



FSM Ridge to Reef (R2R) Project Newsletter

FSM R2R Project joins the community of Walung and partners in Kosrae to celebrate the endorsement of the Walung Fisheries Management Plan

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FSM R2R Project Employment Opportunities!



On March 25, 2022, after nearly five (5) years of management planning with relevant State and community stakeholders, partners of the FSM R2R project in Kosrae finally witnessed the endorsement of the Walung Fisheries Management Plan. Funded by the FSM R2R project, the management plan aims to ensure the protection, conservation and management of the species of concern in Walung.

Held at the Tafunsak Municipal Office, with officials from State and Municipal governments, the ceremony kicked off with opening remarks from the Mayor of Tafunsak, the Honorable Jackson Albert. In his remarks, he thanked the Heavenly Father for his glory and blessings, and acknowledged all the partners who worked tirelessly to make the event possible. These partners include the Division of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Department of Resource and Economic Affairs (DREA), the Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority (KIRMA) and the community of Walung. The FSM R2R Project was given special recognition for its contribution and commitment to enhancing PA management in Kosrae.

The FSM R2R project wishes to acknowledge DREA, KIRMA and the community of Walung for their continued support and commitment to the R2R in Kosrae!

FSM R2R Project Welcomes New Addition to its team in Chuuk!



The FSM R2R project is proud to introduce Ms. Clarice Etop-Graham, who was hired in March 2022, as the new Technical Officer for the R2R project in Chuuk. Prior to joining R2R, Ms. Etop-Graham served as the Marine Program Coordinator for the Chuuk Conservation Society (CCS), where her primary responsibilities included

implementation of activities under the marine component of CCS' Strategic Action Plan (SAP), planning and implementation of activities in consultation with local stakeholders and partners, collection of marine biological data, networking with project stakeholders at local and regional levels, etc. Ms. Graham brings with her a background in conservation and finance administration, and is actively involved in community work via SHIP/HOOPS and Island PRIDE, the latter of which is a women and youth led NGO dedicated to increasing community resilience by fighting for social and environmental justice.

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Demarcation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Pohnpei



The demarcation of MPAs in Pohnpei, an effort funded by the FSM R2R project and the Sokehs Menen Katengensed (SMK), continues to make progress through partnerships with the Pohnpei State Department of Resources and Development (R&D), Pohnpei State Department of Land and the Pohnpei Port Authority (PPA). Between January to March 2022, the team completed demarcation of Kehpara, Nahtik, Palikir, Mwahnd and Depehk Takaïou marine protected areas in partnership with Community Conservation Officers (CCOs) in each respective MPA. Complimentary support from T.H. Peter M. Christian was provided for Kehpara and Nahtik MPAs.

Recognized as a priority action by the Pohnpei State Government to enhance the visibility of MPAs in Pohnpei, this effort is in line with the R2R project's goal of enhancing PA management across the FSM through PA demarcation to prevent illegal fishing activities within designated protected areas.

FSM R2R Project funds training for local tour guides in Kosrae



On March 14-24, 2022, a tour-guide training to enhance capacity of State and local tour operators – in effective management of Kosrae's natural, cultural and/or traditional resources – while conducting visitations within PAs and conservation areas, was held at the Kosrae Rose Mackwelung Library. Approximately 20 individuals were involved, from KIRMA and tour guides from various PA conservation organizations in Kosrae, were involved, but only fifteen (15) completed the entire 8-day training and were certified. Of these 15 participants, 3 were local

staff from KIRMA and 12 were local guides from different PA conservation organizations.

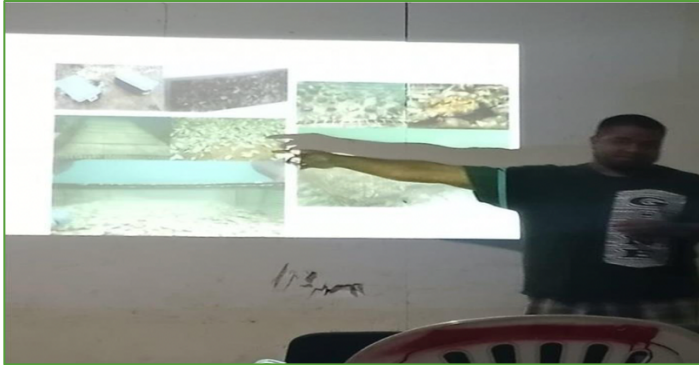
In Kosrae, a priority management activity for the Mahkontowe Conservation Area is a training for local tour guides. Funded by the FSM R2R project, the tour guide training aims to increase the capacity of local tour guides to effectively guide visitors to PA sites in a way that ensures the integrity of the PAs are not compromised.

Kosrae State launches Utwe Biosphere Reserve (UBR) community awareness campaign

On February 4, 8, and 18, 2022, respectively, a series of awareness activities, aimed at raising awareness on the Utwe Biosphere Reserve (UBR) core zone, were carried out in all the Hamlets of Utwe (N-One, Gateway, and Center Point) by the Utwe Biosphere Reserve Board (UBRB). Participants included young children, youths, adults and elders, both males and females, ranging from ages 13-75 from the Utwe community.

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Each program opened with a welcoming remark by the presiding President, followed by a short introduction from the UBRB Chairman, explaining the purpose of the visit, and a presentation from Mr. Onniel Nena, a member of the UBRB, highlighting the border of the core zone, the Utwe Giant Clam farm, biological monitoring data results and impacts of Climate Change to the area. Participants were given an opportunity, via a Q&A session, to ask questions or provide comments/feedback to the presentation. To conclude each visit, the UBR Vice Chair thanked members of the community for their support and participation, noting the successful turnout of the event, as evident in the high number of participants actively involved in the discussions.



Employment Opportunity with the FSM R2R Project!

Consultancy Title: KRMC Strategic Action Plan

Application Deadline: ASAP

Experience, Skills and Competencies:

- At least four years of experience in strategic planning and management;
- Demonstrated experience in working with government partners and other stakeholders in the public sector.
- Ability to work with minimal supervision; high level written and oral communications skills in English and Kosraean; demonstrate excellent interpersonal and professional skills in interacting with government and community partners and familiarity with Kosrae's environment, culture and government branches.

Interested individual consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:

- Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability, including relevant experience.
- Application including personal CV indicating all past experience, as well as the contact details (address, email and telephone number) of the Candidate and at least three (3) professional references.

Further information may be obtained from Tamae Waguk Luckymis, Kosrae R2R Technical Officer at kosraer2rto@gmail.com.

Consultancy Title: Finalizing the Pohnpei IEMP and SEA

Application Deadline: ASAP

Qualifications and Experience

- At least a Bachelor's Degree in conservation, environmental management and sustainable development
- Minimum of 10 years relevant work experience
- At least 5 years of experience on Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity Conservation
- Proven track record of project management and experience working with government, NGOs and other stakeholders
- Ability to engage various stakeholders and build strong relationships with clients and stakeholders
- Experience working the FSM, preferably in Pohnpei

Interested individual consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:

- **Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability**, including a brief description of why the individual or organization is the most suitable for the assignment.
- 1) **Curriculum Vitae**, including names and contacts of at least 3 referees.

Further information may be obtained from Rosalinda Yatilman, FSM R2R Project Manager at rosalinda.yatilman@decem.gov.fm.

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