately **USD 548,180**
- Project Timeline 2022-2027- the final 6 months are reserved for closing project activities
- Project Activities commenced in 2023, Project currently in its Inception Phase



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Planned Outcomes/Activities

1. Risk-Informed Planning and Budgeting

1.1. Update and revise Joint State Action Plans for DRM and CC

2. EOCs, Evacuation Centres and/or Pre-Positioned Supply Facilities

2.1. Support the upgrade Chuuk EOC- request to support with furnishing of EOC

2.2. Backup power supplies for Chuuk, Yap, Kosrae EOCs + Red Cross Offices

3. Emergency Communications Strengthened and Safeguarded

3.1. Upgrade/repair Yap AM radio

4. Communications

4.1. Improve Disaster Risk Management Awareness via creation of posters, pamphlets, community engagement, talk back shows

5. In-Country Coordination

5.1. Project Coordinator

5.2. National Project Steering Committee



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

• **Institutional Arrangements**

- Contribution Agreement between the European Union and the Pacific Community (SPC).
- Memorandum of Understanding between Department of Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Management (DECCEM) and SPC.
- Recruitment of an In-Country Coordinator to oversee the implementation of project activities, prepare project updates and project acquittals.
- Funding Modalities- a combination of Grant or Direct Procurement



Opportunities for Collaboration

- BSRP II have established a National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) consisting of government agencies, the Micronesian Red Cross Society, IOM and SPC
- Recommended to utilise the agency focal points on the NPSC to identify areas of collaboration to improve service delivery to the populace.



Recommendations

- Improve collaboration between agencies implementing Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change initiatives in the Federated States of Micronesia.
- Streamline information sharing between agencies.
- Collaborate and share best practices that will ensure the sustainability of project activities after the project is completed.



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Thank you!





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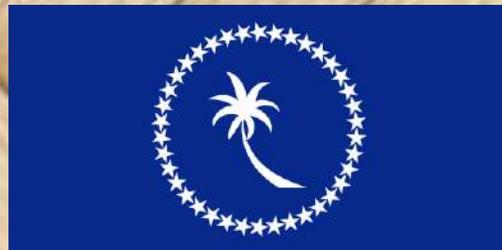
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5.1 ENVIRONMENT SECTOR GRANT & DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY FUND

Asterio Takesy, Chairman, JCRP

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Outcomes of the Compact Negotiations for Environment Sector

- More money for FSM overall annually: Sector grants in total will increase from around \$83M in FY 2023 to \$140M/year if U.S. Congress approves the higher amounts. The total U.S. sector assistance in FY 2023 is approximately \$96M, including Supplemental Education Grants.
- FSM has already approved the updated Compact and other agreements.
- Updated Fiscal Procedures Agreement – Greater deference to FSM in key areas but FSM needs to provide detailed strategic multi-year planning and clear annual implementation plans
- In addition to detailed advance planning documents, FSM will need to provide timely financial and performance reports showing the actual use of funds in each sector
- Bottom line – more opportunities with additional resources, but substantial planning will be required, along with reports on how funds are used.



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Additional Thoughts on Opportunities and Challenges

- The need for more resources in the environmental sector played a big role in the Compact talks and contributed to the larger annual figure.
- The U.S. Congress has not yet approved the increased funding, but our Washington team is monitoring progress and advocating for a timely and successful conclusion.
- There will of course be discussions now within the FSM Government on how to allocate the funds among the many needs of the Nation: Environment, Health, Education, Infrastructure. There are many important priorities.
- The environment sector has historically not received much funding, but the time is now for comprehensive planning for use of funds will need to happen at all government levels – national, state and municipal.



Environment Sector Grant – Note on Past Practice

- To underline the changes – there will be more assistance overall and hopefully a totally different dynamic with the United States.
 - Under the 2003 Amended Compact, allowable uses of Compact sector grants were open-ended, but in practice saw only smaller (< \$1 million), one-off projects funded by JEMCO.
 - Most of these projects were coordinated by the FSM National Government. There will be more opportunities for state-level initiatives
 - Prohibition on sector grant funding of operations costs and recurring expenses limited integration of sector into broader FSM environmental planning and limited support at the state and local levels. This should be improved under the new FPA.
 - Participation of local FSM non-governmental actors was limited and more collaboration seems likely with proper planning.



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Environment Sector Grant – Goals

- Section 261(a)(5) of the 2023 Amended Compact maintains the environment sector grant and specifies its purpose as:
 - [T]o increase environmental protection; conserve and achieve sustainable use of natural resources; address climate change; and engage in environmental infrastructure planning, design, construction, and operation.
- Article II(2)(d) of the 2023 Fiscal Procedures Agreement elaborates on the sector:
 - Support measures or activities to further a particular long-term objective of the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia to protect the Federated States of Micronesia’s land and marine environment and to conserve and achieve sustainable use of its natural resources.



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Environment Sector Grant – Goals

Article II(2)(d) of the 2023 Fiscal Procedures Agreement elaborates on the potential uses of funding in the sector:

- the ongoing development, adoption, and enforcement of policies, laws, and regulations in pursuit of the above stated goals;
- the reduction and prevention of environmental degradation and all forms of environmental pollution;
- adaptation to climate change;
- the protection of biological diversity, including the assurance of adequate legal and international treaty safeguards relating to the protection of botanical and other agro-ecological property belonging to the Federated States of Micronesia;
- the establishment and management of conservation (sustainable use) areas; environmental infrastructure planning, design construction, and operation;
- interaction and cooperation with non- governmental organizations;
- the promotion of increased environmental awareness in governmental and private sectors; and
- the promotion of increased involvement of citizens and traditional leaders of the Federated States of Micronesia in the process of conserving their country’s natural resources.



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Disaster Preparedness and Response Services (FPSA)

- The U.S. and the FSM are still in the process of negotiating the continuation of the Disaster Preparedness and Response Services component of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement.
- The United States has assured us that these crucial services will continue into the next Compact assistance period. Unlike the Compact amendments and the Fiscal Procedures Agreement the details are still being worked out.
- We hope to have final text on the disaster provisions in the coming weeks.



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Application Process

- *(NOTE – this will need to be completed by DECEM and others in the FSM environment sector based on implementation plans).*



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Institutional Arrangements

- *(NOTE – this will need to be completed by DECEM and others in the FSM environment sector based on FSM internal implementation plans).*



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Next Steps

- (NOTE – this will need to be expanded by DECEM and others in the FSM environment sector based on implementation plans and FSM institutional arrangements).



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Final Thoughts from JCRP Perspective

To summarize:

- More funds are expected to be available once U.S. Congress approves the Compact updates.
- This means potentially much more funding for environment sector.
- Definitions of the sector are flexible under the 2023 Amended Compact and the 2023 Fiscal Procedures Agreement
- Planning is essential, the sooner the better, to be able to take advantage of the opportunities that will likely be available.
- Funding in the environmental sector must be consistent with “multi-year objectives” as specified in the FSM Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and uses be detailed in the FSM’s Annual Implementation plans.
- Greater emphasis will be placed on the quality and timeliness of reporting. Failure to provide these reports meaningful and timely reports may lead to U.S. denials of allocations.



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Thank you!

Questions/Comments?





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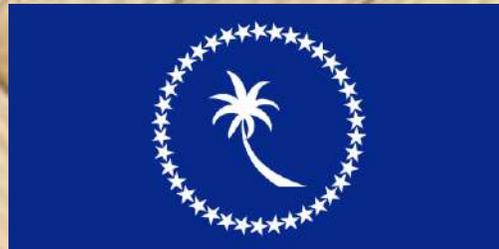
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5.2 COORDINATION UNIT

Cynthia H. Ehmes, Acting Secretary, DECEM

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



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COMPACT CHANGES FOR ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

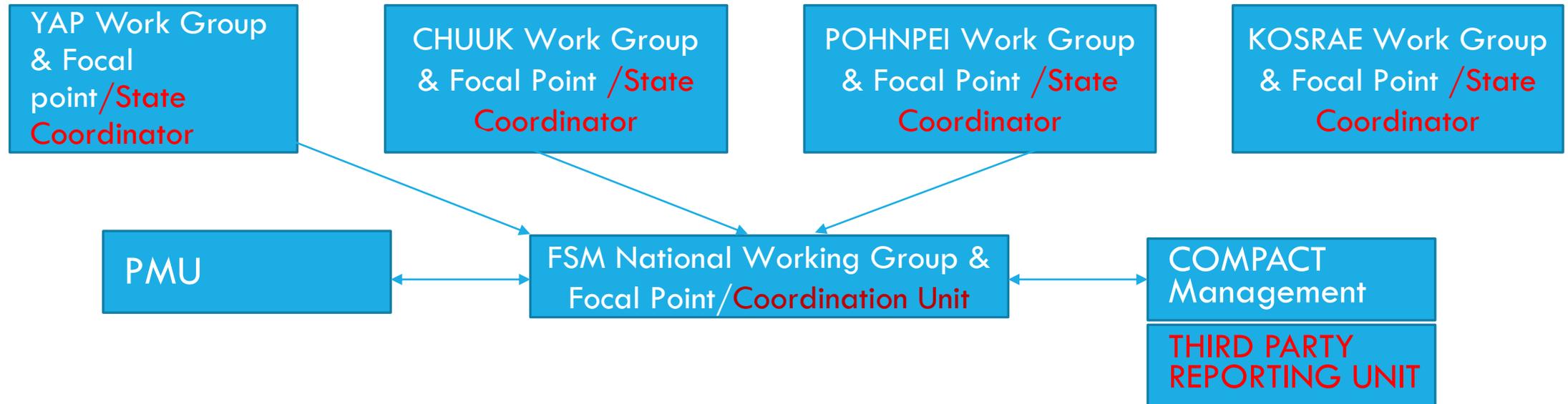
Previous Setup under the Amended Compact	New Setup under Compact 3
Considered “a small sector” = 2 Million < 1%	\$\$ increased sector package
Environment (EPA/KIRMA primarily)	EPA/KIRMA + CC, Marine, Agri, Energy, Water, CB, etc.
Only State Level Access	Only State Level Access

**EXPANDED SECTOR/INCREASED \$/ACROSS 4 STATES =
PACKAGING, COORDINATION, REPORTING, M&E, NATIONAL ALIGNMENT
(SUPPORT FOR NEW SETUP)**



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“NEW COMPACT” SUPPORT STRUCTURE WITH NATIONAL COORDINATION/REPORTING UNIT



MAIN FUNCTIONS OF THE COORDINATION UNIT

Provide support to the development of State workplans

- **Package budget proposal**

Capacity Building of state personnel

M&E

- **Timely monitoring**

Reporting

- **Quarterly/Annual progress reports**

National Alignment

- **Sustainable Development Goals/SDP/State Of Environment Report/Climate Change Policy/Solid Waste Management Plans**
- **Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund, Other donors**
- **Unit can expand or dissolve depending on the need as implementation progressed**



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Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

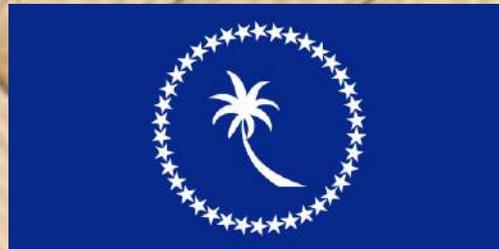
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6.0 Center For Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance

(CEE-DM)
James Kenwolf

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



Mission

CFE-DM builds crisis response capacity, enhances coordination and collaboration, and strengthens relationships to save lives and alleviate human suffering before, during, and after humanitarian crises.

Vision

The Joint Force, allies, and partners are fully prepared to conduct and support foreign humanitarian assistance.



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Advise & Assist

- Advise USINDOPACOM leaders in disaster management and humanitarian assistance decision-making
- Assist commanders with the integration of disaster management and humanitarian assistance capacities and resources
- Work collaboratively throughout the joint interagency, intergovernmental, and international communities
- Support of U.S. Agency for International Development Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)
- Execute CFE-DM SOP for Disaster Response in real-world events

CFE-DMHA
Disaster Information Report

Nepal Earthquake, April 27, 2015
CDIR No. 3

BLUF – Implications to PACOM

- USTRANSCOM is moving AID Teams
- No PACOM assistance requested thus far (USAID)
- UN advises that USAID teams that have not yet arrived in Kathmandu are advised to stand down. All Foreign Medical Teams (FMTs) that have not yet arrived to Kathmandu are advised to stand by. (WGSOC)
- GON needs (UN):
 - Medication, medical tests, surgical kits and body bags
 - Food, water, shelter
 - Shelter support for identified open spaces (UNRC)

Key Concerns & Trends

- The GON is leading response efforts. International SAR and medical teams are in-country to support the GON effort.
- An estimated total of 8 million have been affected, over 2 million live in the 11 most severely affected districts
- An estimated 1.4 million people may need food assistance
- Hospitals remain overwhelmed. UN says immediate health needs include medication, medical tests, and supplies
- Access still reported to be extremely limited due to geography and infrastructure damage
- Meteorologists predict rainfall over the next ten days (UNRC)

Nepal Earthquake – Stats & Facts

Background:
At 11:56 am local time (06:11 UTC), a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal, with epicenter in Lamjung District, located 81 km northwest of Kathmandu (pop. 2.5 million) with a depth of 15 km (USGS)

Aftershocks continue to affect the area and people continuing to sleep outdoors. (UNRC)

Impact:
Government reporting 35 out of 75 districts affected. Most affected areas are Dhaulagiri, Garhoo, Sikkim, Sindhupalchok, Earsa, Nawalot, Dhaulagiri, Kathmandu, Laligur, Bhaktapur, and Ramechhap districts. (UNRC)

Logistics, Communications:
Kathmandu (day light only) and Pokhara airports remain open and accepting some commercial flights. The main feeder roads outside of Kathmandu Valley are reported to be accessible overall, but many side roads are damaged and access is limited. Status of some roads still unclear. (UN)

Mobile networks are functional with outages occurring. Landlines appear to be functioning. Power limited to Kathmandu. (UNRC)

Affected Population (as of 27 APR)
Kathmandu: 3,351. Most deaths from Bhaktapur, Laligur and Kathmandu. To be expected to increase as SAR teams reach remote areas. (CON)

to (approx) 6,833 (CON)

Total affected: 8 million people across 39 districts (est.). (UNRC)

Total Population of Nepal: 27.8 million (WB)



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CFE-DM STRUCTURE



Activities enhance the awareness, understanding, and capabilities that help both military and civilian partners plan and conduct operations that support and facilitate disaster response, humanitarian assistance, climate change and strengthen civil-military coordination.

Quick Facts

- Located at Pearl Harbor, HI
- DoD organization
- Global mandate
- All civilian staff



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Training & Engagements

- Increase US military and security partners’ understanding of humanitarian response and military role during crisis settings through the following:
 - Online and resident training courses
 - Senior leader seminars
 - Support to Geographic Combatant Command theater security cooperation exercises, regional engagements, and national programs through strategic partnerships
 - Alignment of CFE-DM training curriculum with relevant partners
 - Provide support to UNOCHA CMCoord Course and other events in accordance with MoU
 - Incorporate Protection of Civilians and Civilian Harm Mitigation methodology into planning and execution

Training & Engagements (T&E) enhances the awareness, understanding, and skills that help both military and civilian partners plan and conduct operations that support and facilitate humanitarian access, assistance, and ultimately protection of civilians.



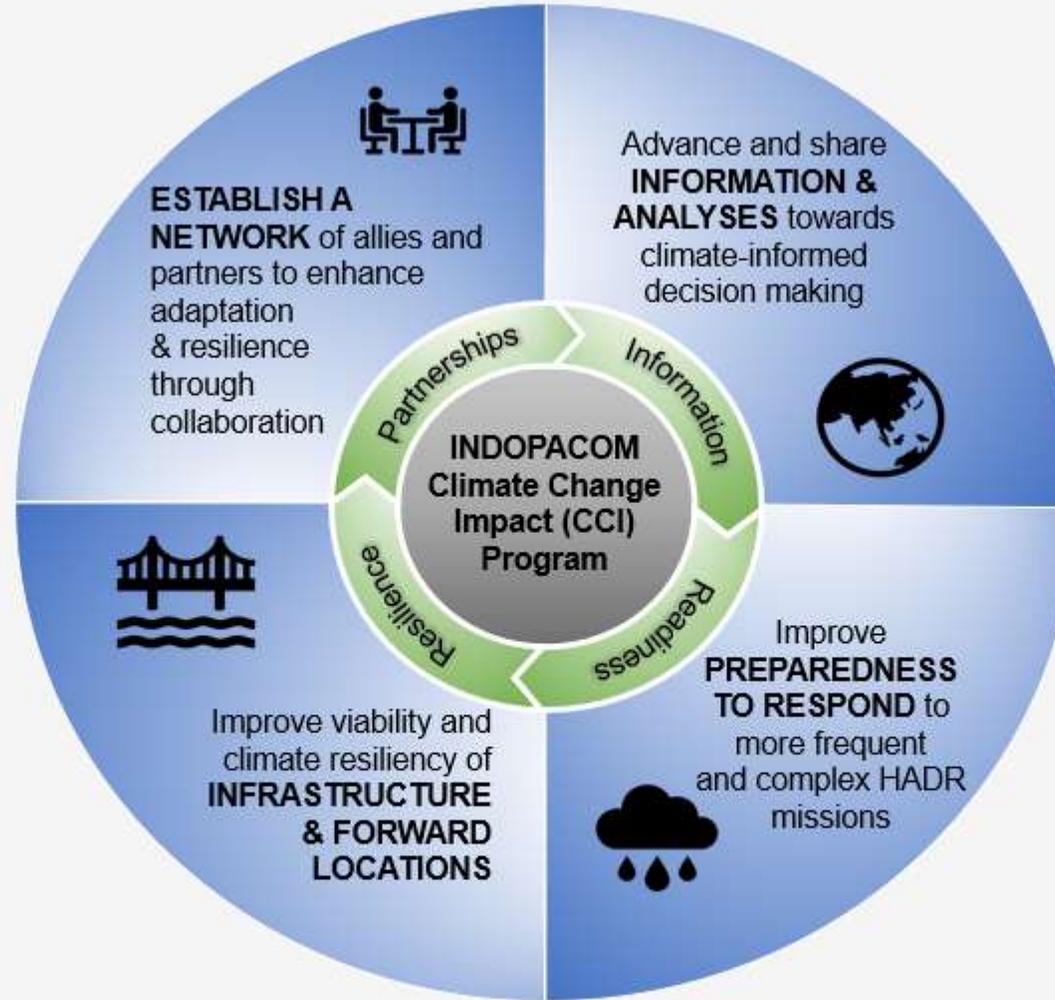
Climate Change Impact Program - CCI

ESTABLISH A NETWORK

- ✓ CCI Focus Group
- ✓ Military Connect Group
- ✓ Regional Network
- ✓ Beltway Engagement
- ✓ Climate Awareness Training
- INDOPACOM CCI Conference

INFRASTRUCTURE & POSITIONS

- ✓ Vulnerability Analysis
- Construction Program
- Allies & Partner Climate Resilience Development



INFORMATION & ANALYSIS

- ✓ Best Practices
- ✓ Data Repository
- ✓ Original Research
- ✓ Climate Wargame(s)
- Technology Insertion

PREPAREDNESS TO RESPOND

- ✓ Climate Training (HART)
- HA-Related Exercises
- ✓ HADR CONPLAN 5004
- ✓ Disaster Net Program

CCI focuses on the “impact of climate change” in order to increase resilience, reduce fragility, and subsequently enhance the stability throughout the region as part of the “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” vision

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Climate Change Threats Scorecard



Climate Impact Trends

Heat Extremes
Mean Air Temperature
Relative Sea Level
Coastal Floods
Ocean Acidity
Marine Heatwaves
Cyclones
Heavy Precipitation
Mean Precipitation

	Southeast Asia	Pacific Islands	South Asia	East Asia
Heat Extremes	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE
Mean Air Temperature	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE
Relative Sea Level	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE
Coastal Floods	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE
Ocean Acidity	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE
Marine Heatwaves	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE
Cyclones	MEDIUM CONFIDENCE	MEDIUM CONFIDENCE	LOW CONFIDENCE IN DIRECTION OF CHANGE	MEDIUM CONFIDENCE
Heavy Precipitation	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE	HIGH CONFIDENCE
Mean Precipitation	MEDIUM CONFIDENCE	MEDIUM CONFIDENCE	MEDIUM CONFIDENCE	MEDIUM CONFIDENCE

Increased disaster and hazard events

- Increased frequency and intensity of **climate hazards, disasters and extreme weather events** pose a threat to life, livelihoods, food production, freshwater resources, property, infrastructure and services.

Food and water scarcity

- Impacts on and disruption to food production, yields, and systems will **decrease food security**
- Strain on freshwater resources from decrease in **water supply and quality**

Migration and displacement

- Migration and displacement** from shifting populations seeking labor opportunities, shelter, food, water and safety.

Infrastructure, facilities, and services

- Damage and disruptions to **infrastructure, facilities, services**, transportation, communications, and human settlements.

Outbreak of pests and diseases

- Impacts on **human health** include increased risk of outbreaks of diseases, malnutrition, and direct mortality from climate-related hazards.

Climate Impact Outcomes



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INDOPACOM Climate Change Impact (CCI) Program From Climate Facts to Military Impacts



Climate Facts

- Sea and air temperature rise
- GHG increases
- Sea level rise
- Ocean acidification
- Glacier/Ice cap melting

Climate Impacts

- Coastal sea levels
- Tropical cyclones
- More flooding
- More droughts
- Riverine erosion
- Desertification

Human Security Impacts

- Freshwater access
- Food production
- Infrastructure destruction
- Disease outbreak
- Migration
- Fisheries

State Security Impacts

- Increasing need for HADR
- Conflict over resources
- Increased stress on fragile governments
- Existential threat for coastal cities and nations

Military Impacts

- More HADR Responses
- Facility and equipment loss
- Damage to operating locations
- Potential for conflict

CCI Program: Understand and address the Readiness and Conflict implications of Climate Change, and partner to identify and implement solutions



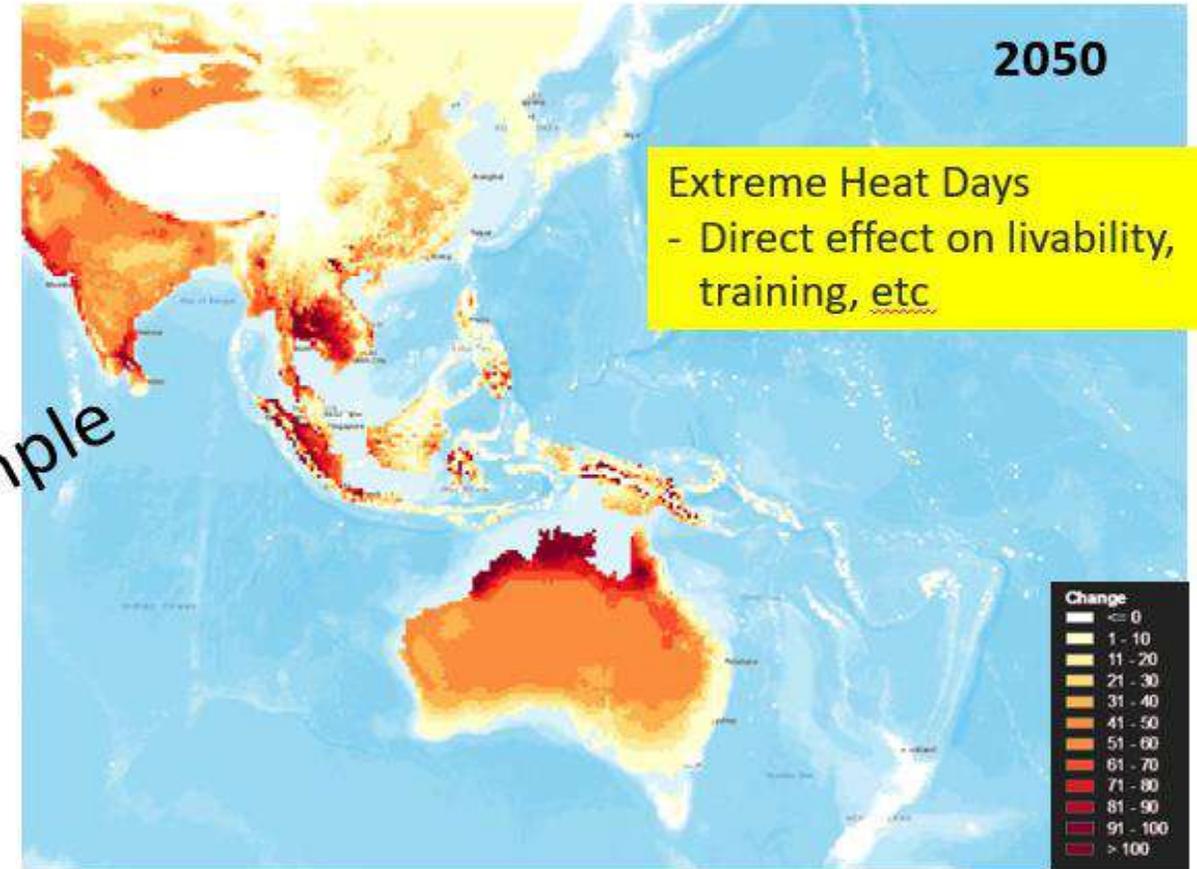
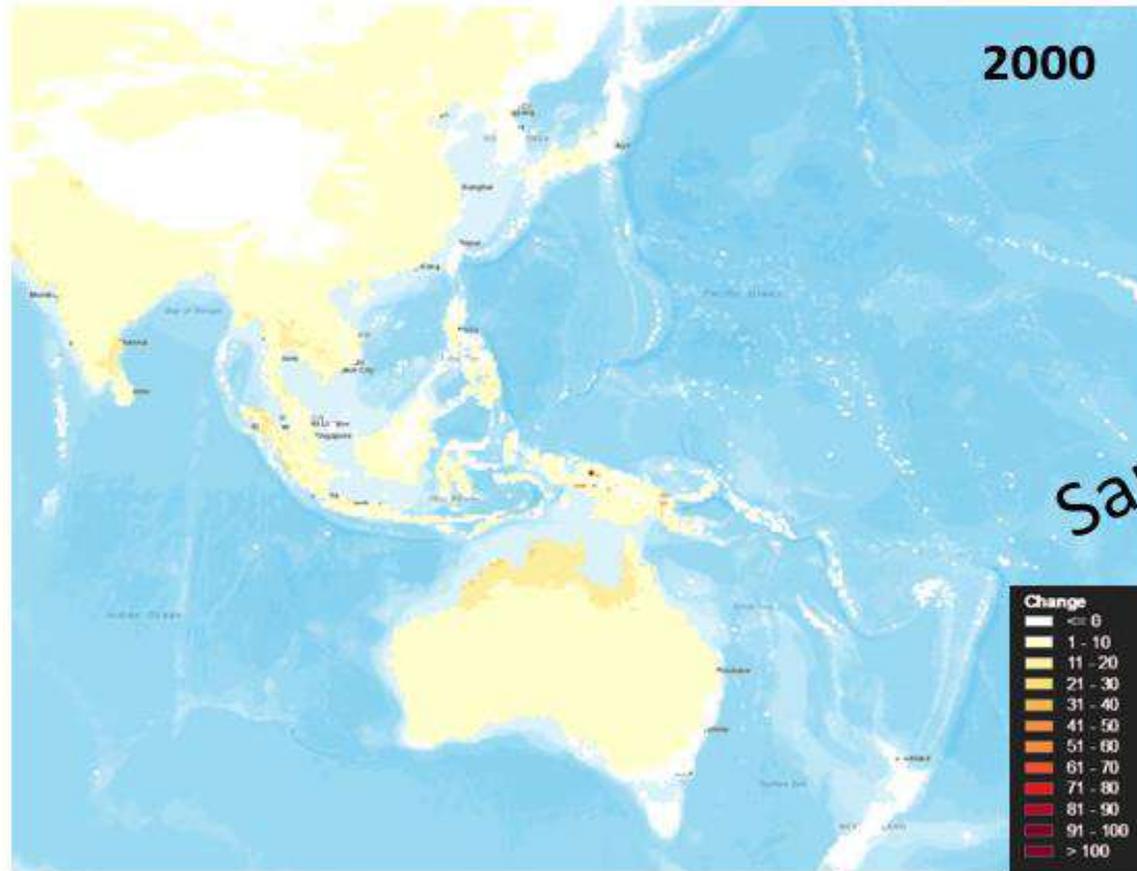
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Climate Change Impact Analysis

Extreme Heat Days 2000 and 2050



[VIEW IN DISASTERAWARE](#)



Extreme Heat Days
- Direct effect on livability,
training, etc

Sample

Extreme Temperature: Projected change in the number of days with maximum temperatures above 95F/35C



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Lae Nadzab Airport

Papua New Guinea



Population



6.8 Million

Built Environment



\$39.3 Billion

Population and built environment within 400-mile radius of operating location

Estimated Vulnerable Population

2.8 Million



32%

882,161
CHILDREN
AGE 0-14

63%

1,736,753
ADULTS
Age 15-64

5%

137,838
ELDERLY
Age 65+

Critical Infrastructure

Critical Infrastructure within 400 Miles of Lae Nadzab Airport



473

Airports

1 Large
17 Medium
454 Small
1 Seaplane Base



14

Seaports

14 Small / Very Small



--

EOCs



141

Hospitals
and Clinics

74 Hospitals
67 Clinics



--

Fire Stations



146

Schools



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Lae Nadzab Airport Papua New Guinea



[VIEW IN DISASTERWARE](#)



Airfield Statistics

Runway Length (ft):	8,004
Elevation (ft):	238
Parking MOG:	2 x C-130
Parallel Taxiway:	Yes
Warehouse (sf):	15,780
Supply Staging Area:	Limited
Fuel Storage (gal):	44,115



HA/DR Capabilities ■ Sufficient ■ Partial ■ Limited - None

Projected Change in Climate

- Consecutive dry days Based on analysis between 2000 and 2050 the change for projected dry days will decrease by less than 1% to an estimated maximum of 12 consecutive dry days.
- Extreme heat days Based on analysis between 2000 and 2050 change for projected extreme heat days will increase by 25% to an estimated maximum of 90 days above 95° F/35° C.
- Extreme precipitation Based on analysis between 2000 and 2050 the change for projected extreme precipitation will increase seven-fold. Extreme precipitation is projected to increase by a maximum of 15 mm the rainiest 1% of days.
- Tropical cyclone Based on basin wide analysis, by the year 2100:
 - Tropical cyclone intensity is expected to increase approximately 2%
 - Rain rate from tropical cyclones is expected to increase approximately 12%
 - Frequency of tropical cyclones is expected to decrease approximately 20%
- Sea level rise Less than 1% of Population resides in areas potentially affected by SLR in 2050. Very low risk to airfield and supporting infrastructure.



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Micronesia

2000-2050 Climate Change Impact Analysis



Climate Change Exposure 2050 Projected

VIEW IN DISASTERWARE



Estimated Population Exposed to the primary impacts of climate change by 2050

ESTIMATED POPULATION EXPOSED

101,000

ESTIMATED HOUSEHOLDS EXPOSED

17,000

ESTIMATED VULNERABLE POPULATION EXPOSED

41,400



29%

29,000
CHILDREN
AGE 0-14

67%

67,000
ADULTS
AGE 15-64

5%

5,000
ELDERLY
AGE 65+

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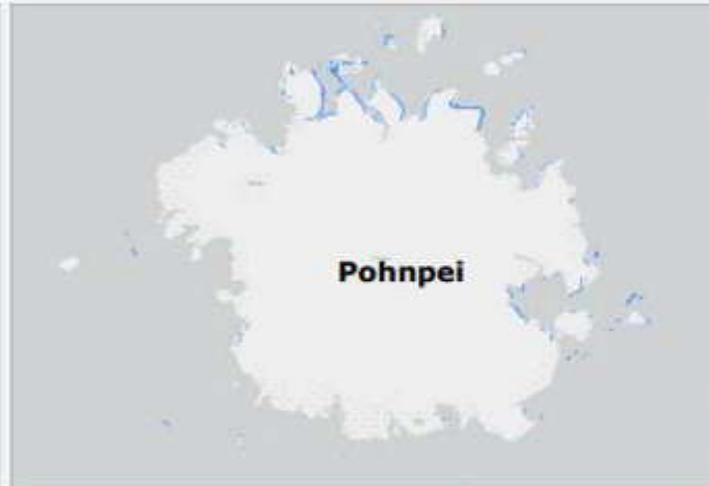
Sea-level Rise

An area exposed to the probabilistic inundation from saltwater floods caused by sea level, tides and costal flooding combining to raise the ocean high enough to spread over adjacent land. Sea level model is based on IPCC AR6 Leading Consensus model and the RCP 8.5 emission scenario.

2050 Projected



Colonia, Yap



Pohnpei



Chuuk Islands

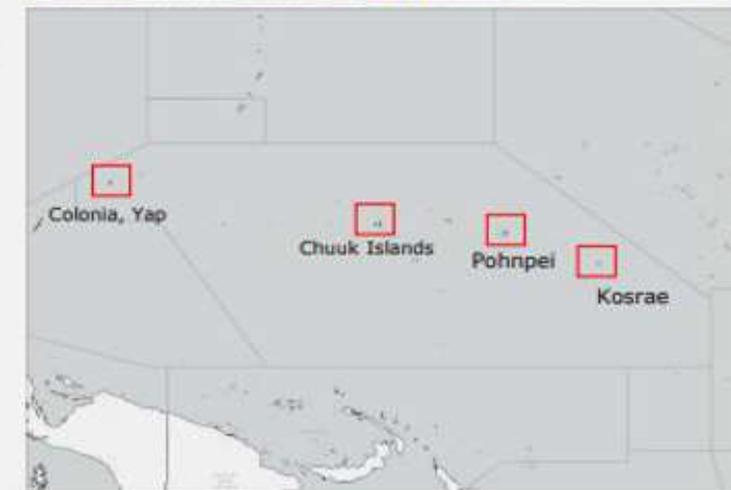


Kosrae

Sea Level Rise



Sea Level Rise - 2050



Colonia, Yap

Chuuk Islands

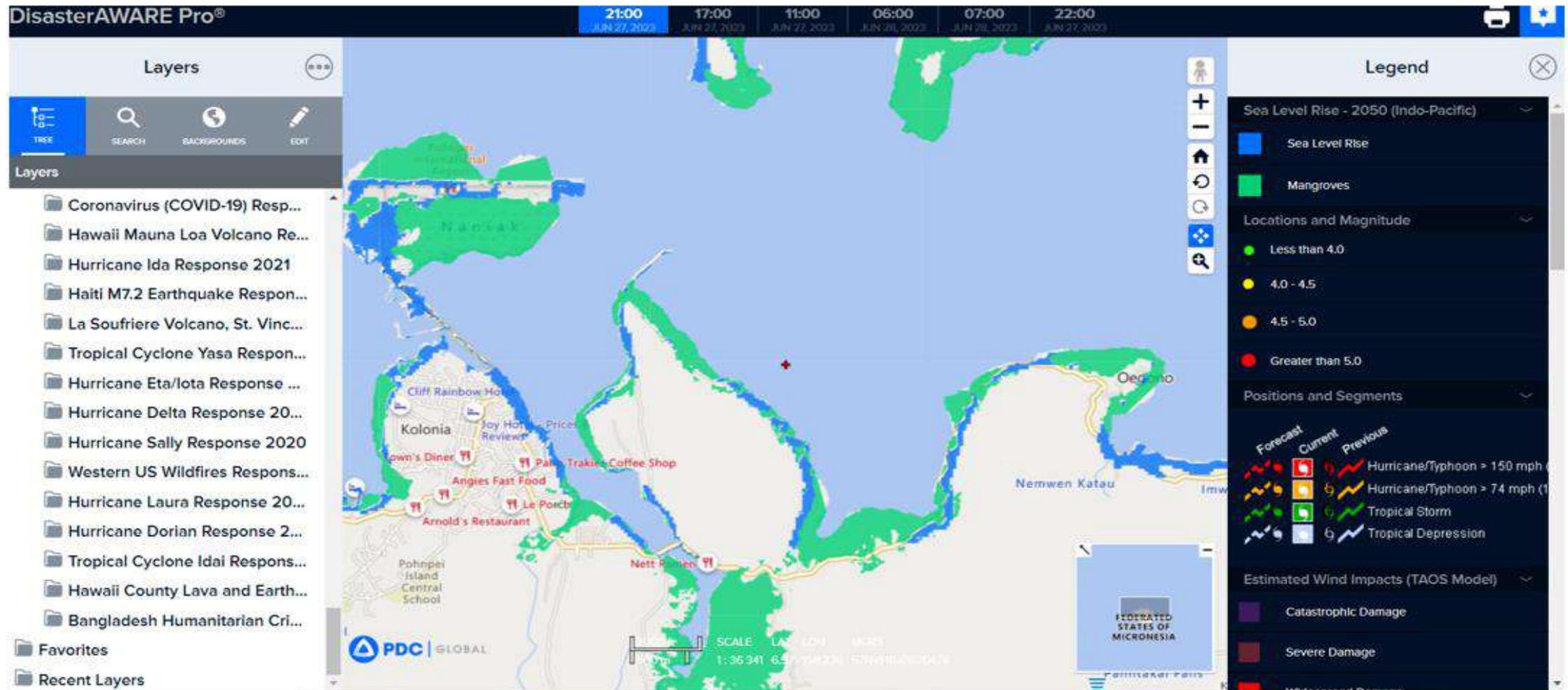
Pohnpei

Kosrae

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



Sea Level Rise in Pohnpei (2050)

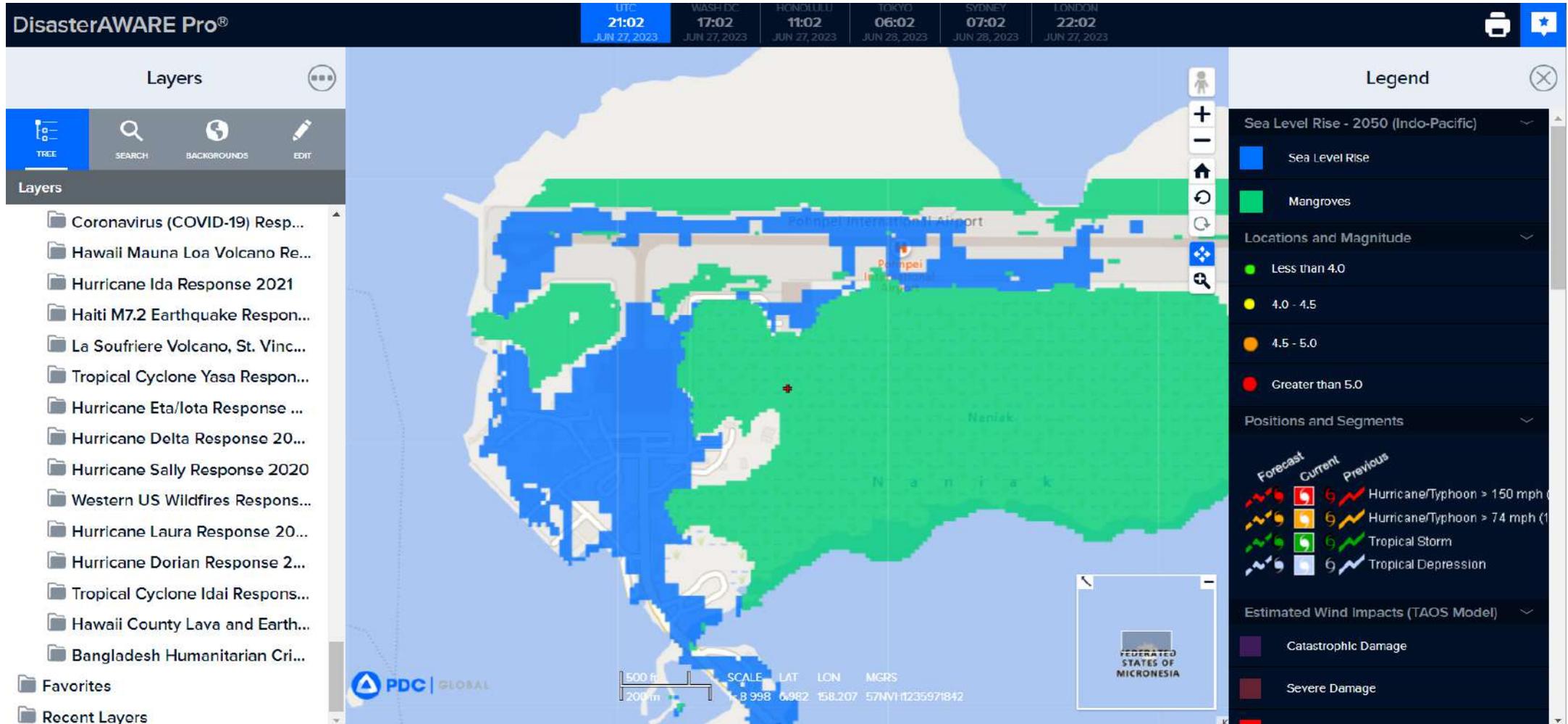


Screen captures directly from DisasterAware Pro, available at <https://www.pdc.org/>

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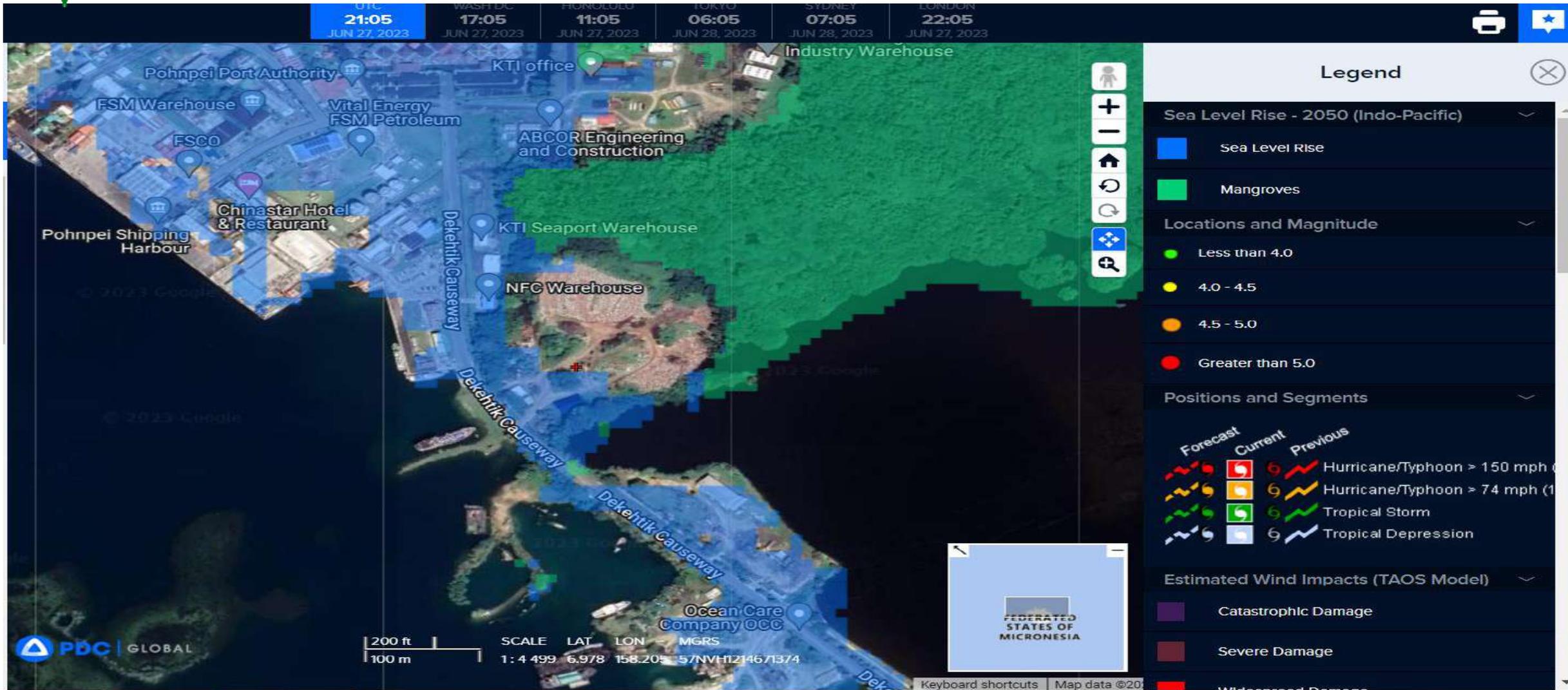
Sea Level Rise in Pohnpei (2050)



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Sea Level Rise in Pohnpei (2050)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

How to access CFE-DM Climate Change Impact information

Homepage: <https://www.cfe-dmha.org/>

Publications: <https://www.cfe-dmha.org/Publications>

Disaster Reference Handbooks (28 total):

<https://www.cfe-dmha.org/Publications/Disaster-Management-Reference-Handbooks>

FSM-Specific Disaster Reference Handbook:

<https://www.cfe-dmha.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=JW1yRA1G7MU%3d&portalid=0>

Climate Change Impact Program: <https://www.cfe-dmha.org/climate-change-impacts>

Location Reports (select Oceania, then Micronesia for series of reports and products)

<https://www.cfe-dmha.org/Programs/Climate-Change-Impacts/Location-Reports>





Way Ahead with FSM

In response to ADM Aquilino visit in March

- Disaster Response Preparedness
 - Supporting USAID-sponsored IOM program
 - Directed efforts to FSM and DECEM
- Climate work with USAID and DECEM
 - User-access to produce Location Specific analytics (airports, seaports, etc)
- Resilience Workshops starting with Pacific Partnership 2024 and beyond



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

THANK YOU!



Questions/Comments





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

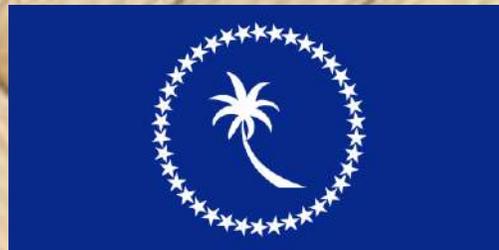
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

6.1 GEF 8

Cynthia H. Ehmes, Acting Secretary, DECEM

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk





Global Environment Facility

- The GEF was established in 1991 to forge international cooperation and finance actions to address critical threats to the global environment



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

CONVENTIONS

Provides Guidance on
Policy & Programme
Issues

COUNCIL

32 Members :
18 Recipients
14 Donors

ASSEMBLY

All 185
Participants

- ❖ **GEF Council** meets every 6 months to review and approve all projects, Work Programmes, Business Plans, policies.
- ❖ **GEF Assembly** meets every 4 years to review general policies, operations, and amendments to the GEF Instrument.
- ❖ 14 Pacific Countries plus Philippines, Indonesia and Timor Leste Constituency meets once a year
 - ❖ Current council member: Solomon Islands
 - ❖ FSM Operational Focal Point: Secretary Andrew Yatilman
 - ❖ Political Focal Point: Ambassador Jeem Lippwe



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP



Largest environmental multi-donor trust fund in the world

Financial mechanism of five international environmental conventions

18 IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

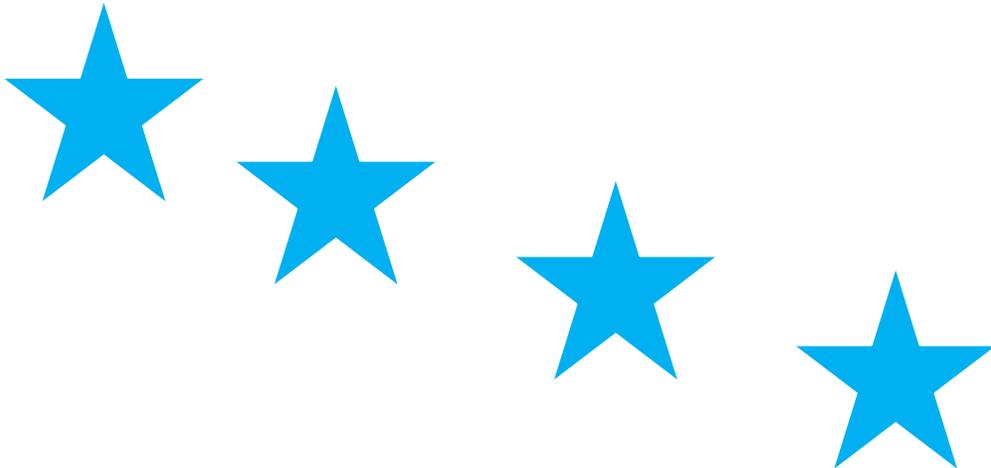


“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

GEF8 STAR ALLOCATION by Country:

(Global benefit, performance index)
9.15M FOR FSM FOR THE 4yr PERIOD
(PNG 29, SI 13, FJ 11) 8M other PICs

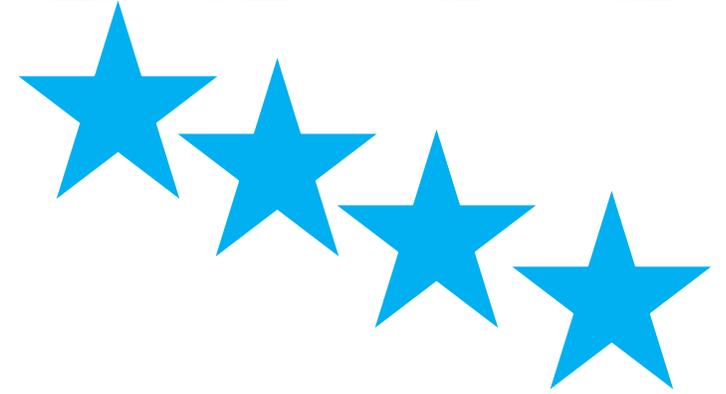
- 2.0m climate change
- 5.15m biodiversity
- 2.0m land degradation
 - *FLEXIBILITY RULE ELIGIBLE*



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

GEF 8 STAR \$9.15M

- Blue Green Islands 3M
 - Project concept approved (June)
 - Project sites – Yap and Kosrae
 - Progressing the work from R2R Project on MPAs and bringing Tourism to support Biodiversity Conservation
 - IA is IUCN (FSM approached IUCN with a Concept Note to build on R2R)
 - PPG development (November)



Remaining 6.15M (TBD)

- Preliminary consultation on focal area project/concept (now till Dec 2023)
- Encourage counterparts and stakeholders to begin internal consultations



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

GEF 8 PROJECT (6.15M)	BLUE GREEN ISLANDS (3M)
Identify PROJECT FOCUS by December 2023	CONSULTANT Contracting by IUCN
Identify the Implementing Agency (currently UNDP)	PPG Phase October...Consultations
PIF by January 2024	Submit PROPOSAL for CEO
Submission of PIF to COUNCIL June 2024	June 2024
PPG Phase after approval (18 months max) PROPOSAL to CEO after Proposal development IMPLEMENTATION could be 2025	IMPLEMENTATION Target October 2024

Issues:

- Timely submission to council meeting
- Continued state involvement/ownership
- Country driven vs. IA driven



BREAKOUT SESSION

GEF8 INTERVENTIONS: 6.15M

Biodiversity: To improve conservation, sustainable use and restoration of natural ecosystems. To effectively implement the Cartagena and Nagoya protocols. To increase mobilization of domestic resources for biodiversity

Climate Change Mitigation: Innovation, technology transfer and enabling policies for mitigation options. Implement FSM NDC

Land Degradation: Sustainable land management, land restoration, address land degradation and drought, improving the enabling policy and institutional framework for land degradation neutrality



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

7.1 UNFCCC/TNCBUR

Chandra Legdesog, Climate Change Advisor

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



UNFCCC

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is an international treaty that seeks to stabilize concentrations of greenhouse gases to prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system (1994)

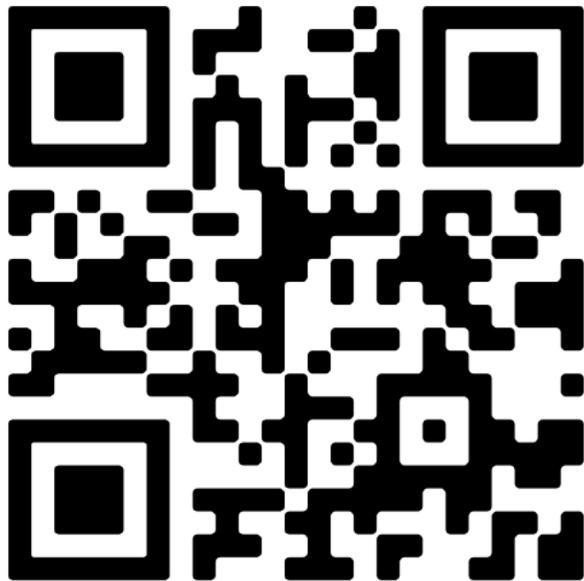
FSM is a Party to the Convention

FSM is not a major emitter however we are at the forefront of climate change impacts

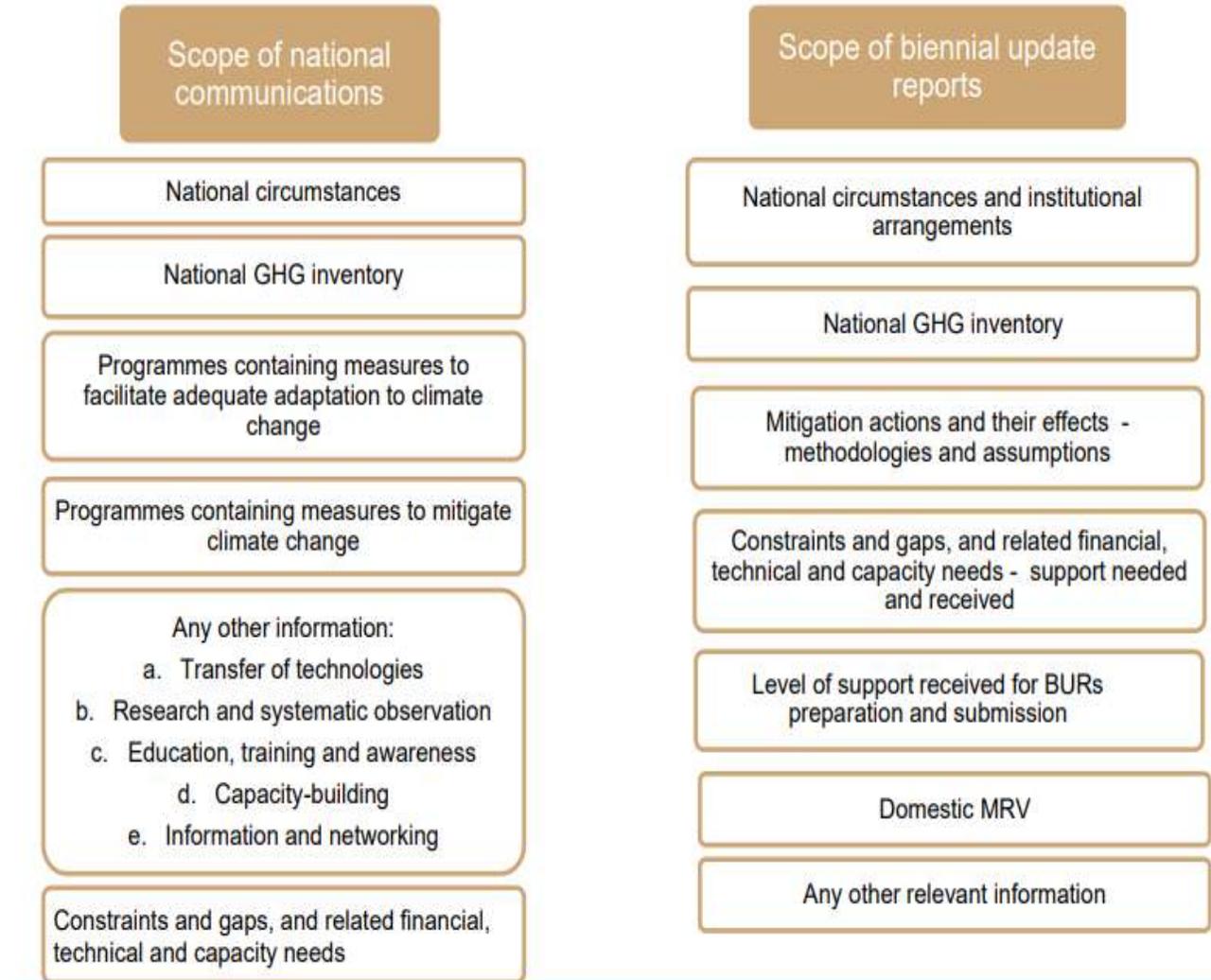


“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018
 - Third National Communication to the UNFCCC (2023)
 - First Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC (2023)



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - National Communications (every 4 years)
 - Biennial Update Reports (every 2 years)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges
 - Covid-19
 - Data availability
 - Turnover
 - Institutional arrangements



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
- Consultations, workshops, assessments, trainings, interviews
- State-level engagement
 - FSM’s Greenhouse Gas Inventory (2006 IPCC Guidelines) consultations
 - 2.5-day Mitigation Workshop
 - Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessments
 - 2-day MRV Workshop
 - 2 half-day Gender Trainings [and] Gender Surveys [and] Gender Interviews
 - 4 half-day National Circumstances and Institutional Arrangements Workshop



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

• Recommendations

- Establish Central Archive for data storage for future inventories
- Establish renewable energy focal points
 - largest emissions sector – Energy - Fuel combustion for electricity generation
 - public utilities companies and private sector – supply and demand for EE appliances
 - nature-based solutions that have co-benefits - land use planning that protect carbon sinks such as seagrasses, mangroves and ocean.
- Compile vulnerability and adaptation assessments from all sectors in preparation for the NAP
 - Infrastructure, environment, agriculture, fisheries, health, education, social/cultural, private sector/economic resilience



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

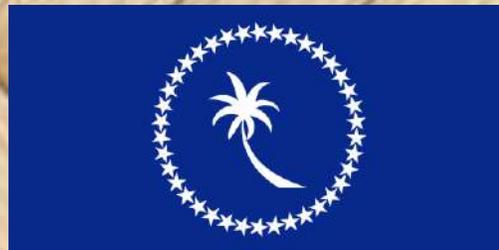
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

7.2 FSM’s Updated NCD

Ann Albert, DAS for Mitigation, DECEM

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Nationally Determined Contribution:
 - ✓ FSM National voluntary commitments for climate actions to reduce GHG emissions in order to reach the goals of the Paris Agreement



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Development of the NDC:
 - ✓ October 2021- Progress report to the Government of Italy regarding the development of the FSM’s NDC.
 - ✓ October 2021-Completion of preparatory meeting, literature review, and national consultation
 - ✓ October 2022 – Completion of draft NDC & supporting deliverables, and finalization of NDC
 - ✓ November 2022- FSM’s NDC submitted to UNFCCC, and launched at COP 27
 - ✓ December 2022- Final Report to the Government of Italy of the FSM’s NDC



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - ✓ Launching and Implementing the NDC in the FSM (Regional Pacific NDC Hub)
 - ✓ Development of FSM NDC Tourism Action Plan (GIZ)
 - ✓ Development of MAF Concept paper of the FSM Implementation of NDC strategy through reduction of GHG (MAF)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- ❖ The COVID-19 pandemic causes delays to the project as a result of :

- ✓ Travel restriction
- ✓ Funding delays due to Donor country’s internal issues from the pandemic
- ✓ Recruitment of Consultant delayed due to funding constraints



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Opportunities for collaboration

Integrated implementation

- ✓ Collaborate with national and state partners and stakeholders to implement the NDC
- ✓ Collaborate with multi donors to fund different portions of the NDC Strategy
- ✓ Collaborate with Energy private sectors to implement the energy security and short-lived climate pollutants



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- ❖ Create a NDC Strategy Team (national and state) to implement and launch the FSM NDC in the 4 states. The team to execute:
 - ✓ Interactive Awareness raising
 - ✓ Collaborative and interactive state Inception workshops



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you



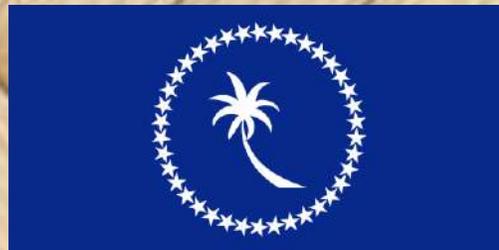


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“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

**7.3 FSM NAP Proposal to the GCF
Correy Abraham, DAS for Adaptation, DECEM**

**August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Brief Background on FSM National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Proposal
 - The NAP process was developed under the United Nations Framework convention on Climate Change to help countries conduct comprehensive medium and long term adaptation planning
 - It is a flexible process that builds on our existing adaptation activities and helps integrate climate change into national decision making processes
 - We expect that our NAP will lead to increased coordination and investments in climate adaptation with the ultimate objective to reduce FSM’s vulnerability to climate impacts, therefore
 - The Federated States of Micronesia(FSM) has decided to submit a NAP proposal to the GCF valued at an amount of USD 3 million and implemented over a 5 year period thereafter



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Progress since 2019

- ✓ In April 2019, the Government of FSM through FSM DECEM officially requested SPREP to be their delivery partner for the development and implementation of our National Adaptation Plan Proposal to the GCF
- ✓ In October 2019, a consultation stakeholder meeting was held in Pohnpei. The mission was designed to plan for and inform the preparation of the NAP proposal
- ✓ In April 2022, the FSM NAP Proposal was submitted to the GCF board for review
- ✓ In September 2022, second resubmission
- ✓ In April 2023, third resubmission



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges encountered during the development of the NAP Proposal
 - COVID 19
 - ✓ Travel Restrictions
 - ✓ During the development stages of the proposal, key partners were operating in reduced capacity therefore causing delays of draft submission of the proposal
 - New GCF Guidelines
 - ✓ The NAP Log-Frame and Proposal needs to be revised due to new GCF guidelines resulting in back and forth consultations with FSM and SPREP



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration/ next steps
 - In May 3, 2023, the GCF Secretariat as approved the Readiness Proposal for the FSM with SPREP as the delivery partner.
 - As of this month, the LoA between SPREP and FSM DECEM is underway and the signing of the LoA is expected to be signed during SPREP’s mission to FSM in September 2023.
 - SPREP will be working closely with FSM DECEM along with state focal points on the NAP Project team including state-based climate change coordinators.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- Coordination at all levels, awareness raising and capacity building are seen as a high priority
- Ensure a State and Municipal focus, aiming for community participation and ownership
- Strengthen partnership at all levels to maintain and improve coherence between key partners and stakeholders



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

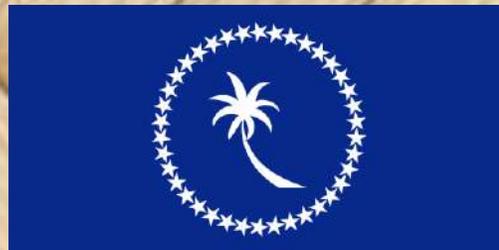
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

7.4 GCCA+ SUPA Project

Sean Kadanned, Project Coordinator, SPC

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018

- Completion of the Readiness for El-Nino (RENI) Project (PNI-YAP)

- Installation of the Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) System on Yap and Pohnpei State
- Installation of the Ecological Purification System (EPS) on Yap
- Training on RWH installation and maintenance
- Community outreach and capacity building on water conservation and management
- Hydrogeological assessment and study of the Gagil-Tomil aquafer



- Completion of the Global Climate Change Alliance PLUS Scaling-Up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA) Project (TKK)

- Installation of the Rain Water Harvesting (RWH)
- Training on RWH installation and maintenance
- Training on Water Quality testing in community
- Community Assessments
- Support WASH Activities



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - Completed RENI and GCCA+ SUPA projects
 - Expand to other outlying atolls/islands
 - Standardizing the RWH System design for future water project
 - Building
 - Community Capacity
 - Community Resiliency and Adaption
 - Community Ownership



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

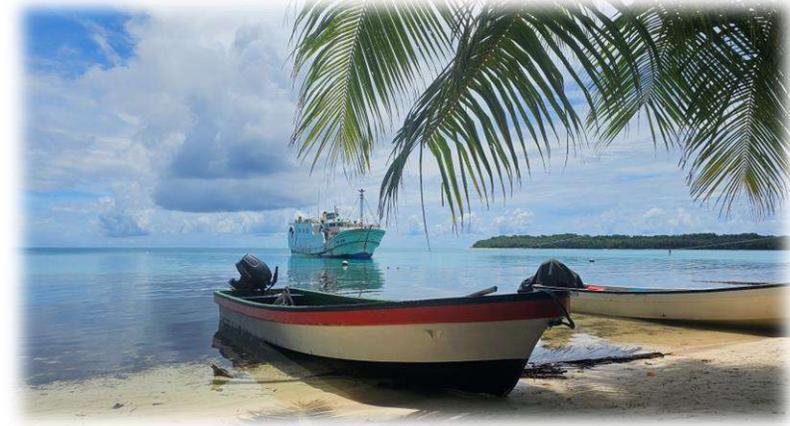
- Challenges

- Accessibility (Limited Transportation)
- CoVid (FSM Country Lock Down, Affected Supplies and Delivery)
- Limited Resources
 - Technical Expert
 - Local relevant departments/agencies
 - Stock at local Vendors
 - Vendors



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Accessibility – (PWT and TC&I, Local Private Vessel/Airline)
 - CoVid – (Taskforce and relevant partners)
 - Limited Resources – (Special order with local vendors, utilize designated technical staff(s), planning with flexibility for implementation timeline, building local capacity)



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations
 - We all know Plan “A” and “B”
 - Now, lets start incorporating Plan “C” “D” into plan
 - ie: project adapting to change (CoVid) of slow delivery and supplies, order of supplies are made sooner as anticipated in the project timeline.
 - We all know project local partners and supporter of each project
 - Now, lets start designing the project with them, and not for them
 - ie: DCO and Sanitation (DOH) are mentioned in document, but they have limited staffs readily available to participate in project activities.
 - We all know our limited capacity locally
 - Now, lets better plan for incentives to encourage partners and supports for their time supporting a project.
 - ie: project provide incentive (monetary) to community members who help construct RWH System
 - Now, lets start designing projects with capacity building (training and knowledge transfer) from technical experts to local stakeholders.
 - ie: project required an engineer for installation of RWH System... Limited Transportation
 - training provided to 7 local individuals on installation requirement of project
 - Build local community capacity



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

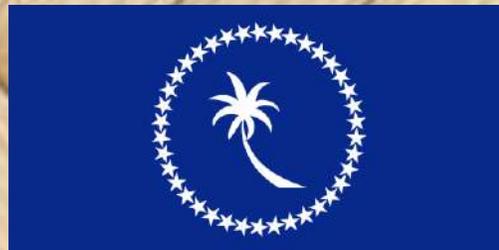
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

7.5 SUPA IA

Kohsak Keller Jr., Program Manager for Adaptation, DECEM

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Impact Analysis Methodology:

Based on profiling the history of adaptation, detailed data collection and analysis to make sense of impact.

- Checklist Rating
- Field Observation
- Social Surveys
- Spatial Analysis

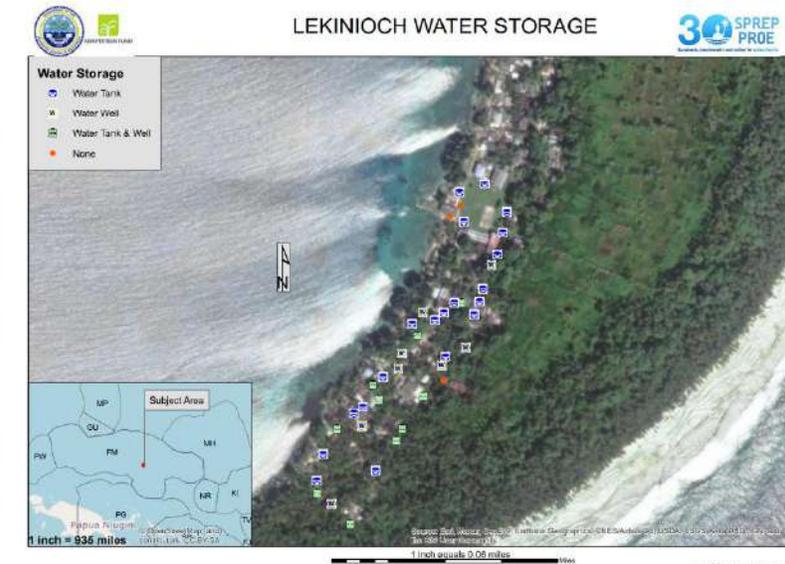
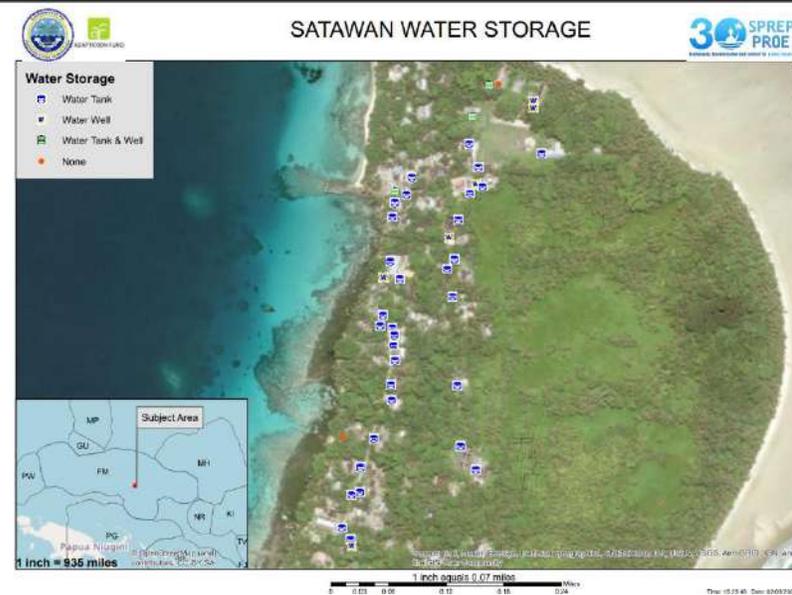


“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Impact Assessments
 - Surveys:
 - Focus Group Discussion
 - Household Survey



- Spatial Analysis
 - Mapping of all the sites



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges
 - Transportation
 - Community Functions
 - Availability of the household owners



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Can be applied to any project
 - Project documents stored online
 - Past project interventions
 - Database repository



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

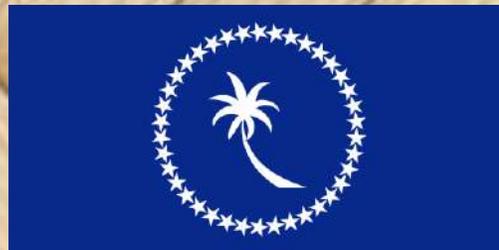
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

8.1 Micronesia Challenge 2030

Dave Mathias, Marine Conservation Management Specialist, FSM R&D

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Progress since 2018

- MC Measures – Standardized databases and monitoring protocols across the region
- MC Evaluation completed in 2020
- Recommitted to the Micronesia Challenge 2030
- FSM Endowment Contribution - \$5.4 million to date
 - Target goal – \$29 million



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities

- New regional coordinator hired in 2022 – Ms. Lincy Lee Marino, based in Palau
- GEF7-IWP MC 2030 project “Strengthening and Enabling the Micronesia Challenge Regional Office”
 - Subgrants to FAS jurisdictions to carry out national project outcomes
 - FSM – Operationalization of FSM PAN, MC 2030 Strategic Plan development
 - MCRO Strategic Action Plan Workshop to be held September 2023
 - MC Communications Plan – in progress (September 2023)
- Capacity Building Efforts
 - MIC Re-launch, learning exchanges



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Challenges

- Fully operationalizing the MCRO
 - Institutionalize the MC into job TORs and have designated personnel working on MC
- Political focal points need to be formally appointed
- Building and maintaining local technical capacity for conservation across the region
- New MC 2030 Measures and target definitions



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Opportunities for collaboration

- Implementation of Protected Area Network (PAN) and Blue Prosperity Micronesia (BPM)
- FSM PAN / MC National Coordinator
- Implementation of grants supporting operationalization of FSM PAN and planning for MC 2030
- Continued support for capacity building efforts
 - Academic and technical
 - Fellowships/internships



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Recommendations

- Collaborate/support on launch and operationalization of FSM Protected Area Network
- Collaborate/support and continue planning and implementation of MC 2030
- Collaborate/support and continue implementation of BPM and Marine Spatial Planning process



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you



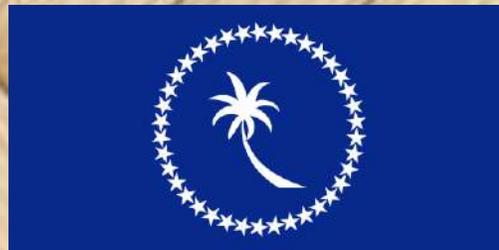


3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

**8.2 FSM Adaptation Fund (AF) Project
Jason Louis, Communications Officer, DECEM**

**August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since 2018
- Achievements and Progress
 - Legislative review for national and state institutional and policy frameworks
 - AF Project
 - sites registered on GIS/GPS
 - Community involvement
 - YAP, CHUUK, POHNPEI
 - WATER INFRASTRUCTURE improvement, renovations, and repairs.
 - POHNPEI
 - WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN for Kapingamarangi and Nukuoro completed
 - KOSRAE
 - Environment & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for coastal protection work drafted
 - Inland road design in final stages of completion



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - (ON-GOING) Repairs and improvements to Water Harvesting and Storage Systems (WHSS) in Woleai & Eauripik (YAP), Satowan & Lekinioch (CHUUK), and Nukuoro & Kapingamarangi (POHNPEI)
 - (ON-GOING) New installations of WHSS at AF Project target sites of Yap, Chuuk, and Pohnpei
 - (UPCOMING) Coastal protection work for Mosral & Paal in Kosrae
 - (UPCOMING) Self Composting Toilets for target sites of Yap, Chuuk, and Pohnpei
 - (UPCOMING) Target sites visits to monitor and evaluate progress of project



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- COVID-19

- Travel restrictions

- Limited travel to target sites
 - Restricted travel into the FSM

- Limited in-country suppliers/supplies

- Local vendors run out of supplies required by the project

- Next regular shipment takes time
 - Special orders take time

- Sea transportation

- Travel opportunities are tied to the availability of sea vessels



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for collaboration / Next Steps
 - Collaborate with Kosrae stakeholders for the coastal protection work
 - Collaborate with Department Of Education (DOE) of Yap, Chuuk, and Pohnpei for the installation/construction of Self-Composting Toilets (SCT) at elementary school locations of AF Project’s target communities
 - Increase the involvement of relevant agencies/partners/department members to perform tasks specific to their technical expertise during target site visits.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations
 - Joint stakeholders project sites visit
 - Encourage and strengthen community involvement in project activities
 - Governments and communities to adopt and sustain projects that address the effects of Climate Change



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you



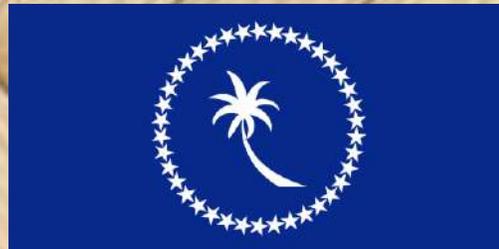


3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

8.3 FSM Invasive Alien Species Project
Jorg Y. Anson, Project Manager, FSM R&D

August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Project Objective: To safeguard biodiversity in terrestrial and marine ecosystems and in agricultural and fisheries production systems from the impacts of invasive alien species in the FSM.

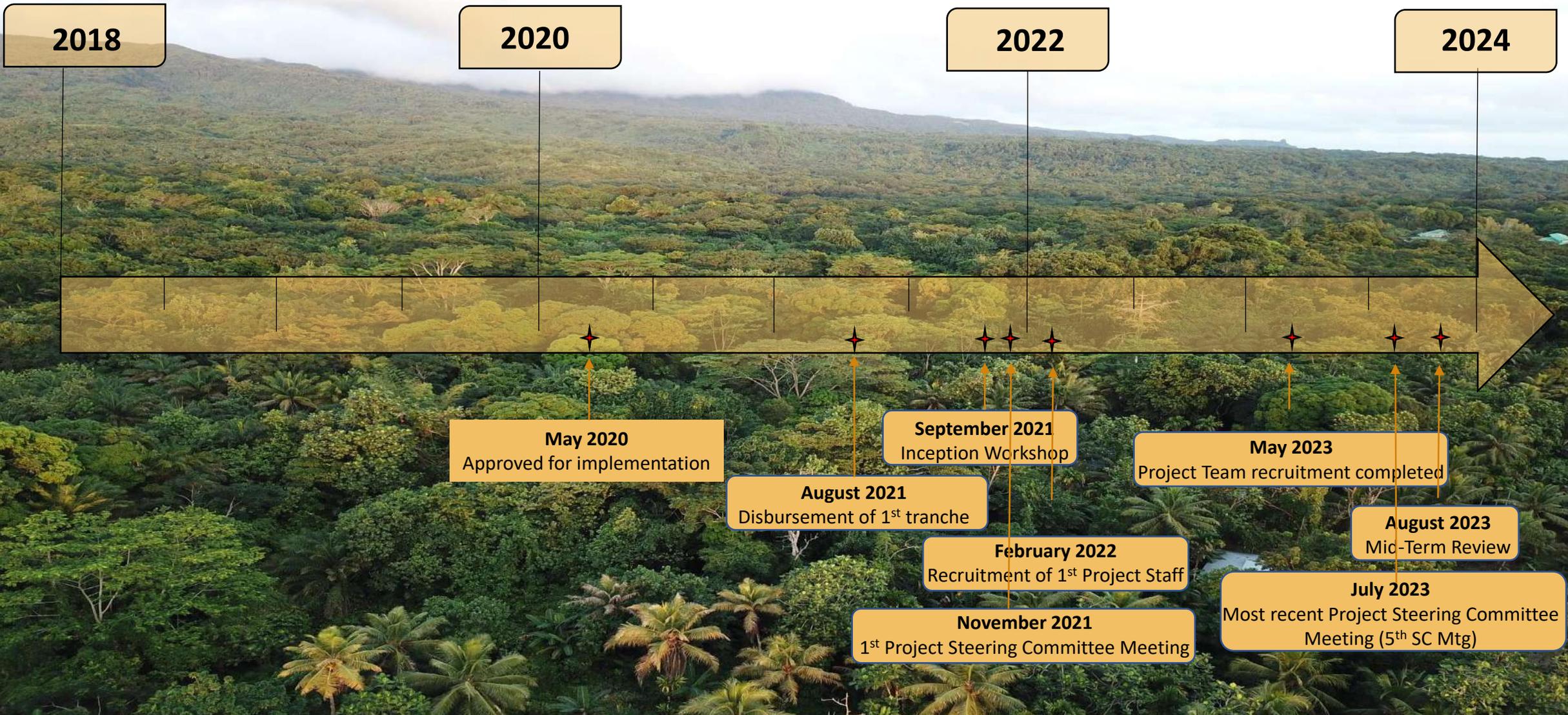
4 Components:

- Institutionalizing a governance framework for IAS prevention, control and enforcement across member states and in collaboration with other Micronesian nations
- Raising awareness and strengthening capacity in IAS prevention and management
- Demonstrating best practices in safeguarding biodiversity and food production systems from IAS
- Knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Progress since 2018



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities

- Review, update and implement National Invasive Strategy and Action Plan and State IAS Taskforce Strategic Action Plans.
- Procurement of Biosecurity equipment for FSM Air/Sea Ports
- Renovation/refurbishment of biosecurity facilities
- Biosecurity Modular Training Program with the College of Micronesia-FSM
- Development of a Biosecurity Information System with UNCTAD
- Drafting of Rules and Regulations to operationalize Biosecurity Act of 2017
- IAS awareness and outreach at demonstration sites



Challenges

- Delayed project inception and commencement of implementation
- Border restrictions for Inter-State Travel during Covid-19 lockdown
- Lack of Technical Support pertaining to Biosecurity in the FSM
- Financial Systems/Modalities (UNDP vs. FSM)



Opportunities for collaboration

- Partnership Agreement with COM-FSM to develop and implement Biosecurity Training Program [Project Outcome 2.2]
- Engage Small Grants Program/Micronesia Conservation Trust to support implementation of livelihood funding scheme [Project Outcome 3.2]
- Partnership with SPC/UNCTAD to develop and implement the Biosecurity Information System [Project Outcome 4.1]



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Recommendations

- Expand UN Spot Check threshold requirement from \$50,000 to \$500,000.
- Replicate World Bank Central Implementation Unit under FSM DOFA
- Allocate funds for salary from the General Fund as co-financing to ensure timely Project inception and kickoff in Year 1 of Project life
- Design multi-year contract agreements with Project Staff, if legally applicable, to ensure long term commitment



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

KakaKiKu!





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

**8.4 The Pacific Community (SPC)
FSM Enabling Direct Access Program**

**Floyd Robinson
August 30-September 1, 2023**

Weno, Chuuk



Sustainable Pacific development through science, knowledge and innovation



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique



Sustainable Pacific development through science, technology and innovation



CCES Climate Change & Environmental Sust.



EQAP Education & Quality Assurance



FAME Fisheries, Aquaculture & Marine Ecosystems



GEM Geoscience, Energy & Maritime



HRSD Human Rights & Social Development



LRD Land Resources Division



PHD Public Health Division



SDD Statistics for Development

SPC GOALS AND KEY FOCUS AREAS

GOAL 1

All Pacific people benefit from sustainable development.

The Pacific Community contributes to **four development goals** for a unified, safe, just, equitable and resilient Blue Pacific.

The goals are underpinned by **seven Key Focus Areas** interconnected through Resilience and Climate Action.

These goals are further shaped good governance of SPC's regional commitments, members' national priorities and global commitments.

GOAL 2

All Pacific communities and cultures are empowered and resilient.

GOAL 3

All Pacific people reach their full potential and live long and healthy lives.

GOAL 4

One SPC delivers integrated programmes through streamlined services.



Five pathways guide the high-level actions across SPC's key focus areas.: Policy to action; data, statistics, and knowledge; innovation and research; digitilisation and technology; and capability and influence.

We weave the delivery of regional public goods through Pacific centres of excellence, frameworks, networks, and partnerships across our key focus areas. Through our connections between culture, traditional and indigenous knowledge, and the land and sea of the region, to the Pacific people, their rights and aspirations, we give meaning to our key focus areas.

OUR SECTORS AND DISCIPLINES

- Sustainable agriculture
- Biosecurity
- Culture
- Coastal, oceanic fisheries and aquaculture
- Earth and marine observation
- Economic and social statistics collection, analysis and dissemination

- Education quality
- Energy security
- Food systems
- Gender equality and social inclusion
- Genetic resources (plant, fish, livestock)
- Governance
- Institutional strengthening

- Health system strengthening
- Human rights
- Integrated disaster risk reduction and climate resilience
- Sustainable livelihoods
- Maritime safety
- Sustainable fisheries

- Public health governance, NCDs and health security
- Ocean science
- Regional micro-qualifications
- Sustainable georesources
- Sustainable forests and landscapes
- Water and sanitation





EDA Programme Overview

- **Building capacities of Municipalities and State Governments** in FSM to respond to impacts of climate change
- A bottom up & **transformational approach**
 - **Allowing direct access to GCF funding** for Municipalities and States
 - **First EDA Programme** in FSM and across the Pacific
 - **By 2029**, EDA Programme will be handed over by SPC and managed by Government
- **Project Life** 2023 – 2029
- **Thematic areas** Disaster Risk Reduction, Coastal Protection, Food Security & Water Security
- **Funding** USD 16.6 mil (12 mil for Grant Facility)



Component 1

Municipal and State governments are empowered to deliver climate change adaptation services to their populations

- **Capacity Building for all Municipalities and Key State Agencies in all States**
- Identification and prioritization of adaptation measures
- Developing Expressions of Interest and Proposals to EDA Grant Facility
- Web portal developed to host all material developed under this project
- **Target - approximately 140 Municipal reps and 80 State agency reps**
- **Facilitating Agents**
- Local NGOs and/or consultants selected and trained as with role of supporting prioritization and development of climate change projects (i.e., for Municipalities and State Departments)

Component 2

Grant Facility for Enhancing local community resilience through priority adaptation projects implementation



- **Establishment of Resilient Communities Grant Facility (RCGF)**
- Governance structure for RCGF established and formalized
- RCGF guidelines and procedures endorsed & adopted
- Identification & prioritization of adaptation measures

- **Grants Award Selection**
- **30–40** grants to be awarded in the range of USD **75,000–1,000,000**.

Indicative list of eligible activities

Food Security

Development and use of climate-resilient crop species and varieties (resilient to drought, waterlogging, saltwater, pests), including techniques for their consistent supply, Farming/ land use techniques, Small scale aquaculture, coastal resources management; Livestock management; Watershed management/agroforestry demonstration; Building value chains for crops, fisheries, and livestock.

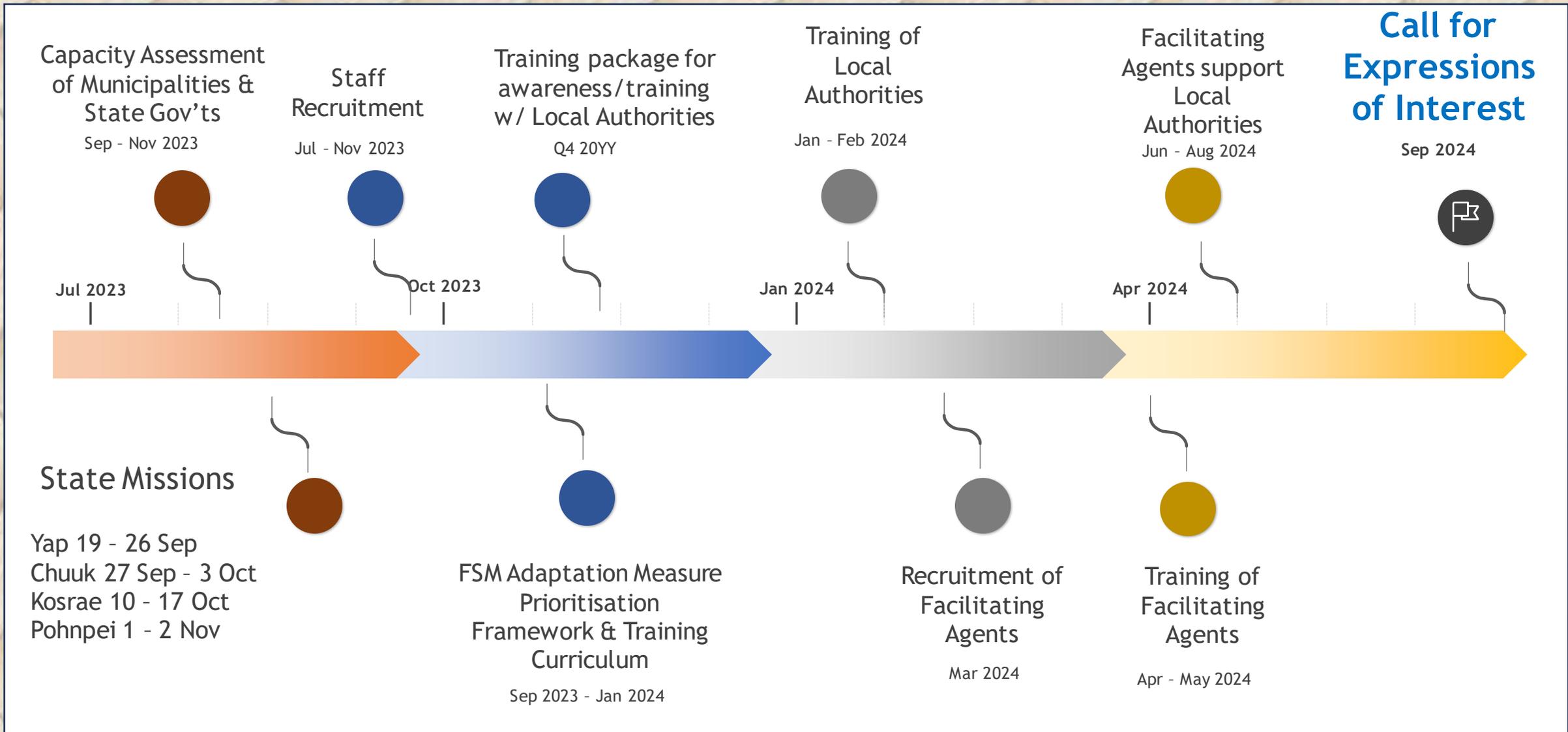
Water Security

Water infrastructure (e.g., water tanks, solar water pumps); Procurement and distribution of rainwater collection tanks; Capturing and storage of rain and groundwater resources (individual household and community storage capacities); Reducing leakage of reticulated systems and water storage facilities; Water saving (e.g., introducing compost toilets, demand management through awareness raising); Water quality enhancement and assurance, Solar water purifiers

Disaster Risk Reduction

Retrofitting existing buildings to climate-proof against increased storm incidents (e.g. cyclone proofing, solar panels, rainwater tanks); Watershed reforestation - landslide protection and flooding control; Small-scale coastal infrastructure constructed that will reduce the risk of losses and damages caused by climate-induced disaster events (as appropriate, use of endemic species planting, wave breakers, man-made channels); Restoration, rehabilitation or substitution of ecosystems relevant for adaptation (Equipping municipalities with necessary tools to respond to climate-induced disaster, including emergency plans, building shelter, medical and other supplies)

EDA Planned Activities 2023-2024



EDA opportunities for collaboration

- **Review of documents** - inviting stakeholder inputs to review of draft documents, e.g., capacity assessments, prioritization framework, etc.
- **Best practices and experiences** - learning and applying experiences of existing and current initiatives at Municipal and State levels
- **Working through/with existing networks, committees, groups, etc.**
- **Coordination with partners** – for missions/field visits and capacity building workshops

EDA State Consultation Schedule



Yap Sep 19 - 26

Chuuk Sep 27 - Oct 3

Kosrae Oct 10 - 17

Pohnpei Nov 1 - 2

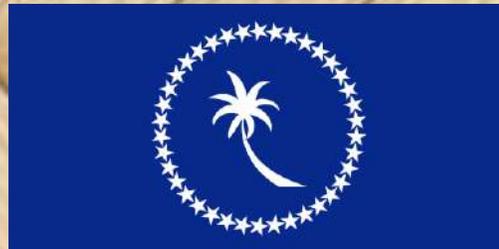


3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

8.5 GCF – FSM Food Security Project
Mark Kostka, Project Manager, GCF SAP020

August 30-September 1, 2023
Weno, Chuuk





GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND

Project Introduction

“Climate-resilient food security for farming households across the Federated States of Micronesia”

- approved by the Green Climate Fund Board at its B.28 meeting (March 2021).
- 5 years duration
- Total funded by GCF: \$8,583,350.00; Total Project funds: \$9,393,350 (co-financing & GCF)





GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND

Implementation Arrangements

FSM National Government:

Executing Entities (EEs)

- Resources and Development
- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management
- College of Micronesia-FSM
- *Project Management Unit (PMU)

Micronesia Conservation Trust – manages funds and ensure project management milestones are managed and completed.

Project Steering Committee (members listed next page- oversees project implementation, review annual workplans and reports





Project Reporting Structure

Micronesia Conservation Trust – Accredited Entity

- Reporting to GCF
- Budget monitoring and control
- Procurement

- Project oversight and supervision
- Validation of work plans and progress reports

- Oversight and input particularly on budgeting and coordination of project activities

- Overall coordination and technical support
- Day to day execution
- Reporting, monitoring
- Financial reports
- Technical reports

Project Steering Committee

- **Department of Resources and Development (R&D)** – chair
- **Micronesia Conservation Trust** – vice-chair
- **College of Micronesia (COM-FSM)**
- **Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management (DECEM)**
- **State Agriculture Divisions** (One representative each from Pohnpei, Kosrae, Yap and Chuuk)
- **NDA**



Project Management Unit

- Based within R&D
- Led by full-time Project Manager with support from an Administrative Officer

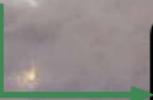


Project Executing Entities

- **FSM national government operating through Department of Resources and Development (R&D) and Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management**
- **College of Micronesia (COM-FSM)**



Beneficiaries





GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND

Project Overview

- The project is the “**first comprehensive national effort**” to focus on increasing the resilience of FSM’s most vulnerable communities to food insecurity in the face of climate change.
- The project targets all households in the FSM high islands undertaking some form of farming approximately 68,250 direct beneficiaries (across the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM))
- Targeting 63% of HHs conducting some form of agriculture and forestry).
- The project specifically works to improve:
 - -technical capacity
 - -coordination for Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) planning and policy
 - -support improved decision-making for agriculture through downscaled climate information
 - -increase availability, stability, and accessibility of locally grown food for food security
 - -improve nutritional outcomes for vulnerable households
 - -develop new opportunities for income and household productivity, and strengthen climate resilient value chains across the agriculture sector by implementing three interrelated components:





GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND

Three Main Components of the Project



1. Establishing an enabling environment for adaptive action and investment

2. Enhancing the food security of vulnerable households by introducing CSA practices

3. Strengthening climate-resilient value-chains and market linkages across the agriculture sector



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FUND

Component 1. Establishing an enabling environment for adaptive action and investment

- Institutional coordination mechanism
- undertaking descaled integrated vulnerability assessments
- Incorporation of climate change into state and national planning and policy
- Developing a network of farmer associations
- Disseminating tailored communications for informed decision-making





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FUND



Component 2. Enhancing the food security of vulnerable households by introducing CSA practices

- This includes establishing agroforestry systems
- Capacity building for extension agents
- Awareness building and training for FSM households
- Developing reserve capacity for climate disruption.





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Component 3. Strengthening climate-resilient value- chains and market linkages across the agriculture sector

- Development of new markets for local agriculture
- Enhanced food processing and preservation
- Increasing awareness and consumption of local food



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Progress since project effectiveness date 22 July 2021
 - Hiring of the Project Management Unit (PMU)
 - Stakeholders Inception Workshops
 - National Coordination Mechanism
 - Completion of the FSM baseline report for staple crops
 - Hiring of Coordinators for Yap, Pohnpei, and Kosrae
 - Identification of climate-resilient agroforestry practices for the FSM



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Ongoing and upcoming projects and activities
 - National Coordination Mechanism
 - Integrated Vulnerability Assessment on the Agriculture sector
 - De-scaled assessment of the vulnerable communities across the four FSM states
 - Farmers Cooperative Associations at the state-level
 - Set of criteria development to prioritize the deployment and implementation of climate-resilient agroforestry practices across the nation.
 - Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) and poultry production training of trainers
 - Initial training sessions at the community demonstration gardens on processing, packaging, and storage techniques



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Challenges

- Prolonged project proposal process
- Change in Government Administration
- Limited interested individuals to fill project staff
- Outbreak of COVID – 19
- Multiple Executing Entity



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Opportunities for Collaboration
 - Institutional Coordination Mechanism
 - Food Security Policy
 - National
 - State
 - Communication Plan



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations

- Each department/partner to develop a list of projects with main objectives to avoid duplication efforts but to ensure projects either complement/supplement each other
- External evaluator to share project’s mid-term evaluation results with relevant stakeholders (specifically participants from the inception workshops)





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

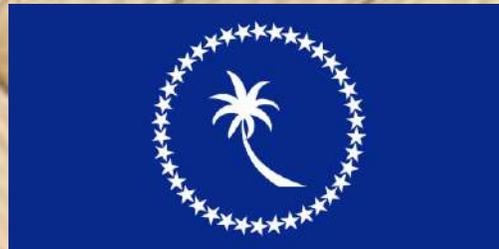
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

8.6 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Lianchawii Chhakchhuak, North Pacific Focal Point, FOA
Subregional Office for the Pacific Islands

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

• **FAO in FSM**

- Implementing **One Health** to address environmental, plant, animal and human health in an integrated manner
- Reducing COVID-19 Related **Food Insecurity** in the Pacific Region
- Driving **digital agriculture transformation** to improve agricultural productivity through digital ICT



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

• **FAO in FSM**

- Strengthening capacities for **biodiversity and sustainable use of natural resources**
- Enhancing adaptive capacities to climate change impacts through strengthening capacities for **disaster risk reduction and management and promoting climate-smart agrifood production systems and value chains**
- Promoting better nutritional outcomes through **food safety capacity building and improving food based dietary guidelines**



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Types of assistance

Technical Coordination Projects (TCP): National

- **Piloting sustainable fish value chains with extended shelf-life products**
USD 331,000
To increase capacities to process fish products for human consumption and agricultural production
- **National aquatic animal health and biosecurity strategy** USD 100,000
To assess the risks associated with the movement of aquatic animal products and to develop a National Strategy on Aquatic Animal Health

TCP: Multi-country Projects

- **Aquaculture Business Investment Planning and Development** to increase resilience and improve food security | FSM, RMI, NAU, PAL | USD 499,000
Technical assistance to MASA countries for in-depth aquaculture risk assessment and business investment planning.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Types of assistance

TCP: Multi-country Projects

- Strengthening the capacity of Pacific Island Countries to **monitor SDG Target 2.1** | FAO Pacific Member Countries | USD 499,000
To provide assistance to strengthen Pacific countries' capacities to monitoring SDG Target 2.1
- Strengthening capacity to **monitor SDG 14** (targets 14.4, 14.6, 14.7 and 14.b) | FAO Pacific Member Countries | USD 100,000
To provide assistance for Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to raise awareness and understanding of the tools and methodologies for targets 14.4, 14.6 and 14.b, as well as discuss approaches for 14.7.
- Enhance regional animal health capacity to prepare and respond to risks of **African swine fever** introduction and spread in the Pacific | FSM, CKI, FIJ, KIR, SAM, SOI, TON, TUV, VAN | USD 500,000
To develop, strengthen, and/or put in place selected Pacific countries' ASF preparedness and response plans including risk-based prevention and reduction by high-lighting emergency response measures.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Types of assistance offered

TCP: Multi-country Projects

- **Emergency response to effects of COVID-19 crisis in Pacific Island Countries |**
FAO Pacific Member Countries | USD 500,000

Pacific Island Governments and food producers have increased capacity to respond to the COVID-19 impact on food systems, food security and nutrition

- **Strengthening the enabling environment to enhance food systems in the Pacific |** FAO Pacific Member Countries | USD 244,000

To provide technical assistance to support national counterparts and the Pacific region to complete the necessary Food Systems (FS) transformational pathway reports.

- **Integrated Climate Smart Agriculture practices** and approaches towards sustainability and climate resilience through the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture | FAO Pacific Member Countries | USD 500,000

To integrate climate smart agriculture measures incorporated into Pacific agricultural policies and systems in Pacific SIDS.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Types of assistance offered

TCP: Multi-country Projects

- **Mapping and characterization of Fishers and Fisher Workers Organizations** in selected PICs, Phase II of TCP/SAP/3710 | FSM, CKI, FIJ, RMI, PAL, SAM, SOI, TUV, VAN | USD 250,000

To map fishers organizations and understand their level of functionality and support needs

- Development of **Pacific Regional Plan to mainstream biodiversity across agricultural sectors**, including fishery, crops, livestock and forestry | FAO Pacific Member Countries | USD 230,000

To support preparation of regional plan to promote cohesive action on mainstreaming biodiversity across agricultural sectors, including fishery, crops, livestock, and forestry in the Pacific region.

- Support for the implementation of the **Pacific Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics (P-SPAFS)** | FAO Pacific Member Countries | USD 500,000

To support Pacific Island Countries' capacity to accurately gather, analyze and interpret national level data pertaining to the SDGs and other important measurements



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Types of assistance offered

TCP: Multi-country Projects

- Strengthening the capacities of the Pacific countries to derive **SDG indicators 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.4.1 and 5.a.1** | FAO Pacific Member Countries | USD 500,000
To enhance national capacities in the collection and dissemination of statistics relating to agricultural sustainability, productivity and gender markers to support policy formulation and sector decision-making.

Donor-funded: Multi-country Projects

- **Reducing COVID-19 Related Food Insecurity** in the Pacific Region | FSM, FIJ, NIU, PAL, SOI | USD 2,891,089 | *funded by* Government of Canada
To mitigate COVID-19 impacts on food security and nutrition of Pacific Islands
- Strengthening **biosecurity for resilient and sustainable agri-food systems** with One Health approach in the Pacific | FAO Pacific Member Countries | USD 1,000,000 | *funded by* FAO Flexible Multi-Partner Mechanism
To contribute to improving national biosecurity for resilient and sustainable agri-food systems in the Pacific



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Types of assistance offered

- Donor-funded: Multi-country Projects**

- Accelerating **SDG achievement through digital transformation** to strengthen community resilience in Micronesia | FSM, KIR, RMI, NAU, PAL | USD 500,000 | SDG Funds (UN Joint Programme)

- Core objectives of the programme is to gradually transfer the ownership of services to government institutions*

- Support to analytically understand & **address impacts of the global crisis of food, energy & finance** | FSM, KIR, RMI, NAU, PAL | USD 400,000 | SDG Funds Development Emergency Modality (UN Joint Programme)

- The objective of this joint program is for FAO, in collaboration with IFAD, WFP and UNICEF, to support the country governments in increasing their technical capacity to analyse, predict, plan and respond to the impacts of the global crisis of food, energy and finance on their own national food systems.*

- Leveraging the Digital Village Initiative (DVI) and SIDS Solutions Platform in the Pacific | FSM, RMI, PAL, TON, FIJ, SAM, SOI, VAN | USD 600,000 | *funded by* FAO Flexible Multi-Partner Mechanism

- To catalyse and empower the village level ecosystem to help move towards food, nutrition and livelihood security of smallholder farmers and the village communities by developing digital agrifood systems villages with active empowerment and engagement of women and youth*



• Opportunities for collaboration

FAO supports Pacific countries in Food Systems Transformation Pathways

- Transforming FSM’s **food systems and land and seascape management**
- Enhanced **water quality and security**
- **Enhanced food security** with a focus on access to nutritional and healthy foods
- **Inclusive, resilient fisheries** for livelihood security in FSM
- **Climate smart traditional farming systems** in FSM



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you



How to design Long-Term Adaptation in FSM.

Arthur Webb

Chief Technical Advisor – Coastal Adaptation
UNDP Fiji Country Office
UNDP

Visiting Research Fellow
University of Wollongong, Australia.

Chuuk, FSM - Aug 2023





FEDERATED STATES OF
MICRONESIA – DESKTOP
ASSESSMENT OF EXPOSURE
TO SEA LEVEL RISE.

State of awareness and readiness

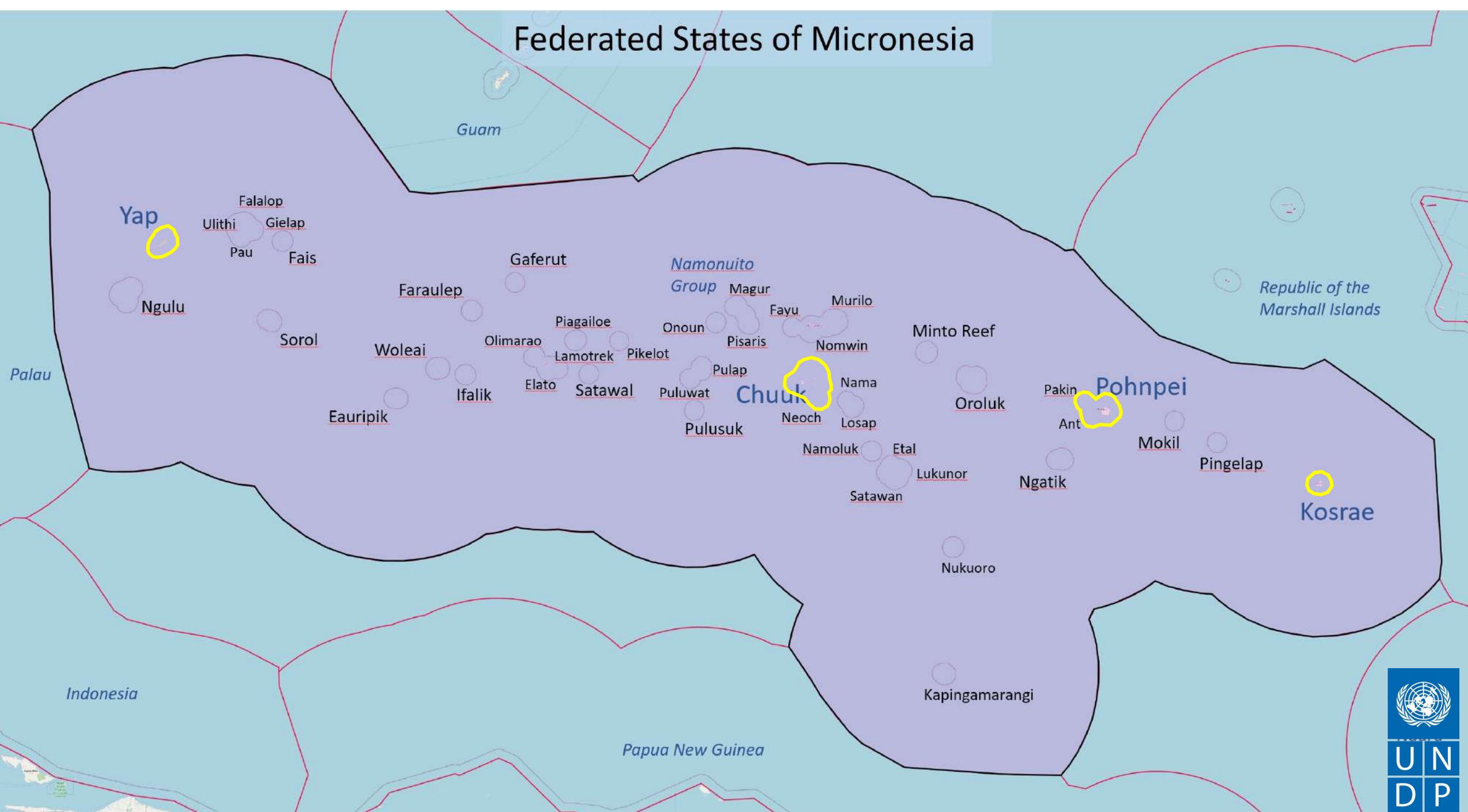
In October 2022 UNDP undertook a scoping mission to understand the state of awareness and readiness of Sea Level Rise in FSM. The report is available now –

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/371308458> FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA -
DESKTOP ASSESSMENT OF EXPOSURE TO SEA LEVEL RISE State of awareness and
readiness

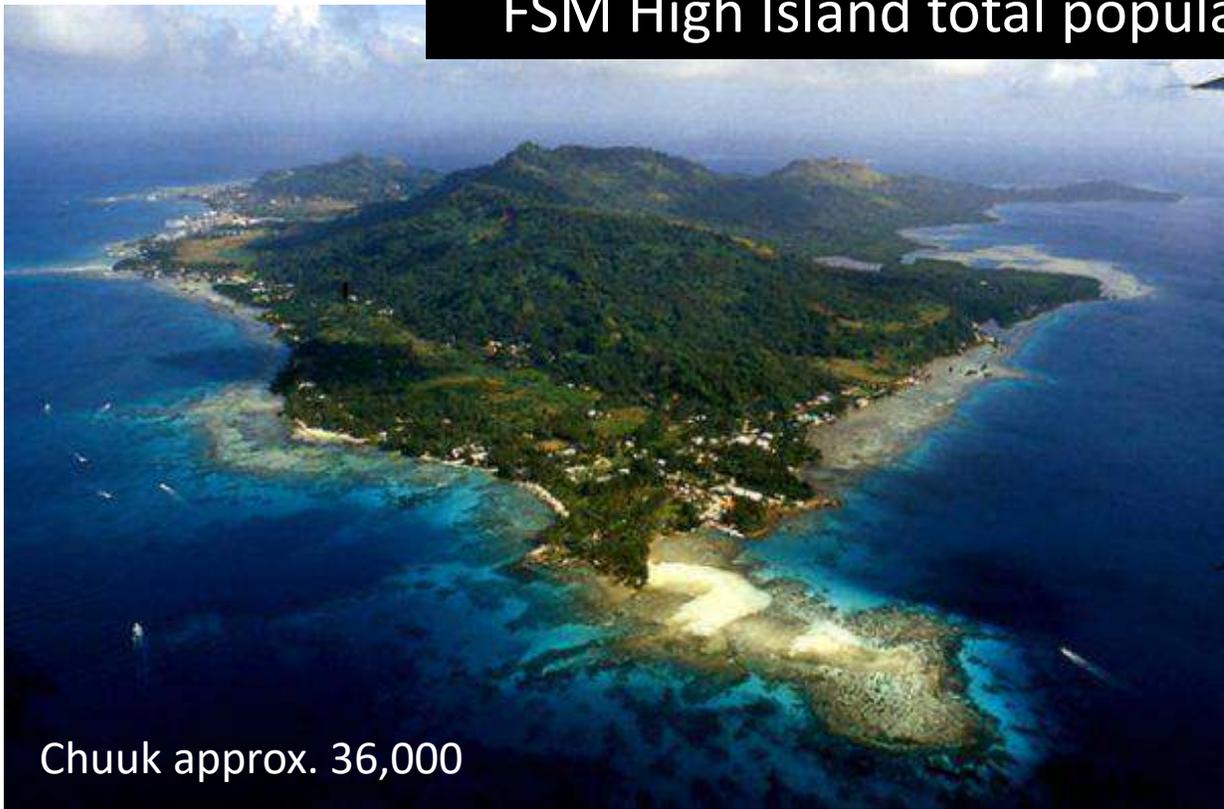
- It is estimated up to 60% of FSM’s national population are exposed to sea level rise impacts within foreseeable timeframes.
- Exposure on FSM’s atoll islands is an urgent problem requiring far better information and planning.
- Exposure of populations on FSM’s high islands also appears to be a major issue with an incomplete information.
- Appropriate accurate land height data (Lidar topography) is urgently required to accurately understand this marine hazards and to prioritize the most vulnerable locations and to plan adaptation response.



Federated States of Micronesia



FSM High Island total population approx. 85,000 (2010 census)



Chuuk approx. 36,000



Yap approx. 7,500



Kosrae approx. 6,500

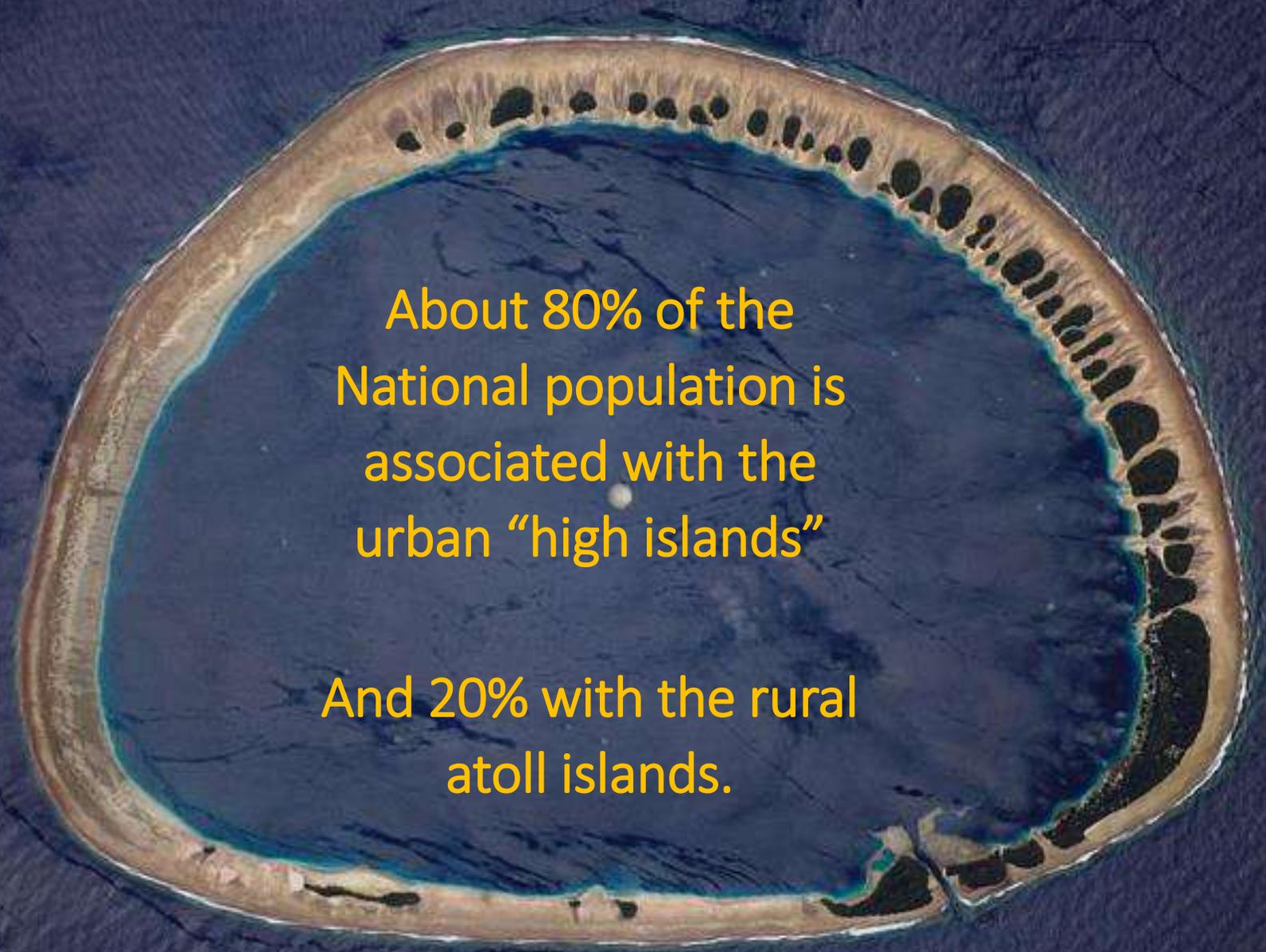


Pohnpei approx. 35,000

There are approximately 40 atoll island communities in FSM. With an approximate total atoll population of around 18,000 (2010 census).

About 80% of the National population is associated with the urban “high islands”

And 20% with the rural atoll islands.



What does the IPCC (2022) say about Sea level Rise

Projected global mean sea level rise under different SSP scenarios

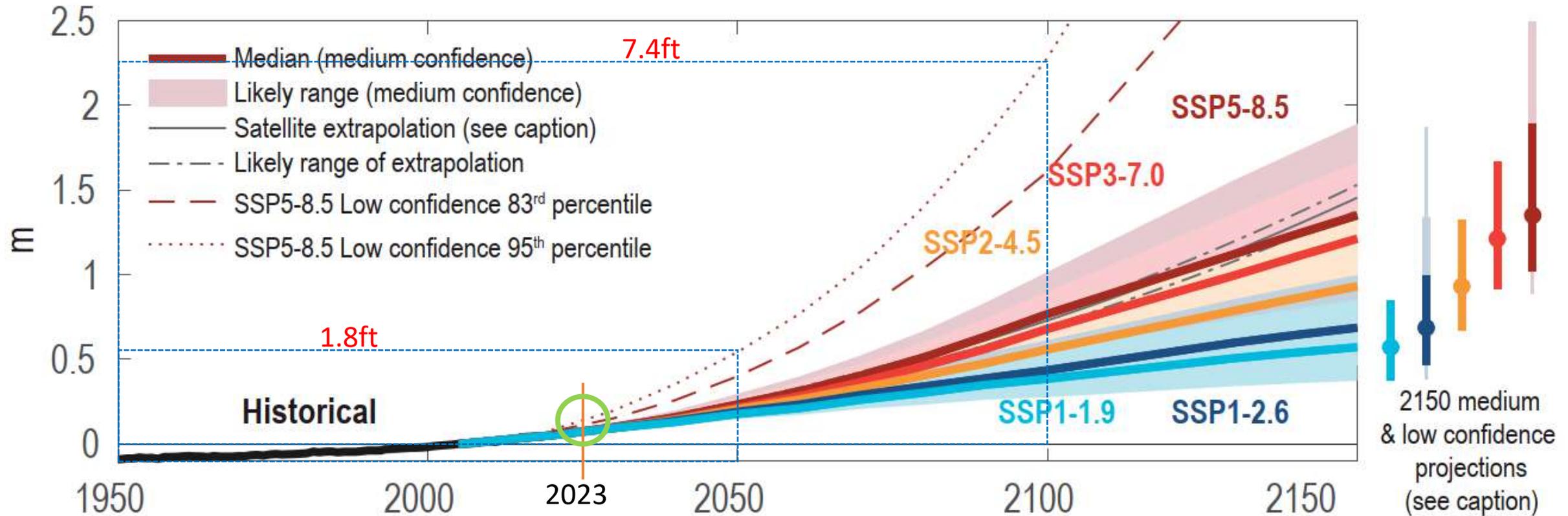
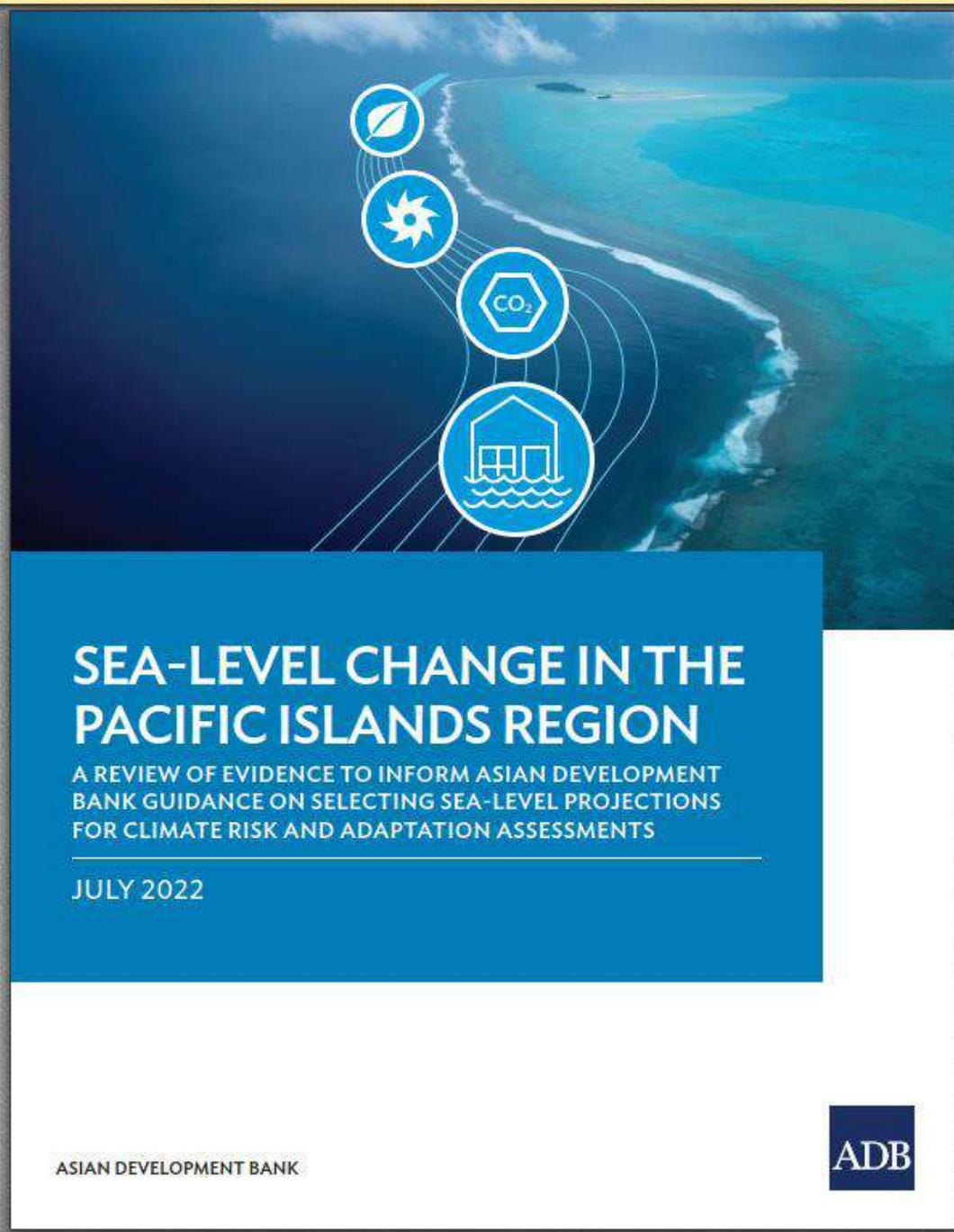


Figure 9.27 | Projected global mean sea level rise under different Shared Socio-economic Pathway (SSP) scenarios. Likely global mean sea level (GMSL) change for SSP scenarios resulting from processes in whose projection there is *medium confidence*. Projections and *likely* ranges at 2150 are shown on right. Lightly shaded ranges and thinner lightly shaded ranges on the right show the 17th–83rd and 5th–95th percentile ranges for projections including *low confidence* processes for SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-8.5 only, derived from a p-box including structured expert judgement and marine ice-cliff instability projections. Black lines show historical GMSL change, and thick solid and dash-dotted black lines show the mean and *likely* range extrapolating the 1993–2018 satellite altimeter trend and acceleration. Further details on data sources and projections are available in the chapter data table (Table 9.SM.9).



◀ This recent report from the Asian Development Bank recommends:

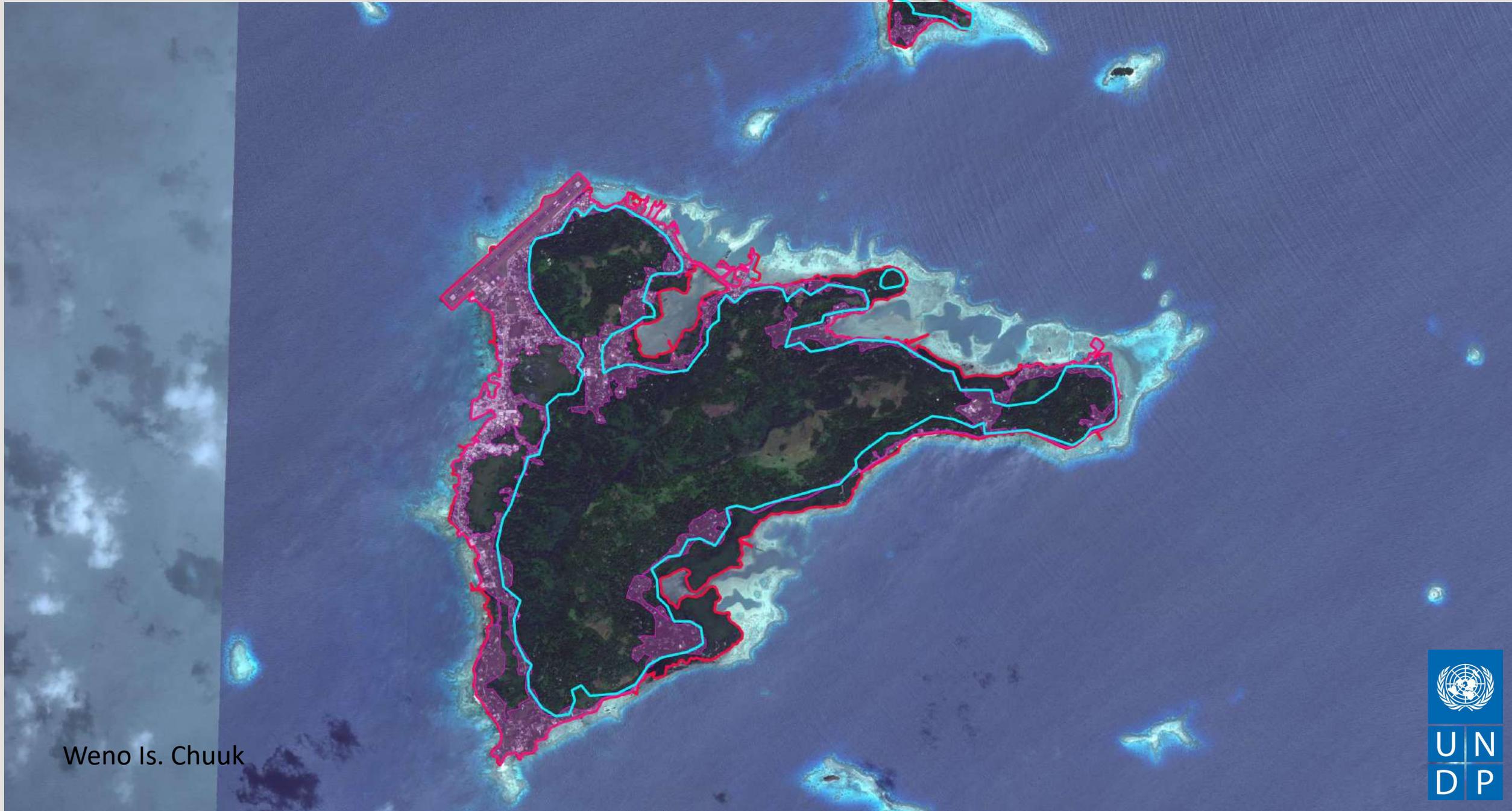
- for short- to medium-term projects (i.e., with a design life of 20–30 years), a scenario of 0.5 m SLR by 2050;
- for long-term projects (i.e., with a design life greater than 30 years), a scenario of 2 m SLR by 2100; and
- for projects with an expected lifetime beyond 2100, scenarios of greater than 2 m SLR.

SLR = sea level rise & 2m = 6ft

This is an extraordinary shift in design recommendations. ADB is one of the larger development and adaptation agencies in the region and their views are to be respected. It must be understood this is because “adaptation” is different to sea level science. Adaptation is about keeping people and property safe, it must consider worst case scenarios, it leans towards no regrets approaches, it is conservative.

It is also important to note UNDP is also discussing adoption of such design criteria in it’s global adaptation work and some developed Nations are already adopting this specification.



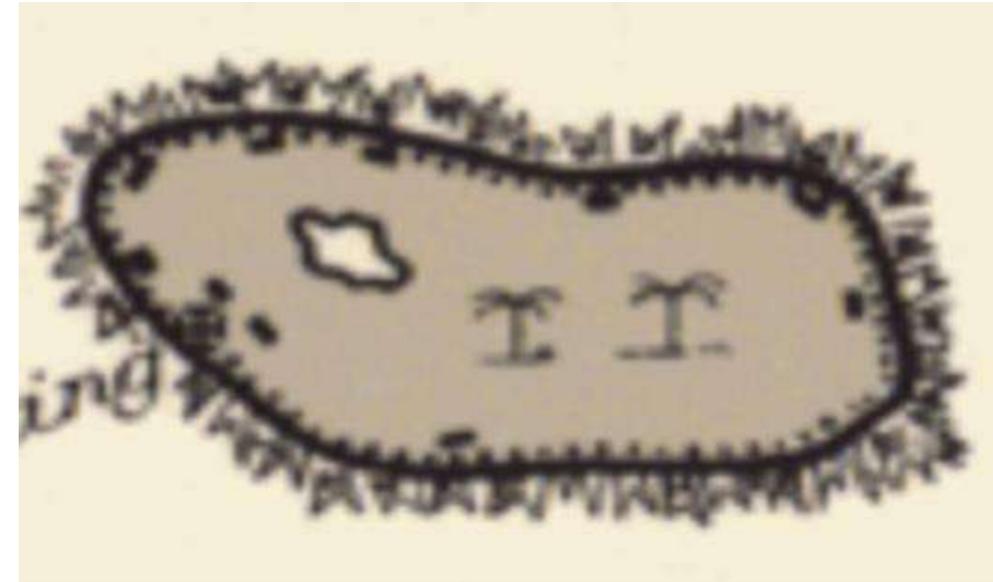


Weno Is. Chuuk

The available land height data (SRTM) for Mokil Atoll village, Pohnpei State shows it is 25ft above sea level?!? It also shows parts of the island are over 60ft high!

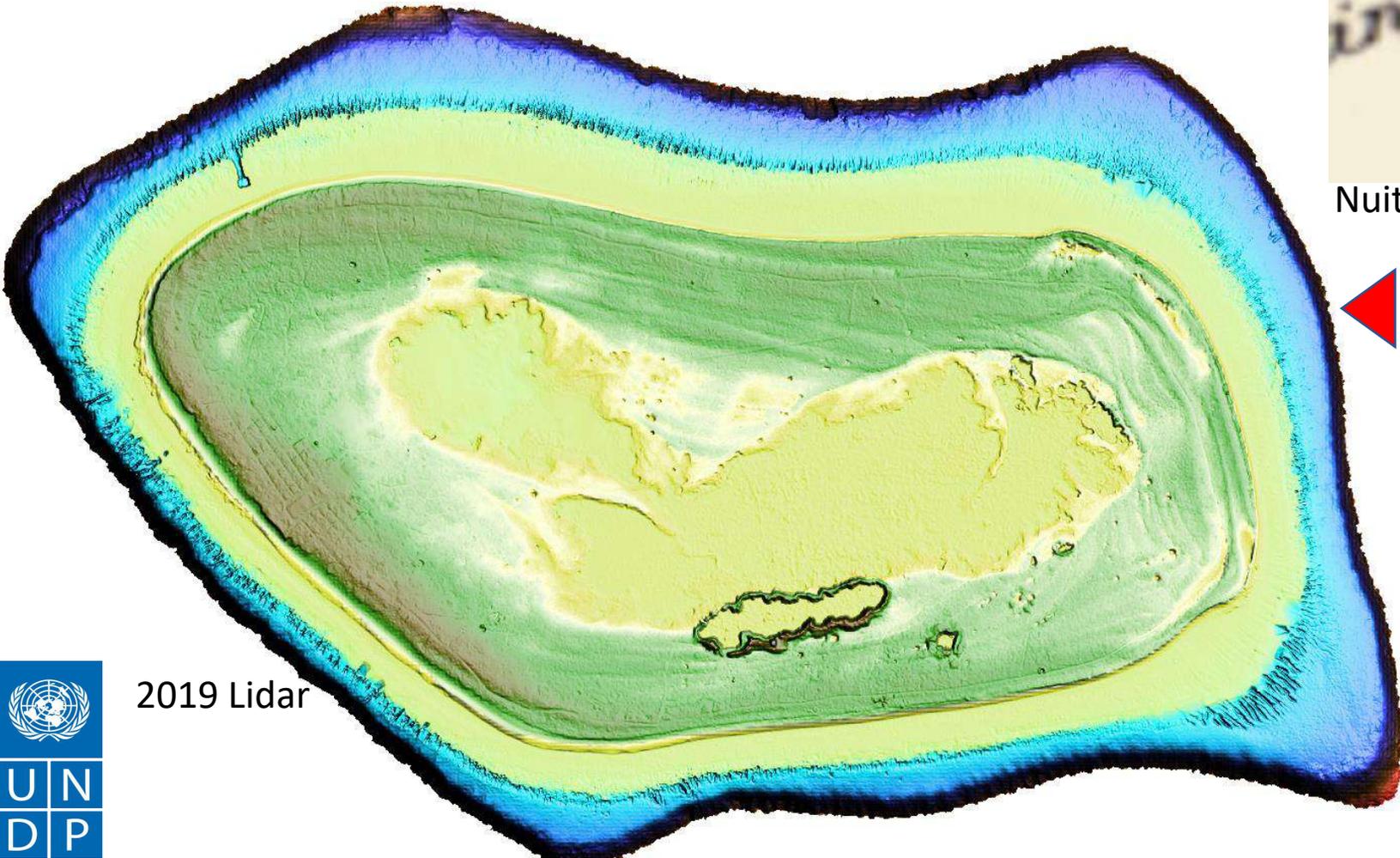


Tuvalu	SRTM	Lidar
Mean elevation	9.2 m	1.55 m
Maximum elevation	27 m	10.48 m



Naitao Atoll Tuvalu before

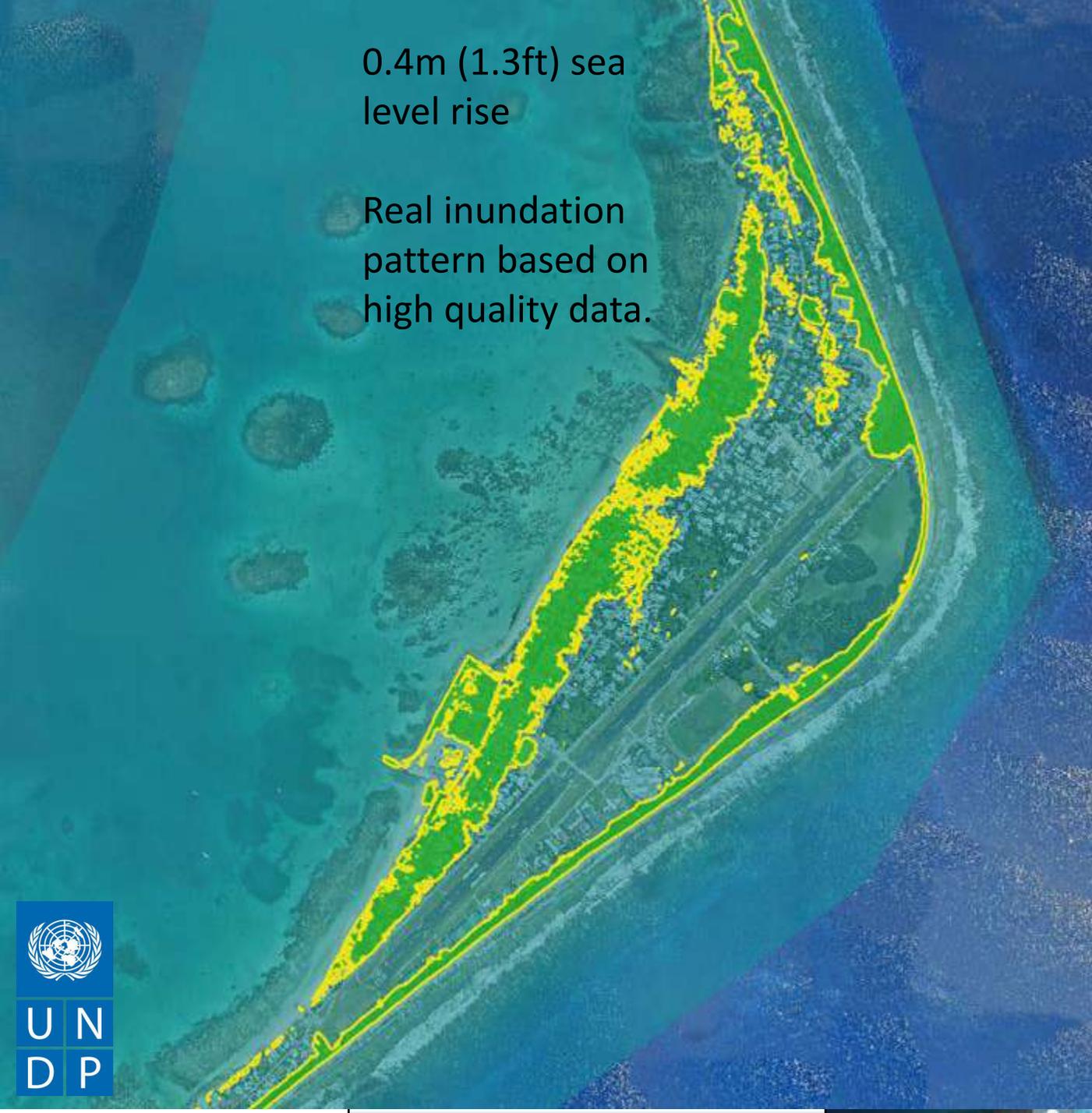
◀ With UNDP Lidar collection we can understand every detail of the island, we can see the areas that are safe, or flood prone, you can see where taro gardens are, shoreline processes and change, also the reefs and small boat passage are accurately mapped. Tuvalu can use this information for development, for official navigation charts, environmental management, fisheries, agriculture, shoreline change, etc. The uses are endless – the data is priceless!



2019 Lidar

0.4m (1.3ft) sea level rise

Real inundation pattern based on high quality data.



0.1m (0.3ft) sea level rise

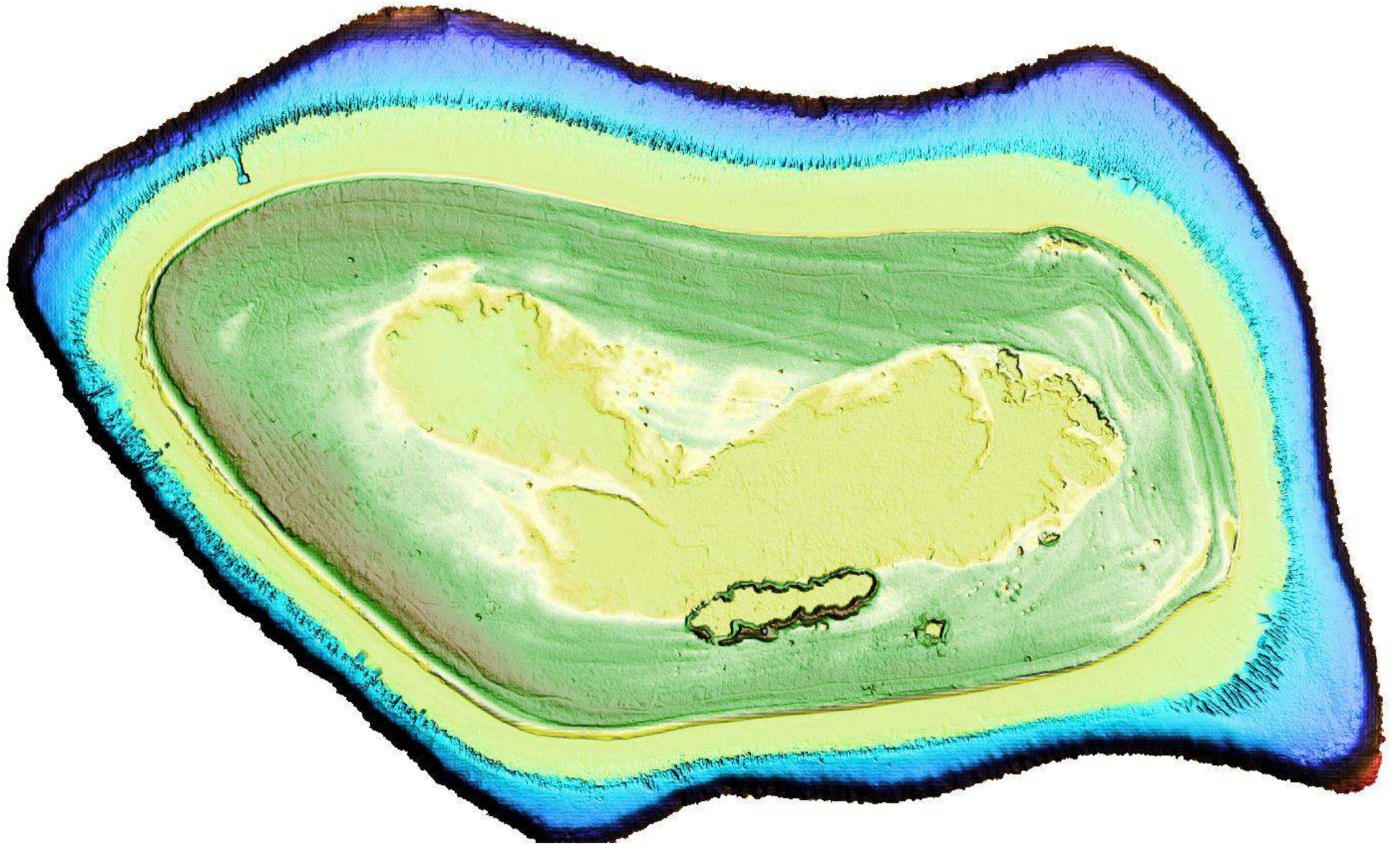
Inaccurate inundation pattern based on poor quality data.



We urgently need to understand sea level rise in FSM – LIDAR data can tell us what we need to know.

It is common that across the PIC's we often do not like to use \$\$ for “surveys”.

- However, UNDP's recent work tells us very clearly that FSM has huge national exposure to Sea Level Rise, and it is an urgent problem that can only get worse.
- At this time the problem is poorly understood.
- We do not know which communities are most exposed, how soon they will become dangerously flooded nor do we have inventories of exposed buildings, infrastructure, food gardens, etc.
- UNDP's assessment with available (poor) data suggests these inundation timelines are close – within a few 10's of years. We believe FSM must start to plan and implement National adaptation to keep people safe.
- Because this problem is so large and affects the whole country, we must start by providing clear accurate advice to FSM's people and communities - so that we can plan for the changes that are coming.





3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

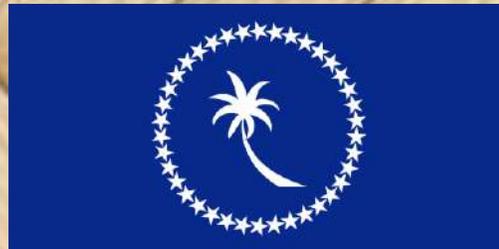
“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

10.1 Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform

Rosalinda Yatilman, Program Development Manager, DECEM

August 30-September 1, 2023

Weno, Chuuk



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations for Day 1
 - That a resolution is in place for R&D to take the lead in developing legislation on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) to be adopted by Congress
 - That State EPAs/KIRMA work with DOJ to investigate and cite responsible parties to remove abandoned vessels in the harbors and shorelines, including airplanes.
 - That the States ensure sufficient planning, accurate, timely and quality reporting for COMPACT funds
 - That State and National Governments update the State of Environment Report and National Environment Management Strategy (NEMS).
 - DECEM to support the States in building their capacities for accessing and implementing COMPACT funds, provided that DECEM receives the proposed annual \$650K from Compact.



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations for Day 2
 - That the State and National leadership consider allocating dedicated emergency funds that can be immediately mobilized during disasters
 - That the States adopt the proposed Coordination Unit by DECEM, and help strengthen the capacities of the States EPAs in accessing COMPACT Funds and timely submission of quality reports.
 - That the States and National government agree on a standardized procedure for assessment damages for disasters
 - That the States develop sea safety plans
 - That State and National Governments update the JSAPs, State Disaster Response Plans and SOPs



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

- Recommendations for Day 3
 - That the State allocate Compact Funding for the LIDAR
 - Recommend to have at least 1 per person per State to be trained as grant writers
 - That the States create permanent positions and allocate funds to sustain the Climate Change Officers post termination of the NAP Project
 - That future projects consider investing portions of their respective grant awards into admin costs for host agencies
 - That the States train a dedicated staff for data analysis



“Enhancing Synergies for a Resilient Tomorrow”

Thank you



Annex 4: Resolution

3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform Resolution



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE
AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

PO BOX PS-69

Palikir, Pohnpei 96941 Phone: (691) 320-8815 Fax: (691) 320-8936

September 4, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: The President

FROM: Acting Secretary

SUBJECT: **Resolution for the 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform**

I am pleased to transmit, for your information, a resolution adopted by the 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform, concerning the allocation of the Compact Fund for the Environment Sector.

The said resolution recognizes the need for, and associated costs of, managing and preserving our precious island nation's environment, and therefore requests the State and National Leadership's support in allocating funds from the annual Sector Grant to the Environment Sector.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Ehmes".

Cynthia H. Ehmes

Attachments:



**3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform
August 30-September 1st, 2023
Weno, Chuuk**

“Enhancing synergies for a resilient tomorrow”

RESOLUTION

The 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform hereby adopts this resolution pertaining to the allocation of the Compact Sector Fund for the FSM Environment Sector

1. **NOTING** the presentation of the Chairman for the Joint Committee of the Compact Review and Planning (JPRC) on the amendments of the amended compact, including amendment of the Title II of the 2023 Amended Compact agreements concluded by the FSM Government and the United States Government,
2. **ACKNOWLEDGING** the importance of the Federated States of Micronesia’s natural resources and the sustainable use of such resources, therefore, mutually acknowledge the need for Consolidating the management, protection, and preservation of the environment,
3. **RECOGNIZING** the cost effectiveness associated with consolidating management, protection and preservation of the Environment,

Now, therefore, the 3rd Joint Environment and Risk Management Platform hereby requests the Joint State and National Leadership to allocate \$30 million US dollars of the \$140 million total annual Sector Grant to the Environment Sector.

 9/1/23

Mr. Bradford Mori
Executive Director, Chuuk State EPA

 9/1/23

Mr. Francisco Celestine
Executive Officer, Pohnpei State EPA

 9/1/23

Mr. Jordan Mautaman
Acting Director, Yap State EPA

 9.1.23

Mr. Steven Palik
Executive Director, KIRMA


Mr. Justin Fritz
Chuuk State DCO


Mr. Jason Gonzaga
Pohnpei State DCO Representative


Mr. Ivan Kadannged
Director, OPB/Yap State DCO


Mr. Nena William
Kosrae State DCO


Mrs. Cynthia H. Ehmes
Acting Secretary, DECEM