

Her Excellency Dr. Hilda C. Heine President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands

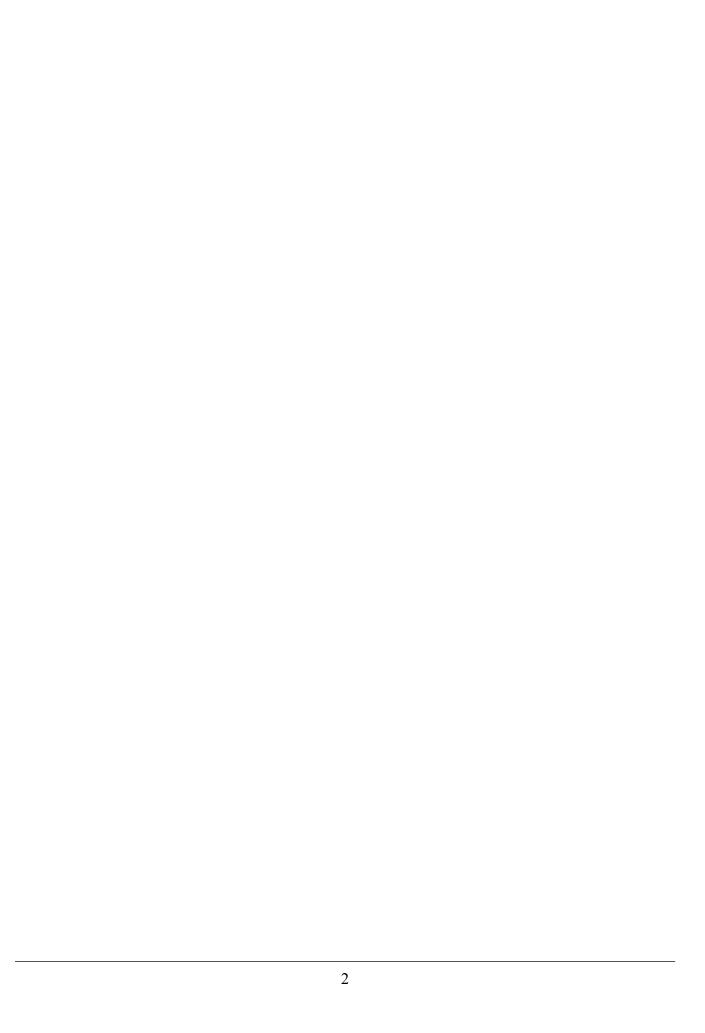


# THE FIRST 200 DAYS REPORT

Her Excellency Dr. Hilda C. Heine President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands

Prepared By:

Office of the President and Cabinet https://rmigov.com



# President Heine's First 200 Days Summary of Accomplishments

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August 5, 2024

Honorable Brenson Wase Nitijela Speaker

lokwe Mr. Speaker,

I have the honor to share the First 200 Days Report to the Nitijela. This Report provides a brief summary of accomplishments including details of activities and the progress achieved by the Government during the first 200 days since my inauguration into office on January 22, 2024.

The Agenda 2030 recently approved by Cabinet will serve as the baseline from which my administration shall move forward in pursuit of our priorities and aspirations for the Government and People of the Marshall Islands. As we position ourselves to navigate through our nation's challenges and complexities, I look forward to fostering collaborative leadership with my fellow Cabinet and Nitijela members building on the progress of our previous administrations for the betterment of our nation.

Please accept this first Report from my office as a testament of my unwavering commitment to lead our nation with integrity, transparency, and good governance.

Kommol tata and God Bless the Republic of the Marshall Islands!

Sincerely,

Hilda C. Heine

President

### 1. Office of the President and Cabinet (OTP)

### **Organizational Restructuring & Strategic Management**

- Recruitment of new employees Chief of Staff, Press Secretary and Administrative Officer/Executive Assistant
- Renewed organization chart & staff TORs
- · Established official government emails
- · Developed new office policy and procedures

### **New Appointments & Developments**

- Establishment of the National Security Office & NSO Director
- Endorsement of four (4) Presidential Envoys to focus on Gender, Youth & Children Affairs, Nuclear Justice & Human Rights, Compact Implementation, and Primary Care & Disease Prevention
- Appointment of new Board of Directors
- Establishment of the Taskforce on Deportees, the Monetary Authority Establishment Taskforce, the Universal Basic Income (UBI or Enra) Committee, the Tax Reform and Modernization Commission, and the Extraordinary Needs Distribution Committee
- Completion of Agenda 2030

### **Presidential Outer Island Trips**

- KILI (January 12, 2024) State of Emergency visit
- AILINGLAPLAP (January 29, 2024) Inauguration of Ailinglaplap Atoll Local Government
- AUR (February 5, 2024) Inauguration of Aur Atoll Local Government
- KWAJALEIN (February 8-10, 2024) Kwajalein Liberation Day
- ENEWETAK (February 22, 2024) Site visit
- AUR (March 29-April 1, 2024) Easter visit
- AILUK (April 20, 2024) Ailuk Liberation Day



Kili State of Emergency visit.



Kwajalein 80th Liberation Day celebration.



Mejatto & Rongelap site visit.



Enewetak site visit.



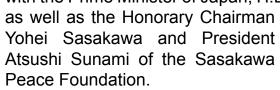
### **Presidential Trips Overseas**

MANILA, PHILIPPINES & TOKYO, JAPAN (Mar 5-16, 2024) – President Heine
was invited to deliver key remarks at the ADB Headquarters in celebration of
International Women's Day, where she also held a bilateral meeting with the ADB
President Masatsugu Asakawa to discuss ongoing projects and potential areas of



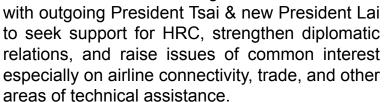


collaboration with the bank. President Heine also had the opportunity to meet with H.E. President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Romualdez Marcos Jr. to seek support for HRC and strengthen areas of cooperation including health, labor, and fisheries. President Heine was also a keynote speaker at the Tokyo Conference 2024. Other important events included courtesy meetings with the Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Kishida Fumio,



 TAIPEI, TAIWAN (May 17-22, 2024)
 President Heine was invited by the Government of ROC Taiwan to witness the Inauguration of new











 NEW YORK (May 22-24, 2024) – While in New York en route to the SIDS Conference, President Heine held bilateral meetings with UN Permanent Representatives of



the African Union to seek support for HRC, establish diplomatic relations, and explore opportunities for collaboration. Twelve (12) Member State PRs were in attendance including Egypt, Gambia, Eritrea, Somalia, Togo, Eswatini, Mozambique, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Madagascar, Benin, Zimbabwe.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA (May 24-29, 2024) – President Heine attended the 4th International Conference on Small Island Development States. Prior to the official opening of SIDS4, President Heine joined the panel for the Gender Equality Forum hosted by UN Women to discuss strategies to advance gender equality and empower women. President also held bilateral meetings with seven (7) countries (Grenada, Seychelles, Rwanda, St. Vincent & Grenadine, Tuvalu, Nauru, and Cuba), and five (5) World Organizations & Offices including the UN SG, US DOI, UN CDF, UN Women, and IUCN to establish/strengthen diplomatic relations, seek support for HRC, IMO and CO2 levy proposal as well as to explore opportunities for collaboration in various areas.









4th International Conference on Small Island Development States SIDS4.

WASHINGTON, DC (May 29-31, 2024) President Heine was invited to visit the National
Geographic HQ in DC for a lab tour and to meet
the Nat Geo CEO Jill and Mr. Enric Sala, who
led Nat Geo's expedition to Bikar and Bokak
last year in 2023. A presentation on survey
results and a photobook from the Bikar and



Bokak Expedition were shared with President Heine including the premier dates



for National Geographic's Bikar and Bokak Expedition Film later this year in Majuro. In addition, President Heine also attended the Vital Voices Global Leadership Awards, an annual event that honors international women leaders, at the John F. Kennedy Center, where she received a Lifetime of Leadership Award in recognition of her pivotal role as a female government leader and continuous fight for climate justice.

 GUAM (June 2-5, 2024) – President Heine attended the 26th Micronesian Islands Forum with Presidents and Governors from FAS and US Territories. Bilateral meetings were held with Guam, FSM, and Palau to discuss issues on airline



connectivity and to seek support for HRC and IMO (carbon levy). During the MIF, President Heine also looked into establishing/implementing a Local 2030 Islands Network and a National Guard State Partnership Program for the RMI, and also offered to host the next conference in 2025.

• TOKYO, JAPAN - PALM 10 Summit (July 14-19, 2024) - President Heine was

invited by the Government of Japan for the 10th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM 10) held under the co-chairmanship of the Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Kishida Fumio, and



the Prime Minister of Cook Islands, Honorable Mark Brown, where she made a strong intervention and shared deep concerns on the ALPs issue. President Heine also joined Prime Minister Kishida for a summit to share gratitude to the host nation and highlight potential areas of collaboration. President Heine also held bilateral meetings with India and New Zealand and participated in other important side events with JICA and Sasakawa Peace Foundation (please see updates from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for details).

### **Presentation of Credentials to President Heine**

 Significant diplomatic events took place, where six (6) new foreign Heads of Mission presented their credentials to President Heine during June and July. These presentations mark the official start of their terms as ambassadors to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, strengthening international ties. Ambassadors newly accredited to the RMI in recent months (with more pending) include:



Brazil

- REPUBLIC OF KOREA His Excellency Ambassador Kim Jin Hyung
- o FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL His Excellency Gilberto Fonseca Guimaraes De Moura
- FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANYHis Excellency Dr. Andreas Pfaffernoschke
- o VIETNAM His Excellency Pham Quang Hieu
- o FRANCE Her Excellency Maria Fontanel
- o UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR– Her Excellency Laura M. Stone







France



**United States** 

### **Hosting of Major Events**

- Majol Micronesian Games 2024
- 15th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women, 8th Meeting of Pacific Minister for Women, and 3rd Pacific Women Leaders Meeting





15th Triennial Cervical Cancer Policy Launch





### 2. Office of the Chief Secretary (OCS)

### Completion of the Agenda 2030

 Includes 27 priority areas and 52 actions across 8 themes, aligned with the National Strategic Plan 2020-2030 and other global development frameworks.



Main Office: Post Office Box 15, Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960 (692) 625-5150 Ebeye Office: Post Office Box 5040, Ebeye, Marshall Islands 96970 (692) 329-6470

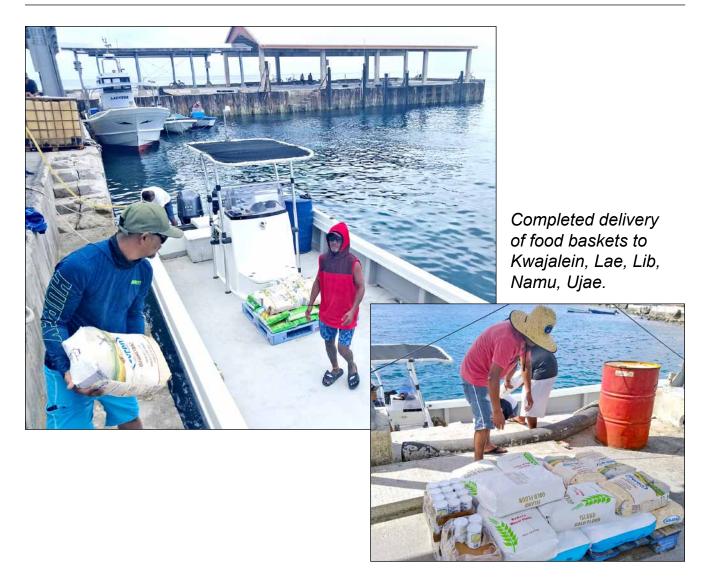
### Ongoing Work with PSC related to the Civil Service Reform Strategy Framework

- Redesigned the HoD Performance Appraisal Form; awaiting approval.
- Developed new documents related to code of conduct and ethics; regulations are scheduled for review in the upcoming new fiscal year.

# SOE declared for Inundation and Drought Response Plan with \$1.8 million budget (CM076). Remaining activities currently being rolled out

- Procurement and Distribution of Food Baskets: Contracts are being circulated for implementation. Target atolls/islands:
  - a) Completed delivery: Kwajalein, Lae, Lib, Namu, Ujae
  - b) Pending delivery: Ailinglaplap, Ailuk, Arno, Aur, Ebon, Ejit & Kili, Enewetak, Jabat, Jaluit, Likiep, Maloelap, Mejit, Mili, Namdrik, Utrik, Wotje
- Procurement of 20 Additional Portable RO Units to help emergency dispatchment of RO units to Northern Islands when needed.





### ECD Project - 2nd year of implementation (\$40 million between ECD1 and ECD2):

- Will gradually increase cash transfers to include all expectant families or those with children under five, and expand services.
- Roll-out to Northern Islands will reach 8 atolls between now and November 2024, and will continue to other NIs.

# Establishment of the Election Disability Access Working Group Sub-Committee under the Human Rights Committee

 New subcommittee established to ensure that electoral processes are accessible to all individuals, particularly those with disabilities.

### **GRMI Bid Committee Activities**

• 26 bids totaling \$23,878,585.42 approved between January to July this year.

### 3. Ministry of Finance, Banking, and Postal Services

### **Modernize Taxation Regime**

A Tax Reform and Modernization Commission was established by the Cabinet.
 The Commission is tasked to identify and review current tax systems and provide recommendations for modernization and legislative reform.

### **Universal Basic Income**

 A UBI taskforce was established by the Cabinet to review the individual distribution requirements under Article 17 of the Trust Fund Agreement and propose recommendations on how to implement. A draft report is being finalized and will be submitted to Cabinet for further review and endorsement. It is estimated that the first distribution will be made in December of this year.

### Minimum Wage

• Effective October 1, the first phase of the minimum wage increment plan will take into effect bringing the minimum wage from \$3.50 to \$4.00.

### **SAMSHA Payment**

 A check in the amount of \$1,336,187 was paid to the US Department of Health and Human Services to clear the questioned costs under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). It was delivered by our Ambassador the U.S., Charles Paul.

### Compact 2024 and 2025 Allocation

 The Ministry, along with MOFAT and Presidential Envoy Chair Wilbur Heine, developed RMI's first Annual Implementation Plan as required under the new Compact Agreement. Submission of the FY2024 AIP has been submitted and we hope to get it approved to ensure that sectors are able to implement the activities under the plan. Work is ongoing for the FY2025 AIP.

### **World Bank Budgetary Support**

• The Wold Bank Board of Directors approved a budgetary support of 9 million dollars. The receipt of this budget support came timely as urgent needs for the AMI, responding to the drought needed immediate responding to. The remaining fund allocations will be presented along with the global budget later during this session.

### 4. Ministry of Natural Resources & Commerce

### **Division of Quarantine**

- Secured USD\$1 million under GEF 8 to assist in managing invasive species activities. Most of the funding will support the RMI National Invasive Species Action Plan (NISSAP), endorsed by Cabinet to strengthen national capacities to prevent invasive species impacts and to safeguard the Republic's biodiversity and environment.
- Convened field trials to determine which pesticide (neem oil or malathion) is more
  effective in controlling the infestation of Citrus Black Fly on lime trees on Majuro
  Atoll. Initial finding is that the malathion pesticide is more effective, however local
  supplies are limited. The Ministry is in the process of procuring malathion, but will
  continue to conduct further studies.







- Welcomed Ms. Natsuki Yoshida,
   a JICA volunteer for the next 2
   years. Her expertise in graphic design will be most essential in helping the local businesses tap into their creative outlets.
- Participated in night markets during the Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture and Women's Triennial Conference to promote local goods and services and enable network amongst producers and buyers.

### **Division of Agriculture and Forestry**

 Revived the Laura Farmers Association (LFA) by assisting with farming tools as well as computers for administrative needs. The LFA and other Majuro farmers were granted the opportunity to feed the visiting athletes competing at

the Micronesian Games (over 1,000lbs of fresh crops, which includes bokchoy, papaya, chili pepper, coconuts, bananas and green onions), which was successfully implemented.

 In support of Government's priority to decrease the reliance on food imports and to promote the consumption of local and healthy food, a feasibility study was conducted on the establishment of a slaughterhouse for local pork production and a poultry farm for egg production. A

detailed report from the Taiwan ICDF experts is expected to be shared soon.







### 5. Ministry of Culture & Internal Affairs

# Festival of Pacific Arts in Hawaii

 The Marshall Islands' participation in the Festival of Pacific Arts in Hawaii was a resounding success. This exposure has helped promote the



unique cultural heritage of the Marshall Islands on a global scale. About 70 RMI participants attended the FesPac 2024 who were fully supported by RMI Govt.

 Traditional Leaders' Summit (sponsored by Pacific of Festival of Arts) to be held in the upcoming months providing a platform for traditional leaders to discuss issues of importance and preserve our cultural traditions.



# 15th Women's Triennial, Ministers for Women Meeting, and Pacific Islands Forum Meetings

 Attracting over 500 delegates; showcasing the Marshall Islands' commitment to gender equality, women's empowerment, and regional cooperation.











 First time for North Pacific to host and for thematic areas of Nuclear Legacy related health issues and Cancer Health Prevention Program



to be part of the Outcomes.

CORE committee.

### WYSER PROJECT to commence this December until June 2031 (6-year project)

 \$21M Project for Women Youth Skills Empowerment Resilient Project through ADB to provide a comprehensive Women Center for Training, CMI facility for Childcare programs for young mother attending CMI, and base programs to improve livelihoods of women



and youth skills, and climate resilient programs.

# Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources

 On Friday, May 24, 2024, the Honorable Minister Gasper, Jr. joined over 100 nations and signed the final act of the Treaty on behalf of the Government and the People of the Marshall Islands. This resulted in a bill on Copyrights that is being drafted by the Marshall Islands AG's Office to protect and promote Marshallese heritage, traditional knowledge, and genetic resources.



Geneva mission trip.

### **Culture & Historic Preservation Office Activities**

- Establishment of the Marshallese Ri-Kapeel Registry (Inventory)
- Repatriation of Marshallese (Enewetak) Ancestral Remains and Japanese Individuals to Their Home Country
- · Establishment of National Parks and Properties
- Removal of WWII explosive remnants of war (20 items destroyed in Wotje)



ECD - Early Childhood Development.



MIMA - Marshall Islands Mayor's Association.

### 6. Ministry of Transportation, Communication & Information Technology

### Telecoms (Reform) Bill to be presented to Nitijela in August

• The Telecoms Bill does the minimum the RMI requires, along with developments in technology, to enable competition for telcom services in the RMI.

### **Starlink**

 In April 2024, the GRMI authorized Starlink to continue its services as the regulatory framework is being developed. Furthermore, the ministry is currently in the process of negotiating with Starlink, which may take up to 12 months, for an affordable local rate especially to the neighboring islands.

### **New Small Water Craft Regulations**

- Delegates authority to each local government to monitor and implement through Ordinance.
- With the assistant of AG, the Ministry created a MOU between the Ministry of TC&IT and each local government. MOTC&IT is currently working with the MALGov and KALGov for the implementation starting this October 2024.

# Launched grand opening of Jela Meto Training Center and SV Tarmelu on July 3, 2024



SV Juren Ae arrival on Majuro.



SV Juren Ae blessing, cutting the ribbon, and welcoming remarks for the latest addition to the shipping corporation.





### 7. Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure & Utilities

### Legislations and policy work

- Developed the first RMI Building Code passed by Cabinet on March 18, 2024; will be submitted to the Nitijela August 2024, for enactment.
- Updated Compact Public Infrastructure Development and Maintenance Plan (IDMP) 2024-2033 including a 3-Year National Infrastructure Investment Plan

### Project administration and contract management

- Ongoing repairs of the Honolulu Consulate/Patients Building and Embassy Residence in Washington DC- substantially completed
- · Compact Projects including but not limited to:
  - a) ECC and Track and Field Projects (Microgames 2024)- completed
  - b) MIHS Schools Repairs and Renovation (Microgames 2024)- completed
  - c) Majuro and Ebeye Hospital Maintenance- on-going
  - d) Ebeye School Phase 4 new classroom buildings (12 classrooms)- on-going
  - e) Ebeye New Mid Corridor Housing (Stage 2a)- on going
  - f) Ebeye Road and Causeway Projects- substantially completed
  - g) JHS and NIHS Dormitory and Staff Repairs- completed
- Oversight of Design Consultants for the completion of Detailed Designs of the new Laura School and JHS Cafeteria Projects. Both projects are now for tender-Design Completed.
- Supervision and completion of Likiep Dock and Arno Boat Ramp Projects
- Completed repairs of roads and airport in Jaluit after the February 2024 inundation
- Completed repairs and resurfacing of Woja airport in Ailinglaplap after the February 2024 inundation
- Supervision and in-house of Ebon Seawall/Runway Repairs and airport land reclamation
- · Resurfacing and repair of Mili Runway
- Completion of Dry dock repairs to MV Majuro in Suva, Fiji, and purchase of new LCU landing craft
- Ongoing oversight and coordination of various Projects with multilateral partners (i.e., ADB, UNDP, World Bank, JICS, etc.)
- Continued community support in providing Land Surveys, Job Orders, Maintenance, Road Repairs, and other community maintenance services.
- Removal of speed bumps (Majuro Main Road)

### 8. Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade

### Future Relationship with the United States & changes to COFA

- Although the 2023 Amended Compact, negotiation is still in progress to address several important implementation issues starting with the concluding the Federal Programs and Services Agreement (FPSA).
- \$3,098,251 was awarded through the Office of the Insular Affairs (OIA) Technical Assistance (TAP) to the RMI FY24.
- The following projects (~\$1 million) are being awarded to the RMI Government:
  - a) \$502,300 to the Arno Atoll Local Government for the Arno Atoll Boat Channel Project;
  - b) \$229,750 to the Majuro Atoll Local Government for the Majuro Renewable Energy Project;
  - c) \$164,500 to the Jaluit Atoll Local Government for the Disaster Preparedness and Climate Resilience for Disconnected Communities on Jaluit Atoll Project; and
  - d) \$154,500 to the RMI Customs Dept for the IT Infrastructure Project.
- The OIA is also funding the U.S. Department of Energy \$2,047,201 for the Runit Dome Groundwater Monitoring Program, as required under public law 112-149, to continue groundwater monitoring work at Runit Island in Enewetak Atoll.

### Increased bilateral and multilateral engagements and cooperation

- RMI established diplomatic ties with 3 countries (Pakistan, Suriname, and Benin), increased bilateral relations through Presentation of Credentials (with Korea, Brazil, Thailand, US, France, and Germany).
- RMI also appointed a Permanent Representative to the United Nations Headquarters in New York, H.E John Silk.
- RMI has been actively engaging with countries and partners to support RMI's candidacy for the Human Rights Council.
- At the 4th Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) Meeting, RMI joined the ranks of 13 countries supporting the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty initiative.
- At the 26th Micronesian Islands Forum, RMI continued to raise airline connectivity challenges among other issues; also sought support for a National Guard State Partnership Program with Guam.
- Supported Inauguration of the new President of Taiwan, H.E Lai Ching-te.
- Joined the 10th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting with Japan (PALM10) with Prime Minister Kishida. On the matter of the Fukushima ALPS Treated Water, PIF Leaders acknowledged the Government of Japan's assurances to continue to provide sincere explanations to Pacific Island Countries based on scientific evidence in a way that is highly transparent, and to never approve the discharge

in a manner that endangers well-being, livelihoods, human health or the marine environment. The Government of Japan will continue working closely with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and has decided to contribute to the development of regional scientific capacity through the IAEA.

### Significant grants and projects from RMI's development partners

- Contract Signing and Bidding Award for The Project for the Improvement of Majuro Water Reservoir with Japan
- Exchange of Notes for Grant Aid and Economic & Social Development Program
  - a) JPY 116,000,000 to support Construction for Improvement of the Passenger Terminal of the Amata Kabua International Airport
  - b) JPY 700,000,000 to the Social and Economic Development Program
- Support for Micronesian Games and Women's Triennial Conference
  - a) \$200,000 donation from India to support these events
  - b) Towel donation for all the athletes from Japan
- MoU Signing of the Annual Grant-in-Aid with India for Implementation of Community Development Projects in Ailuk, Arno, Mejit and Wotje atolls

### Asia-Pacific Ladies Friendship Society Charity Bazaar 2024

 Mrs. Madam Althea Bing took part in the annual Charity Bazaar 2024, where all proceeds were shared among the 20 participating Asia-Pacific Embassies to donate to entities and organizations within their respective countries. The RMI Embassy was awarded 463,000 JPY (USD \$3,000), which will be donated to Waan Aelon in Majel.

### 9. Ministry of Health and Human Services

### **Ceremonial Events**

 Blessing and Opening Ceremony of the newly opened Ajeltake Health Center



- Blessing of the new Oxygen Plant supported by ROC Taiwan
- Launching of Clinic Without Walls to Promote health equity and accessibility for all Marshallese citizens





### President's 1st Hospital Tour on April 19, 2024







# Trainings & Workshops

 Advanced Emergency Medical Response Training



(EMR) for various first responder agencies, including MALGOV, MIPD, the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) unit, and MOHHS.





- Inaugural Workshop to Accelerate Multi-Sectoral High Impact Nutrition Initiatives in the RMI in collaboration with the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Project and UNICEF.
- Marshall Islands Medical Assistance Team (MIMAT) Training to ensure the team is self-sufficient and prepared for rapid deployment in response to emergencies.



• Cancer Coalition Training Event to Combat Cancer Epidemic, organized in alignment with the RMI Cancer Plan 2022-2027, a collaborative effort involving healthcare professionals, policymakers, community leaders, and advocates.



RMI Cancer Coalition



The Cervical Cancer Elimination Policy and Strategy.





# 10. Office of the Attorney General (AG), Immigration Office, Labor Office

Upgrade of the passport system (Phase 1) and the implementation of the new passport booklets

### Official launch of the Online Legal Management System

Prosecutors will now be able to process cases online, including adhering to any
deadlines set by the courts. The goal of the Legal Management System is to
digitize the entire process for the provision of services by the AG, which includes:
conducting criminal and civil litigation, reviewing, and signing legal agreements;
issuing legal advice and opinions; and other legal services.

The Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) programs have been extended to June 2025.

Over the past 100 days (about 3 and a half months), MIPD and MalGov police have submitted 32 criminal reports. Prosecutors continue to work with MIPD and MalGov on improving said criminal reports for prosecution but have thus far filed 7 cases in court.

### 11. Marshall Islands Police Department (MIPD)

### Sea Patrol Wharf infrastructure upgrades

- Australia will fund the wharf upgrades at Delap Dock, just across the existing sea patrol building.
- An assessment team from Australia were here to work with RMI officials responsible for environmental assessments, building permits, and land ownership matters. The wharf project work is anticipated to continue beginning of 2025.



### **New Sea Patrol Building**

 The project for the new sea patrol building is now ongoing and is currently at 71% completion. We anticipate that it will be fully completed and occupied by the end of the year or in January 2025, marking a significant milestone in our infrastructure development efforts.

### **Guardian Class Patrol Boat V.S Pacific Patrol Boat (LOMOR 03)**

- The Pacific Patrol Boat (LOMOR 03) is still operational and will go on an FFA fishery operation in August.
- The New Guardian Class Patrol Boat is scheduled to arrive in mid-2025. This new addition, currently under construction by Austal, the shipyard company in Australia, marks a significant step forward in our maritime security capabilities.

### **Australian Federal Police Donated Drug Testing Kit for MIPD**

• On June 6th 2024, AFP Agent Jason Ford visited Marshall Islands Police Department to provide training and donate the TruNarc Drug testing tool to the MIPD Criminal Investigations Division to enhance capabilities to identify drugs.

### PII LCM 8617 Rescue

 At 10:15pm July 16th a call was received by the MIPD, Maritime & Surveillance Division, that PII's LCM 8617, was taking on water and going under. The Search and Rescue Taskforce (SART) kept communications with all relevant parties until the 13 passengers and crew were safely delivered to Uliga dock.

### Australia Trip on the Pacific Policing Initiative

The Deputy Commissioner of Police attended the Pacific Policing Initiative (PPI)
Design Advisory Group (DAG) recently in Brisbane from the 28th July to 1st of
August. The 16 regional members are expected to formalize the legal frameworks
of the multi-million-dollar initiative funded by the Australian Government.

### 12. Public School System (PSS)

### **Piloting of Family Life Education**

Family Life Education – a curriculum focused on human sexuality, child rights, and basic anatomy – was piloted in 4th and 5th grades in 7 schools (DES, NDES, RES, Ebeye, Jaluit, Bikarej & Arno). This sets the RMI apart from the other Pacific countries, who are using this only in middle and high school. This means that Marshallese children will have the knowledge and understanding to protect themselves and know that they are valuable and have rights.

### **Accreditation in NCAA Portal**

 MIHS was accredited and listed in the NCAA portal, thereby giving Marshallese youth the opportunity to compete for athletic scholarships.

### Special recognition to RMI

 The RMI was recognized as the only US-affiliated Pacific jurisdiction to meet the compliance requirements related to children with disabilities under the Office of Special Education programs.

### Marshallese Language Arts curriculum

 PSS launched an update of the Marshallese Language Arts curriculum for the first time in 30+ years. This will bring the curriculum in line with the RMI PSS Language Policy, which was adopted in 2015.

### **Support for the Micronesian Games**

 PSS contributed hundreds of staff members to support the Micronesian Games, renovated MIHS to serve as the Olympic Village, provided bus transportation in such a way that it limited traffic congestion across the D-U-D area, and shared hospitality recognized as "above and beyond" by the roughly 1,500 athletes, coaches, and support staff who stayed at MIHS.

### 13. Public Service Commission (PSC)

### **Workers Compensation Act**

- The Public Service completed its awareness with all Ministries and Agencies Head; all Ministries and Agencies were visited.
- So far PSC has received only three (3) injury claims.
- As a result of the Workers Compensation Act, the following policies were developed for consideration: Whistleblower policy, Hazard Management Policy, an Incident Reporting Policy, a Violence and Harassment Policy, and an Emergency Management Policy. All the policies will be submitted to Cabinet for approval.

### **PSC Regulation 2008**

The Regulation is currently being revised by the office of the Attorney General.

### **Housing Policy**

 The Commission is prepared to submit a Cabinet Paper on a new rate for housing for expatriates.

### **Micro PSC Commissioners Conference**

 The RMI will host the meeting on August 12-14. Delegates from Nauru, Kiribati, FSM and Palau are expected to arrive in Majuro on the 2nd week of August. The Discussion will focus on common issues in the Micronesia in terms of public service and human resources.

### **PSC Payscale**

 An Australian Consultant is currently revising PSC PayScale based on current living standards.

### 14. Economic Policy Planning & Statistics Office (EPPSO)

- EPPSO was able to engage with International Monetary Bank (IMF) for consultancy support on the rebasing of the CPI to include additional food items. Starting towards the end of this year, the food basket will have 120 food items, instead of the 60 items that were being collected.
- Updated the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 2024.
- Worked alongside the NSP/SDGs committee on:
  - a) the completion of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework
  - b) preparation for the RMI Voluntary National Review (VNR), which the committee has approved to present in July 2025

### 15. Climate Change Directorate Office (CCD)

### **National Adaptation Plan**

- Through the leadership and guidance of the Co-Chairs of the Tile Til Eo Committee (TTEC), the Honorable Minister in Assistance to the President & Environment and the Chief Secretary, the CCD is leading the implementation of our National Adaptation Plan (NAP) after its recent inception in December of 2023 in the margins of the COP-28 in Dubai.
- Earlier this year, the RMI government recently secured financial support from the Australian government to promote the NAP in neighboring islands and to garner their views on possible adaptation options.

### Marshall Islands Resilience & Adaptation Fund Act (MIRA)

- The operationalization of the MIRA will soon commence subsequent to the Cabinet recent approval of the members of the Fund Board, Advisory Committee and the Administrator of the Fund. This milestone will ensure that the People, Government, and the Republic adapt and build resilience to the negative impacts of climate change. It will further provide steady supplementary and complementary financing for adaptation and resilience investments and initiatives.
- Last month, the RMI government secured financial support from the New Zealand government to support the RMI in "addressing climate change loss and damage". Complimenting another New Zealand funded regional program on loss and damage, this national program delves into the existential nature of non-economic loss and damage (NELD). The program presents a significant opportunity for the RMI to address key challenges related to climate change impacts and cultural preservation and has the potential to make meaningful contributions to data collection, adaptation planning and cultural preservations efforts in the RMI by paving the way for a more resilient and culturally vibrant future. The implementation of this program will be in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP).

# 16. RMI Environmental Protection Authority (RMIEPA)

# **Water Quality Division**

 The Water Quality Division has procured lab equipment through a DOI grant that will boost our capabilities for our water quality testing. Some of this equipment has already arrived.

Our participation in the Micro Games to ensure the quality of water being used and served, to the public and

the athletes, were monitored and are of good quality that meets EPA standards.

# Addressing Climate Vulnerability in the Water Sector (ACWA)



Namu Modular tanks.

#### **Education and Awareness Division**

- The Education and Awareness Division of RMI EPA performed educational outreach programs at the elementary schools, middle schools and the high schools in Majuro Atoll between January and May of 2024. There are 14 elementary schools, 6 middle schools and 6 high schools in Majuro Atoll and of the 28, the division reached out to 28 schools.
- The Education and Awareness Division has also reached out to all the high schools in Majuro Atoll with the hope to establish environmental clubs and successfully, all the schools agreed to establish their clubs within the FY2024.
- · The Jimor Wodejipel Initiative is







an incentivized community effort aimed at cleaning up our home. Each cleanup day (every other Saturday) is assigned to a different group, with priority given based on the order of sign-ups in a first-come, first-served registration process.

#### **Solid Waste and Pollutants Division**

 JICATechnical Cooperation Project (J-PRISM3): Implementation of the PACWASTE Plus with Majuro Atoll Waste Company (MAWC) and further discussion on the promotion of regional initiatives on solid waste management in Pacific Island

countries.

 Response to neutralize Lead Acid Batteries in Ebon and Namdrik Atoll as part of the Battery Removal Clean up Taskforce.

## **USAKA Environmental Standards** (UES):

 Maritime Domain Awareness includes a wide range of collaborative efforts with Coast Guard, US Coast Guard Oil Spill response team service, US DOJ, and others along with RMI Law enforcement agencies.

This included the following deliverables:

- a) prevention of Marine pollution,
- b) maritime security,
- c) establishment of a oil spill response working group.
- d) Created comprehensive plans addressing both short-term and long-term marine pollution needs.
- · Official signing and approval of the 17th edition of the USAKA Environmental Standards (UES) as part of the joint regulatory enforcement of United States Kwajalein Atoll Garrison (USAKA).
- · Active involvement and participation of RMIEPA at the USEPA Region 9 environment forum.







· Attendance at the High Level Joint Committee Meeting with the United States



to highlight gaps in regulatory oversight of Kwajalein military Garrison including the immediate need to conduct epidemiological studies to under the impact on human health from consumption of fish and other seafood heavily contaminated with heavy metals.

#### **Coastal Land and Conservation Division**

• Coastal Land and Conservation division continue to monitor all ongoing Major projects in the RMI. There are currently Fifty (55) Valid Major permits up to date.

# 17. Weather Service Office (WSO)

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

 RMI received its first shipment of 12 automated weather stations (AWS) in June of 2024. This is made possible through the GCF UNEP initiative to enhance climate information services in 5 Pacific countries of RMI, Cook Islands, Niue, Palau, and Tuvalu: UNEP CISPAC-5.

The Majuro National Weather Services Office alongside the regional technical partner NIWA New Zealand collaborated on the installation of 3 of these 12 AWS. These were installed on Majuro, Mili, and Utirik.

Near real time Weather Observation data from these 3 stations can now be accessed by the Majuro NWSO and is beneficial for enhancing weather and climate monitoring and early warnings.

By the end of the UNEP CISPAC-5 programme, a total of 24 AWS will be installed















# 18. National Energy Office (NEO)

#### **Public School System Solar Car Park**

- A 73kW Solar Car Park System with a Battery connected to PSS Meter to reduce energy consumption has been installed and is now pending a handover ceremony to PSS. Kōmmool tata to the Government of the Republic of China, Taiwan, for their generous gift in the amount of \$ 400,000 USD. By way of background, through the Embassy of Taiwan, every year, NEO works with Taiwan Embassy to implement a Green Energy Project. PSS has been completed, and NEO is working with the Taiwan Embassy for this year's Project, in the amount of \$ 300,000 USD. A technical survey for the next project is completed with the following outcomes:
  - ECC -29,7KW solar off grid system ( suggest to apply with Car park type due to roof has water leaking issue )
  - Maritime Training Center 15.75 KW solar off grid system (Only available with 15.75KW due to roof space is limited)
  - MISSA 14.85KW solar off gird system (Only available with 14.85KW due to roof space is limited)
  - o Public Works -30.6KW solar off grid system (roof type)

NEO is currently assessing the electricity consumption for each sites surveyed to better determine the next project site.



Figure 1: PSS Solar Parking lot. PC: Green Energy Solution

#### **Neighboring Islands Solar Assessment and Training Project**

• This project is a joint project between NEO and the National Training Council (NTC) funded by the European Union through the EDF11 envelope. This project was developed in response to MEC, which cannot continue the Neighboring Island Solar System Project because of funding constraints. Because of this, NEO and NTC are working with Local Governments to see other options to resume the Solar Project, for example, Local Governments to take over and maintain their solar system projects.

There are two phases for this project;

- a) **Phase one** is to do a solar assessment of all the solar home systems in the neighboring islands to see how many are working, how many are not working, why they are not working, and what are the needs of the people living in the outer islands. A report is produced and from this report, each local government can use this report to apply for grants with DIDA to renew or upgrade their solar home systems. Wōtto, Ebon, Aur, and others were successful with receiving grants from DIDA with the report.
- b) **Phase two** is to do community training for men, women, and youths on how to maintain your solar systems.

Since January 2024, the project team has completed 6 atolls/islands;

- Arno: 80 trainees (all men)
- Lae: 25 trainees (all men)
- Utrōk: 25 trainees (22 men, 3 women)
- Wōtto: 30 trainees (26 men, 4 women)
- Ujae: 20 trainees (10 men, 10 women)
- Namu: 45 trainees (36 men, 9 women)

Solar Assessment report has several purposes. One is it is used as a supporting document for project proposals to replace and upgrade PV solar home systems submitted by local government entities. Assessment report was included in proposals submitted by the local government of Wotho, Aur, and Ebon. All proposals have been approved and currently in progress.

# **WAM/NEOP Low Cabon Sea Transport Project**

- Key Accomplishments of the project
  - a) 3 boat-building workshops with builders from Ebon, Mili, Aur, Ailuk, Likiep, Kwajalein, Ujae, Lae, Namu, Maloelap, and Wotje. Each workshop lasts 3 months. The local Government pay for the airfares and accommodation cost, project pays for the salary of trainees while in Majuro. (GIZ funded first two, and NEO funded current through EU EDF11 funding)
  - b) Side event in COP28 in UAE, where the project was showcased to the world. It combines indigenous knowledge and practice to combat cost of

- fuel, dependence of fuel, and advocate for a cleaner and more resilient environment. There are two prototypes, each can carry up to 1.5 tons or about 15 bags of copra. The idea is to build these boats, and supply them to neighboring atolls if they are well-coordinated and used by local government, many of these copra makers would not have to buy expensive fuel from their meager income.
- c) Launch of 2 comprehensive boat-building manuals. Madame President attended the event along with Ministers Lakjohn and Minister Kendall. Each book is about 160 pages long. WAM, NEO, and GIZ want to supply these books so that they are taught nationwide in vocational curriculums. All materials can be sourced locally in Majuro and is available in both Marshallese and English. We do not have to order parts online or from overseas.



Figure 2: WAM Training Materials Launching Ceremony. PC: NEO

# 19. National Nuclear Commission (NNC)

#### Pillar 2: Health Care

- NNC is working closely with scientists from Japan and the RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services to analyze RMI cancer patients' medical charts to see if their illnesses are linked to the US nuclear testing program in the RMI.
- · In March of this year, NNC accompanied Doctor Katsumi Furitsu and Professor Seiichiro Takemine from Japan Meisei University to Ailuk to conduct interviews, house visits, and clinical check-up with community age range 35 and up to see if they have any health issues related to the Nuclear era.

#### **Pillar 3: Environment**

- The NNC remains in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that is currently working on building a radiation monitoring lab at the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority.
- The NNC also remains in close collaboration with the RMI Attorney General's Office, RMI Mission to Geneva and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (with assistance from the IAEA) on the development of a Comprehensive Nuclear Law on Radiation safety regulations to establish the requirements for the protection of workers, patient, public and environment, as well a regulation for transport, emergency and waste management in our county.

#### Pillar 5: Education and Public Awareness

 NNC has been working very closely with the Ministry of Education, Sports, & Training, Public Schools System (PSS), the Pacific Community (SPC) piloting

the nuclear legacy curriculum that was integrated into the Social Citizenship Education program in 2019. The nuclear legacy curriculum focuses on various aspects of the nuclear legacy ranging from displacement, human rights violations, politics, and health issues related to the nuclear legacy.



Digital Archive Certificate.

 NNC also has been working closely with College of the Marshall Islands Nuclear Institute club members doing outreach work with primary & secondary schools, churches as well as youth summer seminars.





Above left, 15th Triennial drafting committee for nuclear legacy related health issues and cancer health prevention program.





NNC Secretary Keyoka Kabua – CTBTO Australia.

# 20. National Training Council (NTC)

#### **Employment Preparation Program**

- Internship Program A total of 104 applicants completed and on-going; 56 males and 48 females
- Hawaii Job Corps Program A total of 18 applicants accepted and are currently attending the program; 10 males and 8 females
- Work Placement Program (World Bank ESSP Project funded) - A total of 59 accepted applicants and on-going; 32 males and 27 females



## **Training Program**

- Majuro
  - a) Delap Community Sewing Project 15 females
  - b) Jeirok Community Canoe Carving and Stick Chart Making Project 10 males and 10 females
  - c) Youth Empowerment Sewing Project 15 females
- Ebeye
  - a) Ebadon Community Sewing Project 20 females
  - b) Santo Community Sewing Project 20 females
  - c) Enebouj Community Sewing Project 15 females
- Neighboring Island
  - a) Aur Atoll Fisheries Cooperative Raceway Tank Construction Project 10 males
  - b) Jaluit Women's Club Handicraft Project 15 females
  - c) Lib Island Local Government Carpentry Project 6 males
  - d) Mili Atoll Local Government Sewing Project 20 females
- Pilot Training at Airlink Flight Schools (Florida, US) 2 females

# 21. Council of Iroij (COI) - Mweo Imon Iroij

## January 3, 2024 - Council of Iroij Election of New Officers

- The Council of Iroij elected a new Chairman and Vice Chairman pursuant to Article III Section 5 of the Constitution with the following results:
  - Iroij Lanny Kabua as Chairman from Iroijlaplap Laelang Kabua Domain in Ralik Chain
  - > Iroij Lejje Loeak as the Vice Chairman from Iroij Litokwa Domain in Ralik Chain



#### June 6-18, 2024 - Pacific Festival of Arts & Cultures

The House of Iroij representative, Iroij Lanny Kabua (Chairman for the Council
of Iroij) joined other dignitaries (traditional leaders) from across the Pacific for
the inaugural Pacific Leaders Forum in Honolulu, Hawaii. The Leaders signed
a formal declaration, which aims to strengthen relationships and provide a
platform to discuss challenges confronting Pacific communities, during the 50th
Anniversary of the Pacific Festival of Arts & Cultures.



#### June 15-24, 2024 - 10th Micro Games 2024

 The Honorable Members of the Council of Iroij witnessed the lighting of the torch during official opening ceremony of the 10th Micronesian Games in Majuro soil, Republic of the Marshall Islands. The opening ceremony remark was delivered by Special Envoy of Compact, Senator Wilbur Heine on behalf of Leroij Takbar Ishiguro.

#### June 24-30, 2024 – 13th Triennial Women's Conference & 8th Ministers Meeting

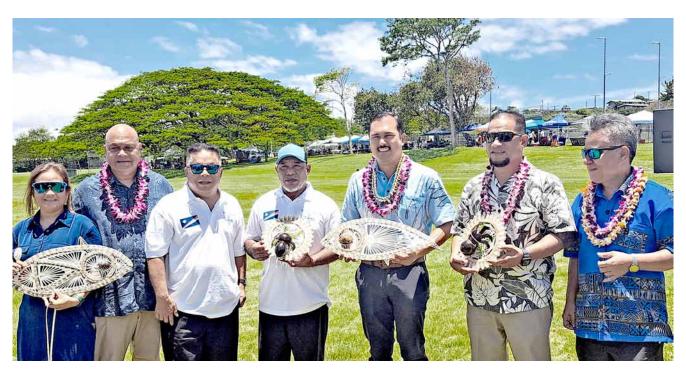
- Council of Iroij member and Likiep landowner, Ms. Annaruth R. Samuel, delivered Cultural Remarks during the Opening Ceremony of the Triennial Women's Conference on behalf of the Chairman.
- During the week of the Triennial, Chairman Iroij Lanny Kabua received a courtesy visit by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretary General, Baron Waqa, and his esteem delegation

#### July 29, 2024 – Marshall Islands Mayors Association, MIMA Conference

 The Honorable Members of the Council of Iroij joined the Opening Ceremony of the 33rd Marshall Islands Mayors Association to show moral support to the Honorable Mayors from the 24-atoll communities.

# July 31, 2024 – Courtesy Visit of Vice Speaker Miguel McCurry, Pohnpei State, FSM

 Chairman Iroij Lanny Kabua received a courtesy visit by the Honorable Vice Speaker from the Pohnpei State of the Federated States of Micronesia and his delegation during their visits to RMI.



# 1. Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Service

#### **Operationalization of the Monetary Authority Establishment Taskforce**

 MAET has provided a draft White Paper, a draft Press Release, a draft Compact Sector Funding Proposal to Hire Central Experts (for capacity building), and a draft Monetary Authority Law with Consequential amendments to relevant legislations and regulations that will be introduced to Parliament in August 2024.

#### Completion of the 3rd Mutual Evaluation for the RMI

 RMI underwent an onsite evaluation by the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering against standards set by the FATF under the 40 Recommendations, for the 3rd time in November 2023. The RMI has been preparing for the onsite evaluations for almost 10 years and has been working with the Assessment Team to review the draft Mutual Evaluation Report to be formally adopted during the APG 2024 Plenary.

#### **Drafting of New Basel III Prudential Standards for Banks**

• In an effort to align the Banking Act with Basel Standards, we have 9 new banking regulations shared with the 3 banking institutions for comments, which are expected to be finalized before the end of 2024.

# Correspondent Banking Relationships (CBR) and De-Risking

Just recently, the Office along with the Secretary of Finance and the Minister
of Finance attended the first Pacific Banking Forum hosted by the U.S. and
Australian Governments in Brisbane, Australia. RMI is one of the PIC countries
that is highly affected by de-risking and will participate in the project.

# 2. Marshall Islands Scholarship, Grant and Loan Board Program (MISGLB)

Improved number of scholarship awards

- Total approved for Fall 2023 44 students
- Total approved for Spring 2024 32 students
- Each student receives about \$9,000 per semester, but Board has approved an increase to \$10,500 per semester
- Currently working on regulations to increase value of scholarship awards

#### Outreach in Majuro and neighboring islands

- First time for the team to visit high schools in Ebeye, Kwajalein and Ennibur; the team also visited Wotje, Kili and Jaluit.
- Also took part in career fairs at CMI and USP.
- These efforts have resulted in more applicants every semester.

A total of 35 Bachelor's graduates for the school year 2023-2024

- Majority of students majored in Education and Nursing at CMI.
- · Majority are on island currently employed.



# 3. College of the Marshall Islands (CMI)

- This spring, CMI awarded 216 degrees and college-level certificates along with 114 RMI high school equivalency diplomas. These numbers include the first adult basic education graduates at the Santo Sub-Center and the first college-level graduate at the Wotje Center.
- CMI has secured funding through ADB to build a childcare center. With over a
  quarter of current students reporting that they have dependent children who live
  with them and child rearing responsibilities being a major reason women pause
  their studies, this service will improve retention and completion rates.
- CMI has also secured funding through the World Bank Education and Skills Strengthening Program to build new classrooms and residence halls in support of career and technical education at the Arrak Campus.
- The College collaborated with KRISO (Korea Research Institute of Ships and Ocean Engineering) to establish the OTEC-ODA (Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion with Desalination and Aquaculture) project, including establishment of the Sustainable Seawater Utilization and Application Center, trainings in hydroponics, and environmental and community impact studies.
- All college business processes have been 100% digitized, reducing errors and resource usage while increasing efficiency.



# SSUA4RMI WORKSHOP

SDGs Capacity Building Project Using OTEC Technologies for FEW Arrak Campus College of the Marshall Islands.









Wotje Graduation.

# 4. Marshall Islands Social Security Administration (MISSA)

#### **Social Support Scheme**

 MISSA has completed the establishment and development of the eligibility requirements for the RMI Social Support Scheme ("SSS), a non-contributory scheme. In addition, the regulation in support of the project to implement and administer has been produced and ready for submission to the Cabinet for review and endorsement.

The scheme aims to provide an assistance of \$100 per month to a targeted recipient who is already at 60 years of age and he is a non-MISSA recipient. The recipient must be a resident of the RMI. This means no applications from abroad will be eligible. This assistance is also available to all disabled persons of all ages (who are not receiving any benefits from MISSA) to apply.

The program is already in legislation entitled, RMI Social Support Scheme, Act 2023, and targeted to commence in FY 2025 with a source of funding (of \$750K per year) to be appropriated to MISSA by Nitijela. It is a pilot project for the next three years. In the Act, MISSA is designated to administer the program using funds allocated off the \$750K appropriation for the scheme.

#### **UBI - Universal Basic Income**

MISSA is also working on an RMI UBI distribution scheme also known as "Enra".
 This is similar to the SSS, but it will focus on eligible recipients (of all ages) in the RMI except for those who are abroad. The status of the progression of the scheme will be provided soon to Cabinet.

# 5. Marshall Islands Red Cross Society (MIRCS)

#### **Storm Surge Assessment**

 Conducted comprehensive assessments for storm surge inundation across several atolls: Ailinglaplap, Arno, Jabot, Jaluit, Kili, Kwajalein, Lib, Likiep, Mejit, and Namu.



# **WASH Assessment and Hygiene Promotion**

- Ongoing assessments and promotion of water, sanitation, and hygiene practices.
- Completed assessments and hygiene promotion in the following atolls: Likiep, Maloelap, Wotje, Jaluit, Lib, Wotho, Ujae, and Lae.

# **Resource Acquisition and Distribution**

- Procured three new Reverse Osmosis (RO) units for deployment during drought conditions.
- Distributed cleaning supplies, water, and jerry cans during both storm surge and WASH assessments.

## **Emergency Response**

- Responded to two emergencies in the past two months:
  - a) Fire Incident: Provided emergency relief supplies, including tarpaulin, shelter tool kits, and jerry cans, to a family whose house was completely destroyed by fire.
  - b) Wind Damage Incident: Delivered similar relief supplies to assist six families whose homes suffered partial or complete roof destruction due to intense winds.



# 6. Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA)

Draft MoU with the Philipines' Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR)

 May 15, 2024: MIMRA delegation led by Minister Anthony Muller and Senator Dennis Momotaro, went into bilateral meeting with the DA-BFAR. Discussions focused on enhancing fisheries cooperation, aquaculture investment, research, post-harvest development, marketing, capacity building and technology transfer. Key outcome was a draft MOU aimed to formalize collaboration and establish a framework for joint projects in fisheries to ensure sustainable marine resource development.



Bureau of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR).





#### Updating of the Reimaanlok Framework for Micronesia Challenge 2030

 July 2 to 8, 2024: A series of workshops with CMAC and the PAN Office were conducted with focus group interviews related to critical thematic areas including Terrestrial/Invasive species, Climate Change, Marine Protected Areas/Fisheries, and Sustainable Livelihoods. These collaborative efforts are vital in ensuring the continued commitment to sustainable coastal management and the achievement of MC2030 targets.



CMAC workshop.

# **Key Regulations and Instruments**

- July 11, 2024: Cabinet endorsed the promulgation of amending 2 MIMRA Regs:
  - a) The Protected Areas Network (Amendments) Regulation 2024. The amendments included the addition of a fifth type of protected area, "National Sanctuaries" and the increase of PAN funds awarded from \$20,000 to \$25,000 to eligible sites; and
  - b) The Fishing License (3rd Implementing Arrangements) (Amendments)
    - Regulations, 2024 to reduce the FAD closure periods from three months (July-Sept) to one and a half months (July to mid-August) each year.
- Deposited Instrument of Accession to the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing, further highlighting the importance focus MIMRA places in deterring IUU activities (deposited on 25th May 2024; date of entry into force is 24 June 2024).
- Outgoing Forum Fisheries Committee

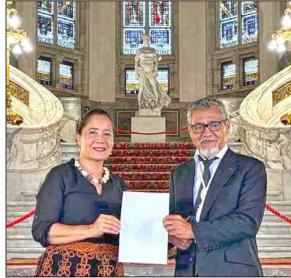




(FFC) Chair, Glenn Joseph (RMI), filed the FFA's first ever submission to the International Court of Justice for an Advisory Opinion to clarify State obligations on climate action.

 Signing of the MOU for fishing access in 2024 under the US Treaty (signed by Amb. Anni on 28 March 2024 in Suva).





Filed the FFA's first ever submission to the International Court of Justice for an Advisory Opinion to clarify State obligations on climate action.



# 7. Trust Company of the Marshall Islands (TCMI)

- In March 2024, the RMI Maritime Registry surpassed 200 million quality gross tons.
- As of 30 June 2024, stood at 5,718 vessels and 201.7 million gross tons.
- In March of this year, RMI Registry personnel were informed by Rear Admiral Wayne Arguin, United States Coast Guard (USCG), that the RMI had once again achieved the coveted USCG QUALSHIP 21 status, marking a historic 20th consecutive year. The RMI is the only registry in the world to do so.
- RMI still has the youngest fleet overall with the average age of its blue water fleet at 10.9 years as reported by Clarksons Research's World Fleet Monitor June 2024.
- In early July, the RMI Maritime Administrator was invited by the Ministry of Transportation, Communications, and Information Technology to collaborate on a Port State Control (PSC) training session aimed at building competencies for reviewing compliance with international conventions when conducting a PSC boarding. These training sessions support safe, secure, and environmentally sound vessel operations in the port of Majuro and enhance the capabilities of each agency involved in the training.



Boarding arrangement.



Group photo at closing ceremony.

Port State Control (PSC) training session.





Conducting deck walk.

Witnessed emergency firepump test.

- In October 2023 the RMI Registrar of Corporations welcomed the decision by the European Union's (EU's) Economic and Financial Affairs Council (ECOFIN) to remove the RMI from the EU list of noncooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes which positively impacted the corporate program. The Registrar of Corporations for Non-resident Domestic Entities also published the Beneficial Ownership Regulations, 2023 and Digital Signatures Regulations, 2024.
- The Maritime Security team is actively engaged in monitoring high risk areas, issuing letters of non-objection, and providing Ship Security Advisories apprising owners and operators of recent threats to shipping.
- Continuing to invest in personnel resources, IT infrastructure, and software solutions remains constant and allows the Registry to provide the best-in-class service to its clients.

# 8. Project Management Unity (PMU), Ministry of WIU

#### **Compact Infrastructure Projects**

- Kwajalein Atoll HS & Ebeye Kindergarten PDP review by PSS
- Ebeye Community Center PDP review on-going by KADA
- Ebeye Public School Project completed
- Ebeye seawall and road repair/drainage & Mid corridor housing see KADA report
- · Majuro Hospital Redevelopment Project PM Consultancy Pending to ReBid
- Laura HS/Elementary School ongoing by BECA
- · Jaluit HS New Cafeteria Building Bid ongoing
- ECC Gym Roof replacement & Interior Repair project completed
- MIHS Gym Repair complete
- MIHS Office/Fencing Rehabilitation Project substantially completed
- NIHS and Wotje Elementary repair and maintenance substantially complete
- Jaluit HS dormitory and staff housing repairs substantially completed
- MIHS Village substantially completed

#### **Non-Compact Infrastructure Projects**

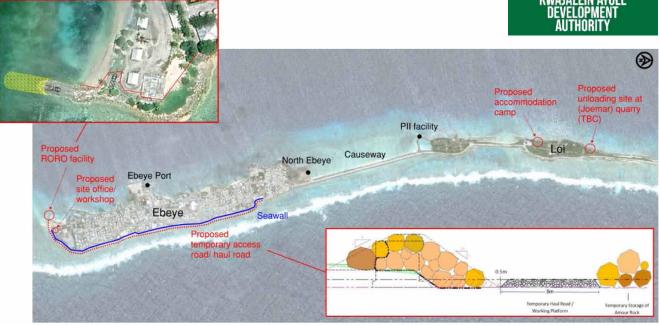
- Majuro Seawalls ongoing
- Asphalt Pavement (NCD tennis court & Majuro hospital) complete
- MIMRA Building extension 80% complete
- Sea Patrol Building 70% complete
- Red Cross Building 30% complete
- EOC Building (Ebeye) complete
- MOHHS Labor & Delivery Ward 65% complete
- Laura Clinic Roof repair 20% complete
- Washington, DC Residence substantially complete
- · Honolulu Consulate & Referral Building repairs pending funding availability
- Public Works Dock ongoing
- PWIU Warehouse extension ongoing
- Tobal Aur Airport Seawall Project complete
- Mili Atoll Airport complete
- Likiep Community Dock complete
- Ebon Atoll Airport Seawall ongoing
- Wotho Boat Ramp complete
- Matolen Arno Boat Ramp complete

# 9. Kwajalein Atoll Development Authority (KADA)

#### PREP 2 Ebeye Coastal Protection Project - \$47M

The Project that was planned goes back 2016 has final executed construction contract signed 9th May 2024; project timeframe is January to December 2025.





# Ebeye Seawall Lagoon Side Project - \$2.3M

• The completed Seawall from 1st to 4th Phase have covered entirety of Ebeye Lagoon Side that were damaged during the Typhoon Nangka and others areas that are more vulnerable and unprotected.







#### **Ebeye Causeway Improvement Project - \$2.7M**

North End of Ebeye to Enen Jabro Island.

 The completed projects from North End of Ebeye to Enen Jabro and the Guegeegue Island Road provide resilience to





climate change and storm events by the embankment of 12 inches height of compacted base and new asphalt paving.







North End of Ebeye to Enen Jabro Island.











Gugeegue Island Road.

# Ebeye Road & Drainage Improvement Project (Lagoon Side) - \$1.6M

 With new road asphalt paving, all previous major flood sites are now flood free.







Completed the Drainage Upgrade and Repair.













Newly asphalt paved roads.

# Ebeye Road & Drainage Maintenance - \$1.39M

• In order to maintain a clean, flood free and safe road around the Island, KADA

has approved to contract out the multiyear project, which is now ongoing.







## Ebeye Road Improvement Ocean Side Project by ADB - \$2M

• Phase 2: Rehabilitation of roads on Ebeye, including drainage works at the Ocean Side and the Intersection roads.



# Mid Corridor Housing Stage 2a - \$2.57M

• Intended for Two 3-Bedroom Buildings for Mid Corridor residents and other descendants who were temporarily relocated from the US Missile testing program impact zone to Ebeye in 1964 for safety reasons.













# **Ebeye Elementary School Phase 4 Project**

 Final phase includes an additional 12 Classrooms out of the Planned Total 48 New Classrooms and 1 Administration Building and will include the site development of sport facilities and green landscapes. Construction is now ongoing.





EBEYE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEW 12 - CLASSROOM PROJECT ( PHASE 4 )











# 10. Republic of the Marshall Islands Port Authority (RMIPA)

#### **Airport Division**

- Airport Masterplan Modernization Updates in progress, with a vision to create new Airport landfill.
- New Airport Terminal Development Plan Exchange of Notes signed by both the RMI and the Japan Government. The USAID is funding an engineering team to work alongside JICA for the other components of the overall Airport Terminal Development Plan.



- AIP Grants and a New Supplementary Grants approved for another \$18M for the Runway
- Discussions are underway with the FAA for possibility of including neighboring islands runways in the AIP program.

#### **Seaport Division**

- Port Masterplan Modernization Updates in progress
- WB Maritime Project is cancelled, and all remining marine infrastructure contracts will be rolled into the NIIP for funding consideration by other donor partners, with the priority of paving the Delap container yard
- Improvements to the Harbor Pilot Program are progressing.

# 1. Marshall Islands Postal Service Authority (MIPSA)

#### Virtual P.O. Box Launch

 Successfully launched the innovative Virtual P.O. Box service in early March 2024, following a highly successful pilot program with CMI. Service is now available to the public, greatly enhancing mail accessibility and convenience for customers.



#### **Disaster Relief Efforts**

 Pulled off a major coordination effort with Jaluit local govt and WIU in response to the devastating King Tide that damaged the Jabor airport in Jaluit in early April 2024; over 100 pieces and 2,500 lbs of essential supplies just in time for the Easter festivities and Jaluit High School graduation ceremonies.

## **Stamp Design Competition**

 In early February 2024, launched the first-ever stamp design competition for middle school students to foster creativity and promote arts education among our youth, engaging them in a meaningful and educational activity that also celebrates our cultural heritage. The competition received an enthusiastic response, and we look forward to showcasing the winning designs.

#### **Establishment of Post Office at Third Island**

In late March 2024, MIPSA held high-level Joint Committee Meetings to discuss
the establishment of a new Post Office at the Third Island (Santo) in Kwajalein
Atoll. The use of the USAKA transportation system to support this project is also
being explored to help enhance postal services in the region.

#### **USPS** Executive Collaboration

 In mid-April 2024, MIPSA management engaged in productive discussions with USPS executives from Washington DC and Hawaii including a detailed review of the Federal Program Service Agreement (FPSA) of 2023, with an initial draft presented by the U.S. MIPSA is currently examining proposed changes to the FPSA to ensure it better serves the needs of the RMI. Furthermore, USPS has agreed to provide valuable training opportunities for postal employees of FAS, including MIPSA employees; first Window Clerk training is scheduled for August 2024 in Guam.

# 2. Tobolar Copra Processing Authority

#### **Copra Collection**

- FY2024 All Atolls/Islands
   Completed 2 Rounds of Copra
   Collection except for the following:
  - a) Arno Atoli
  - b) Mili Atoll
  - c) Jaluit Atoll
  - d) Namdrik Atoll
  - e) Kili Island
  - f) Lib Islands
  - g) Kwajalein Atoll
  - h) Ujae Atoll
  - i) Lae Atoll
  - j) Wotho Atoll
- A total of over 4,700 Metric Ton of Copra Collected as of 7/31/2024.
- On schedule to complete to rounds of copra collections to all Atolls/Islands.



# 3. Marshall Islands Resort (MIR)

#### **Improvements**

- MIR Asphalt Pavement
- · Paint works before Micronesian Games
- Micronesian Games Room Accommodations
- Hotel room renovations
- Jemanin Project (venue)
- Lomalo ceiling project and renovation project (venue)
- · Continued Hotel Repairs



#### **Plans**

- Entertainment Center-project
- Extension of Enra restaurant
- Kitchen Repairs & Renovation (related to sanitation & food safety upgrade)
- Front Desk renovation

## 4. Marshall Islands Development Bank

# Expansion of Self-Help Housing Program to Ebeye and Santo

 For the first time since the program's inception, the program will be rolling out in

# Ebeye and its neighboring islands in the coming months

 Groundbreaking ceremony for the new homes to be built on Ebeye and opening ceremony for the MIDB warehouse.

Injection of more than \$3,000,000 into the economy via consumer loans

# **Extended Senior Housing Grant another 2 years.**

 The bank has repaired approximately 60 homes in the outer islands under this grant program translating to about \$450,000.



Iroojlaplap Mike Kabua at groundbreaking ceremony.

#### **Reopening Loan Consolidation**

 MIDB helped alleviate socio-economic stress during the pandemic by allowing its customers to take advantage of loan consolidation to be able to take out additional loans to strengthen their purchasing power. It is now reopening the product to the public once again on August 1st.

#### **Established membership with ADFIAP**

 MIDB is now member to the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific and Association of Development Financing in the Pacific (ADFIP).

# 5. Marshall Islands Shipping Corporation (MISC)

#### Arrival of MV Aelonlaplap in May 2024

- With the arrival of the MV Aelonlaplap, RMI's fleet size is now 6 vessels.
- Built in Japan under the Japanese Grant Aid assistance, she has a gross tonnage of 670 tons and a capacity for passengers of around 150 passengers and an overall length of about 55 meters.
- Just recently completed her maiden voyage servicing Ailinglaplap, Namu, and Jabat.



# Arrival of SV Juren Ae in July 2024

- The Sailing Vessel Juren Ae arrived from South Korea where she was built, increasing the number of vessels to 7.
- Her capacity is about 46 gross metric tons, can carry around 100 passengers,

and an overall length of about 46 meters.

- Preparations are in store for her maiden voyage to either Kabinmeto and Enewetak or for her to take part in the returning of students back to Jaluit High School.
- MISC has entered a maritime training partnership and co-



operation with the GIZ (German Development Cooperation). The initial enrollment was 23 trainees with 2 females all ready for practical sea time training on Juren Ae's next voyage.

# Updates and trip summaries for the 7 vessels

- MV Enen Kio: She is currently in Fiji undergoing her much needed dry docking. Much of the scope of works has been completed and her return is estimated to be sometimes in August.
- MV Aemman: MV Aemman also experienced some mechanical problems during the year, about 4 months. Such problems have been fixed and the vessel has been able to rejoin the fleet, taking part in the normal transport services.

- MV Ribuuk Meto: Has been more dedicated for chartering for fuel delivery to Kwajalein, delivering materials for the UNDP project, delivering materials for DOE, and as well as engaging in the normal/regular field trips services.
- SV Termalu (formally Kwai): She has been used more on follow up trips to complete incomplete trips, mostly to nearby islands/atolls.
- MV Kwajalein: MV Kwajalein is more reliable than the other vessels. To maintain such reliability, she is due for her dry docking immediately after the MV Enen Kio.
- MV Aelonlaplap: has just returned from her maiden voyage to lolap
- SV Juren Ae: Her maiden voyage will likely be servicing or complete the incomplete sites in Arno or probably taking part in returning students back to Jaluit High School



## 6. Marshall Energy Company (MEC)

## **Acquisition of Additional Backup Generators**

 In April 2024, MEC acquired and commissioned six additional backup generators which has been a significant achievement and has had a profound impact on the stability of power services in Majuro. By increasing the capacity of generation output, MEC has bolstered



the resilience of its power system, reducing the likelihood of service disruptions and enhancing overall reliability. This accomplishment has not only improved the quality of electricity supply for residents and businesses but has also contributed to economic growth by minimizing downtime, supporting essential services, and fostering a more robust energy infrastructure.

## **Distribution Protection System**

• The successful securing of funding and forthcoming award of a contract for the distribution protection system mark a significant milestone for MEC in enhancing the efficiency and reliability of its power distribution network. This system is designed to provide advanced protection against faults, overloads, and other disturbances that could compromise the integrity of the grid. By implementing this system, MEC can proactively identify and address potential issues, isolate faults to prevent widespread outages, quickly locate faults, and optimize the performance of the distribution network. The deployment of the distribution protection system will not only reduce downtime and operational costs for MEC but will also improve service quality, increase system resilience, and ensure a more stable and secure electricity supply for the community.

## Development of an Integrated Resource and Resilience Plan

 MEC has successfully developed an Integrated Resource and Resilience Plan aimed at addressing future energy demands and improving the resilience of our energy systems. This comprehensive plan strategizes the incorporation of renewable energy sources, energy efficiency measures, and technological advancements. The anticipated benefits are multifaceted: it promotes sustainability, mitigates the impacts of climate change, and ensures that our energy supply remains robust against external shocks, ultimately leading to long-term economic stability and environmental stewardship.

## Implementation of Revenue Protection Unit

• The establishment of the Revenue Protection Unit within MEC represents a significant step towards combating energy losses, improving revenue collection, and ensuring financial sustainability. This dedicated unit is tasked with detecting and addressing issues such as electricity theft, meter tampering, and billing discrepancies that contribute to revenue leakage. By implementing proactive measures to prevent losses and enhance revenue recovery, MEC has witnessed a notable reduction in energy losses, an increase in revenue integrity, and improved financial performance. The Revenue Protection Unit not only safeguards MEC's financial viability but also fosters a fair and transparent billing system, reduces operational inefficiencies, and ultimately benefits customers through lower costs and improved service quality.

## **Installation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)**

• The installation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) at MEC signifies a significant technological advancement that has transformed the way energy is monitored, managed, and delivered to customers. AMI enables real-time monitoring of energy consumption, remote meter reading, and two-way communication between meters and the utility, allowing for enhanced data collection, improved billing accuracy, and more efficient grid management. By deploying AMI, MEC will gain valuable insights into energy usage patterns, improve load forecasting, and optimize energy distribution, leading to cost savings, reduced energy waste, and a more reliable and resilient power system. The implementation of AMI not only benefits MEC by enhancing operational efficiency and customer service but also empowers customers to make informed decisions about their energy consumption, promoting energy conservation and sustainability within the community.

## 7. Majuro Atoll Waste Company (MAWC)

## Proper operation of the final disposal site

- Landfill expansion
- Landfill equipment from Japan's Grant in Aid (1 excavator & 1 wheel loader)
- New funding \$2M available under the Compact to construct Landfill at Delap



## Waste reduction and recycling

- CDL continues Aluminum cans, PET plastic and glasses collect from public and exporting aluminum pressed cans
- SPREP Project Improving composting facility at Laura. Procure mobile wood chipper that would reduce green waste pile along the road
- Continue exporting aluminum cans & Used lead acid batteries

#### Maintenance of waste collection services

- Procure garbage bins both for commercial and resident through US DOI MAP (300HH & 60C) & Japan Counterpart fund (920HH & 60C)
- New Garbage fleet from Japan's Grant in Aid (1 crane truck, 2 medium duty truck, 1 garbage truck & US DOI MAP Grant (Garbage truck 40 cubic yard)).

## Careful examination of new SWM technologies

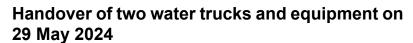
 Working closely with donor partners (ADB, JPRISM team, SPREP practical technologies most appropriate for improving and managing solid waste

## 8. Majuro Water and Sewer Company (MWSC)

Handover of 13 sets of backup generators on 30 January 2024

• Valued at: \$199,399.00

- Funding source: Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience in the RMI project through Improved Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure in collaboration with UNDP through the Japanese Government
- Purpose: Ensure operation of water and sewage facilities is uninterrupted during power outages and emergencies thus strengthening the country's readiness and response abilities



Valued at: \$228,000.00

 Funding source: Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience in the RMI project through Improved Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure in collaboration with

UNDP through the Japanese Government

Purpose:

To enhance the delivery rate of bulk deliveries to customers who are not connected to MWSC's distribution service to ensure communities are stable in supply.









Groundbreaking ceremony of a new water reservoir with a capacity of 11 million gallons on 14 June 2024

- Valued at: \$12,400,00.00
- **Funding source**: Project for Improvement of Water Reservoir at Majuro Atoll Japan Grant Aid
- **Purpose**: To increase our current water supply of 36 million gallons to 47 million gallons addressing the country's water issues through sustainable infrastructure development.



## 9. Office of Commerce, Investment and Tourism (OCIT)

## **Start Up Micronesia**

 OCIT participated for the first time at the 2024 Start-Up Micronesia - a 54-hour event where aspiring entrepreneurs come together to launch startup businesses, all within the Micronesia. Aim is to inspire the next generation of local entrepreneurs to start up their businesses that will create jobs and ultimately stimulate economic activities and thus, improve the standard of living for all Marshallese.

## **Marketing & Promotions**

- The OCIT has been successfully implementing various marketing and promotional activities during:
  - a) Miss PacificIslandsPageant
  - b) 13th Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC)
  - c) Micronesian Games 2024
  - d) 15th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women & 8th Meeting of Pacific Minister for Women.

## Ao Kapijuknen

- On January 31, 2024 the OCIT in collaboration with the International Office of Migration (IOM) awarded 5 individuals/organizations \$15,000 each to start or strengthen their tourism businesses.
- The following business were awarded as part of the program:
  - a) Meica's Likatu in Majol to construct a 3-unit apartment on Wotje Atoll;
  - b) Likiep Atoll Escape and Expedition -





- to establish a new bungalow;
- c) Blue Oceans purchase of a mini electric bus to offer eco-friendly transportation services and tours in Majuro;
- d) Bokanbotin Island to establish a eco-friendly glamping resort; and
- e) Kin lakwe Service to offer various land and water activities on Majuro.

## **Artania Cruise Ship**

 On February 19, 2024, the OCIT welcomed 1,100 guests and 500 crew onboard the Artania Cruise Ship. OCIT in partnership with the Marshall Islands Shipping Company and other stakeholders, worked on various land activities for the guests and crew on the cruise ship. This was the first cruise ship visit in the Marshall Islands since 2019. It provided insights on areas that require further improvement for future cruise ship visits.



Miss Marshall Islands Claret Chong Gum and Artania cruise ship. PC: Chewy Lin



# The Republic of the Marshall Islands

# Agenda 2030: A Pathway for a Resilient and Prosperous Future

August 2024

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# Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AKIA	Amata Kabua International Airport (Majuro)
Cat-DDO	Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown (World Bank IDA)
CCD	Climate Change Directorate
CMI	College of Marshall Islands
DIDA	Division of International Development Assistance
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
GCF	Green Climate Fund
HESA	Health Education and Social Affairs
IMF	International Monetary Fund
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KALGov	Kwajalein Atoll Local Government
MIMRA	Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority
MIRA	Marshall Islands Resilience and Adaptation Fund
MISSA	Marshall Islands Social Security Administration
MoFBPS	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services
MoHHS	Ministry of Health and Human Services
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
NIE	National Implementing Entity
NSP	National Strategic Plan 2020 to 2030
NTA	National Telecommunication Authority
NTC	National Training Council
OCIT	Office of Commerce, Investment & Tourism
PSC	Public Service Commission
SLR	Sea-Level Rise
SOE	State-Owned Enterprise
TTEC	Tile Til Eo Committee
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training programs

## **Background**

The Agenda 2030: A Pathway for a Prosperous and Resilient Future (Agenda 2030) delineates the Government of the Republic of Marshall Islands priorities and strategic directions of major reforms, modernization initiatives and transformative projects to be achieved by the year 2030. It identifies 35 priority areas and 68 priority actions under eight broad thematic areas that aim to provide a resilient and prosperous future for the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

The Agenda 2030 is aligned to the RMI National Strategic Plan 2020 to 2030 (NSP) and builds on policies and strategies adopted in recent years. The Agenda 2030 will be implemented in parallel to ongoing programs and efforts under the Agenda 2020<sup>1</sup>, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and other global development agenda such as the Paris Agreement; the new program of action for the UN small islands developing states and the Pacific Islands Forum 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.

The Agenda 2030 was developed after a development dialogue between the Cabinet and all the line ministries and agencies; discussing progress of implementation of key programs and initiatives, challenges and main priorities toward 2030. This provides an opportunity for the Cabinet to consider development priorities towards 2030 and formulate key actions that will proactively address the most development challenges and pressing problems facing the RMI. Many of these actions require further studies and analysis and technical assistance will need to be secured. The Agenda 2030 is a 'living' document that evolves and is subject to updates when new changes as a result of new development issues and policies require the attention of the Government.

The Agenda 2030 provides a platform for development partners to design their program towards meeting RMI long-term strategic goals specified in the NSP.

Agenda 2020: A Framework for Progress

## Framework for the Agenda 2030

## **Thematic Area 1: Climate Change**

- 1. Improve access to climate finance.
- 2. Adaptation and Resilience

### Thematic Area 2: Good Governance

- 3. Improve performance of the civil service.
- Development of human resources through better planning.
- 5. A whole of government reform program focused on accountability and institutional capacity development and other performance enhancing initiatives.
- 6. Review mandates per legislations and policies to ensure they are fit for purpose.

### Thematic Area 3: Economic Growth and Resilience

- 7. Financing instruments to accommodate economic and fiscal shocks.
- 8. Strengthen debt management capacity.
- 9. Modernize Taxation Regime
- 10. Universal Basic Income
- 11. Implement the minimum wage.
- 12. Strengthen financial sector stability and inclusion.
- 13. Nutrition and food security.
- 14. Maximize economic return from RMI's economic exclusive zone.
- 15. Improve management and sustainable use of aquatic and fisheries resources for current and future generations.

## **Thematic Area 4: Private Sector Development**

- 16. Formulation of a Private Sector Development Plan.
- 17. Establishment of instruments to underwrite financing risks (both public and in the private sector).
- 18. Strengthen women's economic empowerment.

## **Thematic Area 5: Social Development**

- 19. Improve health services delivery and address Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).
- 20. Improve the quality of education services and support sports activities.
- 21. Expand Social Protection/ Assistance to support vulnerable groups.
- 22. Preserve RMI culture and traditional knowledge.
- 23. Women Empowerment and Youth development.
- 24. Improve development of island communities.
- 25. Address the growing concern on the use of illegal substances.
- 26. Reduced health risk from waste pollution
- 27. Foster an effective partnership with non-government organizations on community development.

## Framework for the Agenda 2030

### **Thematic Area 6: Nuclear Justice**

28. Address ongoing and unresolved issues related to nuclear testing

## **Thematic Area 7: Infrastructure Development**

- 29. Improve sanitation and access to quality water.
- 30. Improve air transportation services.
- 31. Improve access to affordable and reliable telecommunication services.
- 32. Built critical infrastructures and provide regular infrastructure maintenance.
- 33. Improve waste management

## Thematic Area 8: Partnership for financing for development

- 34. Implementation of the 2023 Amended Compact.
- 35. Improve our relationship with our development partners.

# **Republic of the Marshall Islands Priority Areas towards 2030**

	Priority Area	Priority Action	Timing and Targets (When)	Lead Agency	Supporting Agencies
The	matic Area 1: Clim	ate Change			
1	Improve access to climate finance.	Strengthening of the Climate Finance     Working Group.     This is link to the Compact 23 Climate     Fund Working Group.	FY25 and onwards	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	Climate Change Directorate
		national accreditation status – National Implementing Entity).  Implement the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Accreditation Strategy and for the Ministry	FY24 and onwards	Climate Change Directorate	Division of International Development Assistance (DIDA).
		of Finance to implement the necessary GCF accreditation requirements.			
		Explore the possibility to access global climate finance credit facilities (such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Resilience and Sustainability Trust).	FY25 and onwards	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services (DIDA)	Climate Change Directorate
2	Adaptation and Resilience	Implementation of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).	Towards 2030 and onwards.	Climate Change Directorate	Tile Til Eo Committee (TTEC)
		To successfully implement the NAP the government aims to create a comprehensive "All-Of-Government" and "All-Of-Society" approach, focusing on the following core elements.			
		A. Policy and legislative foundations -     Develop Sea Level Rise Action Plan (to implement the Sea Level Rise Policy).	FY25/FY26	Climate Change Directorate	Tile Til Eo Committee (TTEC)
		B. Effective governance and administration structures - review Climate Change Directorate and the National Environment Council core mandates. Review of the Ministry of Environment Act (create a separate Ministry of Climate Change or strengthen governance provisions of the existing Act).	FY25/FY26	Office of the Chief Secretary	Ministry of Environment (CCD, EPA, Energy Office)
		C. Develop a Financing Strategy on resource mobilization guided by sustainable development plans (in line with the Marshall Islands Resilience and Adaptation Fund priority action).	FY25/FY26	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	Climate Change Directorate

	Priority Area	Priority Action	Timing and Targets	Lead Agency	Supporting Agencies
			(When)		
	matic Area 1: Clim			1	
2	Adaptation and Resilience continued	D. Climate change will threaten people living on land unprotected from sea level rise (SLR) over the next fifty years. There is a need to address customary land tenure and individual rights to accommodate the protection of some land and the vacating of unprotected land.	FY25 and onwards	Climate Change Directorate	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities;
		E. Address early-stage planning to identify protection needs for key islands (or parts of atolls) to provide for safe relocation of populations as reflected in the Sea Level Rise Policy.	FY25 and onwards	Climate Change Directorate	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities
		2. Provide the necessary financial contribution to the Marshall Islands Resilience and Adaptation (MIRA) Fund in accordance with the MIRA Fund Act 2022 while launching a global campaign for contributions from diplomatic and development partners.	FY25/FY26	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
		3. Establish MIRA Trust Fund governance and operational structures.	FY25/FY26	Climate Change Directorate	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
		4. Develop plans for the use of Compact Article V Climate funds.	FY25	Climate Change Directorate	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
The	matic Area 2: Good	d Governance			
3	Improve performance of the civil service.	Support the implementation of the Civil Service Reform Strategy for the period 2022 to 2030.	Ongoing	Public Service Commission	Office of the Chief Secretary
		2. Develop a placement program for Marshallese who graduates on RMI Scholarships.	FY25	Public Service Commission	All
4	Development of human resources through better planning.	1. Develop a Human Resource Development Plan. Based on an occupational shortages/gap analysis that identify critical areas that RMI needs to build its capacity both in the private and public sector and align education, scholarship and training policies to address human resource development priorities.	FY25	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training.	Office of the Chief Secretary. Labor; NTC; CMI, Chamber of Commerce.
5.	A whole of government, statutory bodies and state-owned enterprise reform program focused on accountability and institutional consent.	Develop key performance indicators for all government ministries and agencies from which evaluation of organizational performance can be measured.	FY25/FY26	Office of the Chief Secretary	In conjunction with respective ministries.
	institutional capacity development and other performance enhancing initiatives.	Develop a comprehensive program of performance audits to ensure performance of organizations and staff stays on targets.	FY26 and onwards	Office of the Auditor General	Office of the Chief Secretary and Public Service Commission

	Priority Area	Priority Action	Timing and Targets (When)	Lead Agency	Supporting Agencies
The	matic Area 2: Good	d Governance	( · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
6.	Review mandates per legislations and policies to ensure they are fit for purpose.	Review PSC policies and regulations governing employees annual, maternal, sick, educational and other leaves.	FY25/FY26	Public Service Commission	Office of the Minister in Assistance to the President and Environment; Public School System.
		<ol> <li>Review compensation, pay scales, incentives and benefits to ensure they are in line with additional mandates and responsibilities.</li> </ol>	FY24/FY25	Public Service Commission	Office of the Minister in Assistance to the President and Environment; Statutory Bodies; Public School System.
The	matic Area 3: Ecor	omic Growth and Resilience			
7	Financing instruments to accommodate economic and fiscal shocks.	<ol> <li>Support the implementation of reforms to continue to access World Bank Cat-DDO &amp; ADB disaster financing facility to finance post disaster recovery effort.</li> </ol>	Ongoing	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	Office of the Chief Secretary.
8	Strengthen debt management capacity.	Prepare a debt management strategy in line with the Fiscal Responsibility and Debt Management Act.	FY25	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	
9	Modernize Taxation Regime	Modernize the RMI taxation regime by implementing tax proposed reforms from previous proposals by ADB and PFTAC.	Phase 1: Oct FY25 and; Phase 2: FY26/FY27	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	
10	Universal Basic Income	Implement the Universal Basic Income.     Review and monitor the implementation of the UBI.	Implement in phases starting in FY25.	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	
11	Implement the minimum wage	Implement the minimum wage in phases.	Implement in phases starting in FY24 to FY25.	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	
12	Strengthen financial sector stability and inclusion.	Establishment of a Monetary Authority to support stability of the financial and banking system and promote economic development.	FY25	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	
13	Nutrition and food security	Develop a new financial support scheme to scale up production of local produce by repurposing existing financial support and/or securing new and additional resources	FY25	Ministry of Natural Resource and Commerce	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services.

	Priority Area	Priority Action	Timing and Targets (When)	Lead Agency	Supporting Agencies
The	matic Area 3: Eco	omic Growth and Resilience	(Wileii)		
13	Nutrition and food security continued	2. Formulate a comprehensive strategy on ho to improve supply and selling of healthy loo food taking into account the National Fo Systems Pathway: Transforming the Marsh Islands Food System by 2030; the Nation Food Security Policy (2013) and R. Agriculture Sector Plan 2021-2031 in to development of this strategy.	al od all al 11	Ministry of Natural Resource and Commerce	Ministry of Health and Human Services
		3. Formulate a comprehensive strategy on ho to increase and expand outer islan- economic base through aqua cultu- development and cultivation of other marin resources, for example via family and commercial development of sea weeds, clar and or sea cucumbers.	s FY2025 e e d	Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce.	Local Government Councils; Coastal Management Advisory Council
14	Maximize economic return from RMI's economic exclusive zone.	<ol> <li>Maximize revenue from ocean fisheri resources through development of appropria infrastructures, public-private partnership markets, and a conducive fisheries sect operating environment.</li> </ol>	te s,	Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA)	Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce.
15	Improve management and sustainable use of aquatic and	Support collective surveillance and monitoring through national systems, regional and surregional fisheries agencies efforts.		Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority	
	fisheries resources for current and future generations.	Updating national fisheries manageme legislation and regulations.	nt FY25 & onwards	Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority	
		<ol> <li>Support the implementation and enforcement of Reimaanlok/Facilitation of Commun Resources Management Plans and relevation ordinances.</li> </ol>	ty	Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority	
The	matic Area 4: Priva	te Sector Development			
16	Formulation of a Private Sector Development Plan	<ol> <li>Initiate a private sector development dialogi to discuss opportunities to increase priva sector contribution in the RMI economy.</li> </ol>	е	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	Ministry of Natural Resource and Commerce.
17	Establishment of instruments to underwrite financing risks.	<ol> <li>Develop a concept paper or feasibility stu- for a Government Credit Guarante Mechanism (CGM) to improve private sect access to credit through underwriting financial risks.</li> </ol>	e or of	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	
18	Strengthen women's economic empowerment.	Provisions of financial literacy programs as concessional loans to women entrepreneurs.	d ongoing	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs	Ministry of Natural Resource and Commerce; OCIT

	Priority Area	Priority Action	Timing and Targets (When)	Lead Agency	Supporting Agencies
The	matic Area 5: Soci	al Development	(Whon)		
19	Improve health services delivery and address Non- Communicable Diseases (NCDs).	Address diabetes and other Non-Communication Diseases (NCDs) through:     A. the NCD Surveillance Plan for monitoring and evaluation, and     B. the National NCD Policy Agenda.	By end of FY25	Ministry of Health and Human Services. Nitijela HESA committee	All
		Implementation of the High Impact Nutrition Initiative (HiNi) program through the:	By end FY25	Ministry of Health and Human	Ministry of Education, Sports
		A. Nutrition environment assessment and operational plan.	By end of FY25	Services	and Training. All HINI partner
		B. Implementation of operational plan.	By end of FY26		agencies. Nitijela HESA Committee.
		Establish and operationalize a dialysis center in Majuro.	By end of FY25	Ministry of Health and Human Services	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities.
20	Improve the quality of education services and	Implement the Education Priority Reform for System Transformation (3 track system: College Prep, TVET, Island Skills).		Ministry of Education, Sports and Training	College of the Marshall Islands, Chamber of
	support fitness and	A. Pilot College Prep	FY2024-2030	-	Commerce
	sports activities.	B. TVET C. Island Skills	FY2026-2030 FY2026-2030	_	
		Improve digital connectivity for outer islands schools to improve learning outcomes and provide opportunities to do research and distance learning.      A. Assessment of ICT Infrastructure & needs.	FY25	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training	College of the Marshall Islands
		B. Resource Mobilization	FY26	_	
		C. Implementation	FY27	-	
		Mainstream indigenous rights, climate issues, nuclear justice into the education curriculum.	FY2024 & ongoing	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training	National Nuclear Commission (NNC), CCD and CMI.
		<ol> <li>Develop and implement a master plan for the advancement of sports and fitness activities in all islands and capitalizing the newly completed sport facilities in Majuro.</li> </ol>	FY25 and ongoing	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs MoHHS and Wellness Center.
		Establish Early Childhood Education     Programs and Centers.	FY24 and onwards	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training	ECD Steering Committee; MoHHS
		Operationalize the RMI National Multi-Sector Early Childhood Development Policy 2023.	FY25	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training	ECD Steering Committee; MoHHS.
		7. Upgrade qualifications of 37 percent of teachers who are below standards (i.e. high school diploma)	FY24 and onwards	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training	CMI, USP, RMI Scholarship.

	Priority Area	Priority Action	Timing and Targets (When)	Lead Agency	Supporting Agencies			
Thematic Area 5: Social Development								
21	Expand Social Protection/ Assistance to support vulnerable groups.	MISSA to commence the non-contributory pension program (law passed in 2023) to support elderly and persons with disabilities.	Pilot: FY24- FY26	Marshall Islands Social Security Administration (MISSA)	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services.			
22	Preserve RMI culture and traditional	Integrate culture and traditional knowledge into the education curriculum.	FY24 and onwards	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training			
	knowledge.	Upgrade museum and improve library services to preserve RMI culture.	FY25/FY26	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs; Council of Iroij.			
		3. Restore cultural significant sites.	Ongoing	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs				
23	Women Empowerment and Youth	Formulate an implementation strategy for the Gender Equality Act 2019.	FY25	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs	All			
	development	Strengthen multi-skills development and vocational programs for women and youth.	FY25	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs	Ministry of Education, Sports and Training; NTC			
24	Improve development of island communities.	Formulation of Island Community     Development Plan for each island that aims to improve economic opportunities (through tourism, fisheries and agriculture).	FY25/FY26	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs	Ministry of Natural Resource and Commerce			
25	Address the growing concern on the use of illegal substances.	Strengthening of the Taskforce to address the issue of illegal substance abuse, through a better coordination of enforcement, education and treatment.	Ongoing	Office of the Attorney General	All			
26	Reduced risk from waste pollution	Formulate and implement a national plan on the removal/export of hazardous/toxic materials (waste oil, batteries, MoHHS red bags).	onwards	Environment Protection Authority (EPA)	MoHHS; Majuro Atoll Waste Company.			
		<ol><li>Formulate surveillance and monitoring plans/ standard operational procedures for marine pollution and oil spill.</li></ol>	FY25	Environment Protection Authority (EPA)	Ports Authority, MIMRA, Ministry of Transport, Communication, and ICT.			
27	Foster an effective partnership with non-government organizations on community development.	Initiate a high-level dialogue with non- government organizations (NGOs) with a clear outcome document that specifies key strategic areas for partnership and improve delivery of services in different communities.	FY25	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs	All			

	Priority Area	Pr	iority Action	Timing and Targets (When)	Lead Agency	Supporting Agencies
The	matic Area 6: Nucl	ear	Justice	(Wilch)		
28	Address ongoing and unresolved		Develop a revised change circumstance petition:	FY25	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	National Nuclear Commission;
	issues related to nuclear testing that		A. Establish steering committee to initiate dialogue		and Trade	Presidential Envoy for Nuclear Justice
	took place in the RMI.		B. Revisit and revise change circumstance petition.	FY25		and Human Rights; Presidential Envoy Primary Care and Disease Prevention.
		2.	Resolve the remaining compensation claims under the nuclear testing program.	FY26	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	National Nuclear Commission; Presidential Envoy for Nuclear Justice and Human Rights; Presidential Envoy
			ucture Development			
29	Improve sanitation and access to quality water.	1.	Prioritize the construction of the Majuro sewer upgrade project (USDA/ADB) and the Majuro reservoir extension project (JICA).	FY25	Majuro Water and Sewage Company	Finance, Foreign Affairs and Trade/ Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities.
			Expand current laboratory capacities and uphold laboratory standards for testing of water quality.	FY25 and onwards.	Environment Protection Authority	
30	Improve air transportation services.		Prioritize the construction of a new AKIA terminal and construct new protection barriers for AKIA runway to protect from flooding and over-washing.	From FY25 towards FY30	Ports Authority	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities/ Ministry of Finance/ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
		2.	Upgrade of Outer Islands Runways.	ongoing	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities.	Ministry of Transport, Communication, and ICT/ Air Marshall Islands
		3.	Support the establishment of a new scheduled airline service between Majuro and Honolulu.	FY25/FY26	Aviation Taskforce	Ministry of Transport, Communication and ICT/ Ports Authority/ Civil Aviation.

	Priority Area	Priority Action	Timing and Targets (When)	Lead Agency	Supporting Agencies	
The	matic Area 7: Infra	structure Development	(			
30	Improve air transportation services. continued	4. Buy new airplanes for the Air Marshall Islands.	FY25/FY26	Ministry of Transport, Communication, and ICT.	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	
31	Improve access to affordable and reliable telecommunication	Approve regulation to free up the market for more competition in the telecommunication sector.	FY24/FY25	Ministry of Transport, Communication, and ICT.	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	
	services.	Support the implementation of the Digital RMI Initiative.	ongoing	Ministry of Transport, Communication, and ICT.	All	
		Support National Telecommunication Authority (NTA) infrastructures upgrade.	ongoing	Ministry of Transport, Communication, and ICT.	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities	
32	Built critical infrastructures and provide regular infrastructure	Enforcement of the Building Code.	ongoing	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities.		
	maintenance.	2. Implement the National Infrastructure Investment Plan & Infrastructure Maintenance Plan.	ongoing	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities.		
			A. Construction of the Government Central Building.	FY25	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade / Office of the Chief
		B. Upgrade and construction of new energy infrastructures (including renewable energy).	ongoing	Marshall Islands Electricity Corporation (MEC).	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities; National Energy Office	
		C. Construction of the new Majuro Hospital.	To start in FY25	Ministry of Health and Human Services	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities	
		D. Upgrade neighboring islands health centers and Ebeye Hospital.	Started in FY24 and ongoing.	Ministry of Health and Human Services	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities/ MIA	
		Upgrade of the main dock in Majuro including paving of the container depot.	FY26/FY27	Ports Authority/ Ministry of Transport, Communication, and ICT.	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities.	

	Priority Area	Priority Action	Timing and Targets (When)	Lead Agency	Supporting Agencies				
The	Thematic Area 7: Infrastructure Development								
32	Built critical infrastructures and provide regular infrastructure maintenance. continued	Upgrade of shipping docks in nearby outer islands.	FY25/FY26	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities.	Ministry of Transport, Communication, and ICT. Ministry of Internal Affairs				
		3. Construction of a new postal office.	FY26	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services.	Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure and Utilities.				
33	Improve waste management	Majuro dump site (new landfill or rehabilitation of current dump site in Majuro).	FY25	Majuro Atoll Waste Company	Ministry of Environment				
		2. Initiate a viability study on the use of waste incinerator to control and manage the increasing volume of Majuro and Ebeye waste.	FY25	Majuro Atoll Waste Company	Ministry of Environment; Majuro Atoll Waste Company; KalGov				
The	matic Area 8: Parti	nership for financing and development							
34	Implementation of the 2023 Amended Compact	Meet all implementation requirements under the 2023 Amended Compact.	Ongoing	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade				
35	Strengthen our partnerships and relationships with our development partners.	Regular high-level dialogue with our development partners on the implementation of the Agenda 2030 and relevant reforms.	FY25 and onwards.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services.				

