

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT Q1 2023 (JAN-MAR 2023)

PROJECT TITLE: Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience in the Republic of Marshall Islands through improved Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure

PROJECT NUMBER: 00115304

Applicable Output(s) from the SRPD (2018-2022):

- Outcome 1 of the UN Pacific Strategy 2018 – 2022: By 2022, people and ecosystems in the Pacific are more resilient to the impacts of climate change, climate variability and disasters; and environmental protection is strengthened.
- Indicative Output(s) with gender marker2: Output 3.2. Preparedness systems in place to effectively address the consequences of and response to natural hazards (geo-physical and climate related) and man-made crisis at all levels of government and community.
Gender Marker: GEN2 (Gender equality as a significant objective)

ATLAS Output ID: 00115304

PIMs ID Number: N/A

Implementing Partners: UNDP (Direct Implementation Modality)

PART 1: DESCRIBE THE KEY ACTIVITY RESULTS ACHIEVED IN THIS QUARTER:

- University of Hawaii (UH) identified the potential location to install a buoy at south of Kwajalein and possible bathymetry equipment to be procured. (Activity 1.2).
- UNDP has obtained quotes for ICT equipment for EOC Ebeye. List of ICT equipment for EOC Majuro was also shared (Activity 1.4)
- UNDP has issued POs for water trucks for Majuro Water and Sewer Company (MWSC) and Kwajalein Atoll Joint Utility Resources (KAJUR), and furniture for Ebeye EOC. (Activity 2.3).

RESULTS RESOURCE FRAMEWORK QUARTETLY PROGRESS (**In some projects, Outputs in Project Documents are equivalent to Activity Results level in ATLAS)

EXPECTED ATLAS ACTIVITY RESULTS	ACTIVITY INDICATORS	RESULTS	BASELINE	ANNUAL TARGETS	OUTPUTS INDICATORS RESULTS	EVIDENCE (SOURCE, LINK)
Output 1 Strengthened gender sensitive disaster communication and climate and inundation monitoring Systems GEN 2	1.1 # of islands with upgraded (i.e. redundancy, marine grade, energy efficient, gender sensitive) climate and tsunami early warning system installed and operational		0	9	1.1: 0 [Field mission conducted to collect required bathymetry for the proposed location of deploying wave rider buoys.]	
	1.2 # of men and women with access to early warning information through the upgraded gender sensitive disaster communications,		0	54,705 <i>Projection 2019 (from Census 2011)</i>	1.2: 0	

	climate and tsunami early warning systems				
Output 2 Enhanced national and state disaster responders readiness capacity and better resourced to minimise loss of lives and damages GEN 2	2.1 Scale (%) of upgrading of the National Emergency Operational Centre with appropriate infrastructure and equipment to facilitate information management and effective coordination	0	100%	2.1: 35% [Construction initiated.] 2.2: 0 [Construction initiated.]	- Tender document - Monitoring reports
	2.2 # staff and members of the Emergency Operational Centre and Disaster Management Team have improved their capacities in information management and coordination (equipment and gender sensitive guidelines)	0	0 (to be planned in 2021)		
	2.3 # men and women benefitted from the improved disaster preparedness in water sector	0	32,398 (16,417 men and 15,981 women) ¹	2.3: 0 [Procurement is in progress]	

PART 2: PLANNED ACTIVITES FOR NEXT QUARTER

Activity 1.1: Install chatty beetles

- Receive chatty beetles from the University of Hawai'i.
- Transport chatty beetles and provide trainings at outer islands.

Activity 1.2: Provide wave riders buoys

- NWSO to verify the potential location of waverider deployment in South of Kwajalein.
- NWSO and UH to deploy a waverider.
- Finalize HACT micro assessment and amend the LOA to include additional funds for additional procurement of equipment.

Activity 1.4: Provide communication equipment for disaster preparedness and response

- Obtain quotes and issue a PO to procure ICT equipment for EOC Ebeye.
- Finalize required ICT equipment for EOC Majuro and obtain quotes.
- Issue a PO for drones both EOC Ebeye and Majuro.

Activity 2.2: Construction of EOC in Ebeye

- Monitoring of the construction progress
- MoWIU engineer moved to Ebeye.
- Required permits for construction obtained.
- Fencing of construction site and construction of site office and workshops completed.

¹ to be adjusted after consultations with MWSO and KAJUR

- Pipes and fittings and rebars have been delivered at site.
- Demolition of concrete structures and relocation of utilities on progress.
- Procurement and delivery of materials is continuing.

Activity 2.3: Supply and upgrade critical infrastructure and equipment for emergency response and preparedness

- Confirm specification of backup generators for MWSC.
- Monitor manufacturing process for water trucks, furniture for EOC Ebeye.
- Finalize required furniture for EOC Majuro and obtain quotes.
- Finalize procurement process and issue a PO for pick-up truck for EOC Ebeye.

PART 3: PARTNERSHIP

Implementing Partner (IP) and Focal Point Contact (Title, email, fax, phone, address)	Type of Partnerships/Role	Duration of Partnership	Progress of Deliverables from Partnership (**)
<p>Kino Kabua Office of the Chief Secretary to the President, Majuro Chief Secretary Email: dcskabua.rmi@gmail.com</p> <p>Office telephone: 692-625-3234 Fax: 692-625-7393</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lead the overall intervention and responsible for strategic oversight - Member of Project Board 	Whole project	
<p>Catalino Kijiner Office of the Chief Secretary to the President, Majuro Deputy Chief Secretary for Physical, Environment & NDMO Email: dcskijiner.rmi@gmail.com</p> <p>Office telephone: 692-625-3234 Fax: 692-625-7393</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lead the overall intervention - Member of Project Board 	Whole project	
<p>Abacca Anjain-Maddison Office of the Chief Secretary to the President, Ebeye, Kwajalein Deputy Chief Secretary for Social, Justice & Culture Email: dcsanjainmaddison.rmi@gmail.com</p> <p>Office telephone: 692-329-6074</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lead the overall intervention - Member of Project Board 	Whole project	
<p>Ishidore Robert National Disaster Management Office Director Email:ndmo.ishidore@gmail.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lead coordinator for overall intervention - Member of the Project Board 		

<p>Office telephone: 692-625-5181 Fax: 692-625-6074</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementing partner for EOC and telecommunication improvement 		
<p>Reginald White National Weather Service Office Director NOAA Affiliate Email: reginald.white@noaa.gov</p> <p>Office telephone: 692-247-5705 Fax: 692-247-3078</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementing partner for the NWSO improvement - Member of Project Board 	Whole project	
<p>Tommy Kijiner National Telecommunication Authority Chief Executive Officer Email: tkijiner@minta.mh</p> <p>Yoshi Kaneko National Telecommunication Authority Chief Operations Officer Email: ytkaneko@minta.mh</p> <p>Office telephone: 692-625-3852 Fax: 692-625-3618</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitate the land for the construction of the NEOC - Counterpart for the construction of the ministerial back-up information centre - Members of Project Board 	Whole project	
<p>Anjojo Kabua III Kwajalein Atoll Development Authority Director Email: limikekabua@gmail.com Cell phone: 692-235-5634</p> <p>Ariston Santiago Kwajalein Atoll Development Authority Chief Engineer Email: agsantiago0222@yahoo.com.ph</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Counterpart for the construction of the GOB/EOC Ebeye - Members of Project Board 	Whole project	
<p>Hitomi Obata Deputy Chief of Mission Embassy of Japan Email: hiromi.obata@mofa.go.jp</p> <p>Noriyuki Nakamura Embassy of Japan First Secretary Email: noriyuki.nakamura@mofa.go.jp</p> <p>Office telephone: 692 625-3311</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Donor representatives in RMI 	Whole project	
<p>Jefferson Barton Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure & Utilities Permanent Secretary Email: secwiubarton.rmi@gmail.com</p> <p>James Myazoe PMU Manager Email: vinnymyazoe@gmail.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Counterpart for the construction activity - Members of Project Board 	Whole project	

<p>Melvin Dacillo Email: architectpmurmi2005@gmail.com</p> <p>Albert Collantes Email: albert_collantes73@yahoo.com.ph</p> <p>Office telephone: 692 625-8911 / 8931</p>			
<p>Damien Capelle Majuro Water & Sewer Company General Manager Email: mwsc.generalmanager@gmail.com</p>	-		
<p>Mr. Joseph Pedro Kwajalein Atoll Joint Utilities Resources General Manager Email: jpedro@kajur.net</p>	-		

PART 4: RISK and ASSUMPTIONS

Update the **Risk Log** on this section.

Risk	Mitigation Action	Timeframe	Mitigation Action Progress
Construction of GOB/EOC/Warehouse will be delayed due to local hurdles in acquiring permits and approvals	Strong existing and new partnerships with organisations that are on the ground and have the experience and connections	Whole project duration	The land tenure issue was resolved both for Majuro and Ebeye in January 2020. The board agreed that the current plan for Ebeye EOC would be implemented without change to minimize the possibility of further delays.
Funds to support the construction of one GOB/EOC in Ebeye are insufficient	Additional funds to be sought to complete the construction of the GOB/EOC facility	Whole project duration	<p>[Updated in Sep 2021] There is a huge gap between the bid offers and the budget. Raw materials, shipping cost and labour cost have been increasing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. UNDP and MoWIU are re-working the scope of work and specification of 2 EOCs and determine if the available budget is feasible for the construction of 2 EOCs.</p> <p>[Updated in June 2022]</p> <p>Due to the insufficient funds to construct 2 EOCs, the cabinet decided to proceed with construction of EOC in Ebeye and cancel the EOC in Majuro.</p>

Natural Disasters in the North Pacific	Preparedness activities will need to be activated and cease project implementation in the event of warnings issues by the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO). The intention is to avoid loss of life, damage to project assets and residual unforeseen circumstances.	Whole project duration	Project continues monitoring the situation.
Engagement and coordination within RMI and Development Partners	Consultation space need to be very open, frank and accommodative being mindful of the parameters of the funding modality, contingencies and allow room for flexibility.	Whole project duration	The project shares monthly progress and communicate with the counterparts and development partners.
Availability of Equipment from Suppliers and procurement delays	Mapping of preferred supplies and/or existing suppliers and internal arrangements can still be made based on best practises consistent with UNDP Procurement guidelines.	Whole project duration	[Updated in Sep 2021] Longer construction duration is required due to the longer lead time required for importing the materials and lack of skilled labours in the country impacted by the COVID-19.
Staff Turnover	Need to ensure at least three or four personnel from the relevant government line Ministries are part of the project design, conceptualisation and implementation for ownership and sustainability purposes.	Whole project duration	Need to ensure at least three or four personnel from the relevant government line Ministries are part of the project design, conceptualisation and implementation for ownership and sustainability purposes.
Logistics challenges (e.g. disease epidemic, land tenure issues)	Preparedness on preventive/containment measures and consultation with key stakeholders	Whole project duration	Please see the last risk related to COVID-19.
Inadequate early warnings system do not reach the potential affected communities	Integration of the equipment to be provided into the efforts of the communication cluster and other entities with presence at community level (e.g. Min. Education and Health, WUTMI, Red Cross)	Whole project duration	The project also coordinates with other partners (such as WB or WFP).
Population affected by human rights violations and environmental degradation	Proper training of all partners and contractors	Whole project duration	Project continues monitoring the situation.
NEW RISK added in Feb 2020] Ongoing Covid-19 pandemic creates huge risk on travel, trade and supply of goods and services which affects project implementation.	UNDP will intensify monitoring of ongoing activities, maximize use of virtual meetings and increase coordination with suppliers and potential bidders.	From February 2020	Please see the last risk related to COVID-19.
[NEW RISK added in Feb 2021]	UNDP requested the RMI government to provide a report to make sure that there is no hazardous material.	Whole project duration	KADA confirmed that no asbestos was found in the old KALGOV building.

Disposal of hazardous materials during demolition of existing building			
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Activities (to be) affected by the COVID-19

Activity	Challenges caused (will be caused) by COVID-19
Chatty Beetles/Waverider (Activity 1.1 and 1.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NWSO and UH are fully engaged to COVID19 response which caused further delay of implementation. The 5th board meeting held in October 2020 requested NWSO to follow up with the UH to accelerate the process. It was agreed that NWSO would finalize the agreement by March 2022 during the 8th board meeting held in December 2021. The agreement between NWSO and UH was concluded in June 2022. [Updated Sep 2022] The first COVID-19 cases was announce in 8 Aug 2022 in RMI. Travel restriction to some atolls was imposed which will cause delay in dispatching mission to install chatty beetles. The Project will closely monitor the situation.
Construction of EOCs in Majuro and Ebeye (Activity 2.1 and 2.2)	<p>A&E Design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the evaluation stage, additional time was spent to make clarification and evaluate on the risk mitigation plan caused by travel restriction. Considering the travel restriction imposed, the project implemented the design work remotely without having the missions by the consulting firm to be appointed in order to expedite the implementation. MoWIU has provided local information to the design company <p>Construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We experienced less interest from potential companies to participate in the tender. 3 companies mentioned that they did not participate in the tender due to the current workload, shortage of manpower and the risk during the project execution. Based on this, a detailed local construction market analysis focusing on the COVID19 impact was conducted in cooperation with MoWIU. There was a huge gap between the bid offers and the budget. Raw materials, shipping cost and labour cost have been increasing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional process of value engineering was required which took more time and cost. For example, timber/lumber cost was increased by 300%, and other construction materials were also increased by 30-40% in average. Unavailability and frequent shortage also caused extra price increases; for instance, RMI has recently experienced shortage of cement and prices has gone up sharply. Shipment cost and lead time has also increased by around 100% compared to pre-COVID. Mandatory procedure for cargo ships quarantine entering RMI also caused additional cost increase. Shortage of labour has also affected the construction cost. Labour cost has increased by average \$2-3 per hour. Due to the small population, RMI is relying on specialist and skilled workers abroad such as Philippines, Fiji and other Pacific

	<p>countries. However, it is not possible to bring new manpower from abroad and the contractors are required to retain current labour by motivating them with extra bonuses and increased salaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition, bidders were not able to meet the required contract duration because of the shortage of manpower and longer lead time for shipment. • Construction work may be delayed further due to the limited supply-chain and travel restrictions. • Construction was only possible for Ebeye EOC due to the increase of the cost after two tender processes. <p>Supervision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of an engineer (international) by MoWIU was delayed due to the travel restrictions. Existing MoWIU staff has been playing the supervisory role until an engineer is recruited. Engineer was recruited in March 2022.
<p>UNDP RMI team composition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP Project staff including Country Project Coordinator (CPC) left an organization due to the changing work environment and COVID-19 situation at home. • UNDP held recruitment process of CPC due to the travel restrictions since the previous CPC's departure in March 2020. Instead, the project engaged a consultant as home based. • A new Procurement Specialist was replaced in February 2021 (home based awaiting for travel to FSM). • UNDP recruited a full-time engineer from 15 April. Assignment travel has been delayed due to the changing situation of the COVID-19 (both country of origin (Nepal) and transit (Fiji)). He arrived RMI in August 2021.

PART 5: KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

Project Inception Board Meeting

Marshall Islands Journal

is all suspended for probation. High Court Judge Witten Philippo said the probation conditions include that Lanki "cause to be

be of good behavior during the 12-month probation period, pay a fine of \$1,000 and not leave Majuro without court approval.

Climate project launched

The UNDP Pacific office, along with the RMI government, will conduct a project inception meeting and convene its first board meeting in Majuro this Friday for the \$7.4 million Disaster Risk Management project, funded by Japan through its Supplementary Budget program.

Through the UNDP – Japan Partnership Fund, RMI was awarded US\$7.4 million for the implementation of the Disaster Risk Management project, "Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience through improved Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure," to be implemented in RMI.

The project aims to improve RMI's ca-

capacity for preparedness and mitigation to geo-physical and climate related hazards; and enhance resilience to climate change impact in order to protect lives, sustain livelihoods, preserve the environment and safeguard the economy from consequences of different hazards.

The project will be directly implemented by UNDP Pacific office in Fiji. The project inception meeting is at Marshall Islands Resort this Friday. The RMI along with FSM and Palau are recipients of the UNDP-Japan grant implemented by UNDP. The project commenced in March 2019 and will end on March 2020.

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https://twitter.com/UNDP_Pacific/status/1191879532409581569

https://twitter.com/UNDP_Pacific/status/1289006337314103297

UNDP Facebook



Ebeye EOC Ground-Breaking Ceremony (Dec 2022)

UNDP Press Release: <https://www.undp.org/pacific/press-releases/emergency-operation-center-ebeye-support-emergency-response-capacity-marshall-islands>

RMI OCE Ebeye Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/OCS.Ebje/posts/pfbid06ENDY9bvZRW1CqxPBwG88NvtfYxr61fNwN4AhtEEwWmsPanx3HmoWmsYx56VDMYBI>

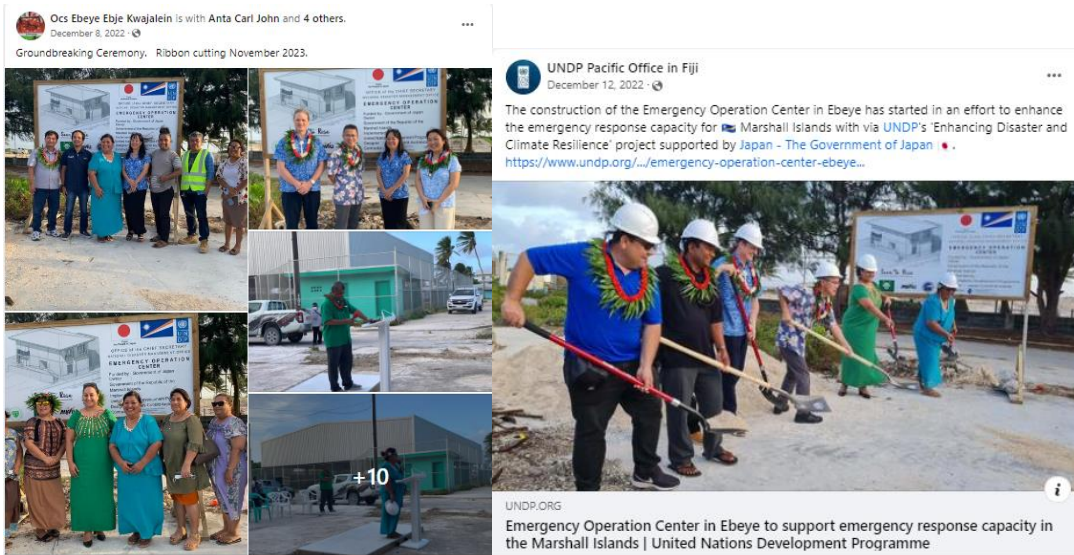
UNDP FaceBook:

<https://www.facebook.com/UNDP.Pacific/posts/pfbid02gPJaPx25oqo7roB3Ny9Q7m9i257whwh eZ5oEPhN9SRi1xPSksiz4MGwCDHTaPkQjI>

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Embassy of Japan in RMI:

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid02y7SYDR9jXqDBAmuCuT3qPNkN4nwB7cSbQEYntVaas3eXa2q3HVngAkE7HJFzaVql&id=100064354674958



在マーシャル日本大使館 Embassy of Japan in the Republic of the Marshall Islands
 December 14, 2022 · 🌐

平成30年度補正予算UNDP経由による災害対応・防災分野支援（イバイ緊急オペレーションセンター起工式）
 Support for enhancing Disaster Response Capacity in partnership with UNDP by Japan's supplementary budget in FY 2018 (Ground breaking ceremony of Emergency Operation Center in Ebeye)

On December 6, 2022, the ground breaking ceremony for the Emergency Operation Center in Ebeye was held under the Project for Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience in the Republic of the Marshall Islands through Improved Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure, in partnership of UNDP, which was funded by Japan's supplementary budget for FY 2018. The ceremony was attended by Honorable Kitiang Kabua, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ms. Abacca Anjain- Maddison, Deputy Chief Secretary and Mr. Kevin Petrini, Deputy Resident Representative and Country Manager for the UNDP Pacific Office, as well as officials from RMI Government and UNDP, and Mr. NAKAMURA Noriyuki, First secretary from the Embassy of Japan in RMI. This groundbreaking ceremony is one of the great progress for this project, and we would like to thank all concerned for their efforts over the years.

12月6日、我が国の平成30年度補正予算によるUNDPを通じた「災害対応能力及びインフラの改善を通じた災害及び気候変動への強靱性強化プロジェクト」によるイバイ島における緊急オペレーションセンターの起工式が執り行われました。同式典には、キトラン・カブア外務・貿易大臣、アバッカ・マディソン官房副長官、ケビン・ペトリニUNDP太平洋事務所次長兼ミクロネシア地域担当カントリーマネージャのほか、マーシャル政府及びUNDP関係者等が出席し、当館からは中村書記官が出席しました。本件起工式は本プロジェクトにとって大きな進捗の一つであり、これまでの関係者のご尽力に感謝いたします。

PART 6: KEY LESSONS LEARNT AND CHALLENGES

- All meetings during the project planning phase should be minuted and the minutes of meeting shared with all stakeholders to confirm the agreements on project activities to avoid changes later.
- The Project timeframe should be decided with due consideration to the constraints in the country of implementation.
- All the project costs should be accurately budgeted in the AWP.
- It is important to hold pre-bid meetings in order to ensure obtaining required documentations from the potential bidders.

- For the project implementation, it is important to assess the required information available to start the activities so that we could estimate the realistic timeline and include necessary actions to obtain information. Required bathymetry information is not available, it took extra time to identify the location of waverider buoy.

PART 7: SUSTAINABILITY AND SCALING UP

Regarding sustainability of the infrastructure, the following factors should be considered ahead of its operational phase for the smooth operation of the facilities.

- A responsible institution to take care of the facilities.
- Assurance of availability of technical service within the reach of the institution to maintain it.
- A regular source of income/fund to pay for the maintenance.

A sustainability plan has been prepared by MoWIU.

PART 8: QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

	Funding Sources	2019 (USD)	2020 (USD)	2021 (USD)	2022 (USD)	2023* (USD)	Total (USD)
O1- Strengthened disaster communication and climate and Tsunami monitoring systems	GOJ	46,736	238,388	53,331	9,928	839	349,222
O2- Enhanced national and state disaster responders readiness capacity and better sourced to minimise loss of lives and damages	GOJ	90,878	315,753	333,618	132,266	40,298	912,814
O3- Program Management Unit	GOJ	387,301	306,733	209,660	41,283	21,128	966,103
	UNDP (TRAC 1)				73,903		73,903
	UNDP (TRAC 2)	0	0	7,167	20		7,186
Total Expenditure		524,915	860,873	603,776	257,399	62,265	2,309,228
- Funded by GOJ		524,915	860,873	596,609	183,477	62,265	2,228,139
- Funded by UNDP		0	0	7,167	73,923	0	81,089

* Tentative figure retrieved from Quantum on 19 April 2023

PART 9: LIST OF EVIDENCE PROVIDED AS ANNEX

- Annex 1: Monthly Progress Reports (January – March 2023)