

# GEF7 FSM Land Degradation Neutrality Project

—— 1st Quarter Newsletter ——

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## We Are Hiring!!!

- *Chuuk State Technical Coordinator*
- *Pohnpei State Technical Coordinator*
- *The annual salary is \$19,000 per annum depending upon qualification of the applicant.*
- **Qualification** - Associate's degree in Environment Management, conservation or closely related fields with 10+ years of experience of Project technical experience, showing a progressive increase in scope and responsibilities, OR a Bachelor's degree with 5+ years of experience, OR a Master's degree with 3+ years of experience;



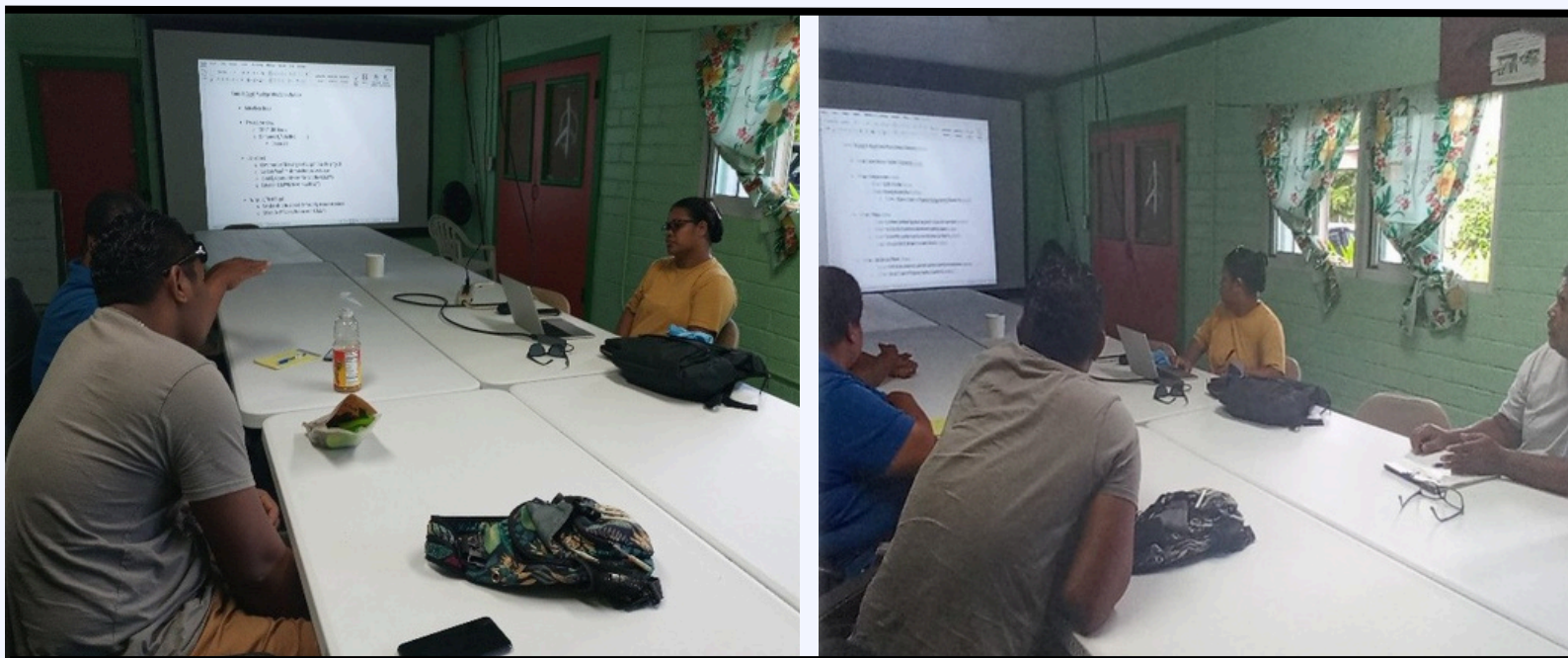
# *Yap Environmental Stewardship Consortium meeting*



On March 13, 2025, the Yap State Environmental Stewardship Consortium (ESC) convened for its first quarter meeting at Yap Small Business Development Center. The ESC is a government-led and multi-sector advisory group that provides guidance on all incoming projects related to environment, natural resource management, and climate change. The Yap State Land Management Working Group (SLMWG) serves as the advisory body for the GEF7 FSM Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Project in Yap, which operates as sub-committee of the existing Yap ESC.

During the meeting, discussions and announcements were made for projects such as the Adaptation Fund, PAC Waste, Blue Prosperity Micronesia, One Reef Micronesia, and the Enhanced Direct Access (EDA) Programme under the Pacific Community (SPC). The highlight of the ESC meeting was that the GEF7 FSM-Land Degradation Project staff gave a presentation on the project overview and its annual work plan activities and budget. The next scheduled ESC meeting is on June 26, 2025.

# 1st Quarter Meeting with the Yap State Land Management Working group



On Thursday, April 3, 2025, the Yap State Land Management Working Group (SLMWG), in coordination with the GEF7 FSM Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Project team, held a meeting to review and finalize its draft Terms of Reference (TOR) – vital for clearly defining the group’s functions. The meeting aimed to ensure that the TOR accurately captures the roles, responsibilities, and collaborative efforts required to achieve the project’s shared objectives and vision.

Throughout the meeting, the Working Group offered valuable feedback and proposed modifications to specific sections of the TOR. Their input will be incorporated into the final document, which will serve as a guiding document for the successful implementation of project activities moving forward.

# FSM National Adaptation Planning Inception Workshop



The Yap State Project team participated in a three-day Inception Workshop for the FSM National Adaptation Plan (NAP) from February 11-13, 2025. The workshop was jointly facilitated by the FSM Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management (DECCEM) and FSM NDA Office. Its objective was to initiate the National Action Plan (NAP) process at the state level, guiding climate change planning in the FSM for adaptation and mitigation goals.

Participants include stakeholders from the government, private sector and non-government organizations (NGOs). During the workshop, participants recognized existing plans and previous and ongoing projects/activities aiming to support the development of the NAP, to avoid duplication of efforts while complementing the progress of ongoing initiatives.

# **Chuuk State Environmental Working Group (1st Quarter Meeting)**



The Chuuk State Environmental Working Group (SEWG) recently held its 1st Quarter Meeting (2nd session) to review its Terms of Reference (TOR) and the project's 2025 Annual Work Plan (AWP). Chaired by Mr. Bradford G. Mori, Executive Director of the EPA, the meeting focused on refining the TOR, reviewing the AWP and budget, and identifying key priorities for 2025 year.

Mr. Setik, State Engagement Officer, introduced the draft TOR with contributions from the participating members. He then presented the overall 2025 Project AWP along with the Chuuk State 2025 AWP, noting suggestions on the budget changes for the PMU's consideration.

The meeting wrapped up with discussions on potential members and important community representatives to approach for the upcoming Community Land Management Working Group (CLMWG), which will be established by the project to oversee and direct activities within the demonstration site. As the main advisory body for the project in Chuuk, the SEWG also plays a vital role in connecting the project with the communities it aims to serve.

# **Pohnpei State Environmental Working Group (1st Quarter Meeting)**



On March 13, 2025, the Pohnpei State Environmental Working Group (SEWG), in collaboration with the GEF7 FSM LDN project staff, convened its 1st Quarter Meeting for 2025. Similar to the other State advisory bodies, the primary role of the Pohnpei SEWG is to provide strategic guidance and management oversight for the implementation of the FSM LDN Project in Pohnpei State, which includes policy and technical advice.

Participants included representatives from both government and non-government organizations. The meeting centered on reviewing the 2025 Annual Work Plan (AWP) and Budget along with associated activities, with discussions on specific budget allocations for planned activities. Key to the discussions was the need to enhance public awareness of the project, which the team has already begun to address by showcasing key project information on public billboards and banners created to boost visibility and community involvement.

# *Kosrae Sustainable Land Management Committee (KSLMC) 1st Quarter Meeting*



On March 25, 2025, the Kosrae State Working Group, referred to as Kosrae Sustainable Land Management Committee (KSLMC), held its 1st Quarter meeting at the KIRMA Conference Room. The purpose of the meeting was to provide updates on the 2025 Annual Work Plan (AWP) and status of the project progress in Kosrae. The meeting was attended by 10 members, comprised of 4 women and 6 men.

During the meeting, the project team shared details regarding the planned activities for 2025, including the budget. One of the key updates addressed progress concerning the project's demonstration site in Lelu. The team shared that they had initiated a draft TOR for Kosrae's Community Land Management Working Group (CLMWG), which will be presented to the community for feedback. One of the main responsibilities of the CLMWG is to supervise the development of a management plan for the demonstration site. This will include hiring of a Consultant, therefore, proactive planning is essential to prevent any future setbacks.

The Mayor of Lelu, who attended the meeting, acknowledged the updates, and together with the Director of KIRMA and other members, recommended that the project move forward with developing a terms of reference for the consultant, and emphasized the need to prioritize the recruitment of the local consultant by next quarter to avoid any project delays.

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**FSM GEF 7 LDN Project**



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