



FSM Ridge to Reef (R2R) Project
"Protect our Home, from Land to SEA"

FSM R2R Project hosts Steering Committee Meeting in Yap State



COLONIA, Yap – On October 14-15, 2019, the FSM Ridge to Reef (R2R) Project, in collaboration with the Yap State EPA, convened its Steering Committee (SC) meeting in Yap at the Small Business Center Conference Room. Participants include UNDP, National Government, State Governments and NGO representatives. The R2R SC is the core group responsible for making decisions for the project. Steered at the national level, the SC plays a critical role in monitoring and evaluation to ensure the project delivers on its expected results. This year's SC meeting marks a significant event with 5 additional members added to represent the interest of the four FSM States and the R2R IW Project.

In his opening remarks to the participants, the Yap State Governor, the Honorable Henry Falan, highlighted the importance of working with communities of quote "*...we are contributing to improving the livelihood of our local communities by creating better awareness and building local capacities to respond and adapt to changes in the environment. This is key to building resilient and sustainable communities.*"

The newly expanded Steering Committee, led by the recently appointed Chairwoman, Ms. Cynthia Ehmes and supported by the Project Implementation Unit (PIU), facilitated the meeting proceedings which included the review and endorsement of key documents including the project's Mid-Term Review (MTR) management responses and revised logframe. One of the SC's key role is to evaluate and approve the project's annual work plans. As such, work plans for each of the respective States including the PIU were presented to the SC for its consideration and approval.

Highlights of the second day included visits to three of the project's sites. The first visit was to the Nimpal Channel Marine Conservation Area, where the project has supported in previous years through signing of its revised MPA management plan and boundary demarcation. The participants also visited Yap's Agriculture compound where a small ribbon cutting ceremony was held to officially open the recently completed Compost Facility funded by the R2R project. The final stop was to the Equator-Prize-winning



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Tamil Resources Conservation Trust (TRCT). TRCT is currently being supported by the R2R project through watershed management. Previous support includes funding of a water tank to support the community's water campaign efforts.

Next course of action in the following weeks for the PIU and the State Coordinators will be to finalize the proposed 2020 annual work plan of the fifth year of implementation.

Stay tuned for our next R2R update!

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