CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

GCCA+
THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PLUS INITIATIVE

Funded by the European Union

Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA)

Scaling up community resilience to water stress and climate related extreme events in Chuuk State, FSM

Project timeframe

1 January 2019- 30 June 2023

National implementing agencies

Environment Protection Agency, Disaster Operation and Emergency Office, Department of Marine Resources, Chuuk Women Council, Department of Health and Sanitation, Department of Transportation, Chuuk Public Utilities Corporation

Beneficiaries

3,029 persons

Outlying island communities of Federated States of Micronesia are vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and natural disasters.

Project synopsis

The 'Scaling up community resilience to water stress and climate-related extreme events in Chuuk State, FSM' project aims to scale up water security measures in the outer islands of Chuuk State and specifically in Polowat, Pulusuk and Pulap atolls. Rainwater harvesting systems will be installed in community shelters and buildings, and training will be provided in the maintenance of these systems. Householders will be trained to monitor the quality of the water in their individual water storage systems and a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme will be conducted in the schools.

How does this project address climate change adaptation in FSM?

People living in the outer islands of Chuuk State are largely dependent on the harvesting of rainwater for drinking water. Underground water lenses in the low-lying atoll islands are shallow and vulnerable to saltwater intrusion, especially during droughts. The effects of climate change on temperature, rainfall, weather extremes, sea level, and the frequency and magnitude of typhoons is exacerbating the difficulties experienced by outer island residents to source and supply drinking water.

Focusing on the people living in Polwat, Pulusuk and Pulap, the project will adopt a participatory and inclusive approach that addresses the vulnerabilities and the rights of all residents. Skills in climate resilience will be enhanced, particularly for island council members and community leaders.

After assessments and community consultations, rainwater harvesting systems will be installed in selected community shelters and buildings and community representatives will be trained in the management and maintenance of these systems.

Improving the quality of the water stored in existing household rainwater harvesting systems will be addressed by providing training on how to monitor the quality of the stored water and taking appropriate measures to address issues.

To enhance the communities' preparedness for disasters, the project will install a manual rain gauge in Polowat to collect and compile rainfall data.

Pacific Community
Communauté du Pacifique

SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

USP
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

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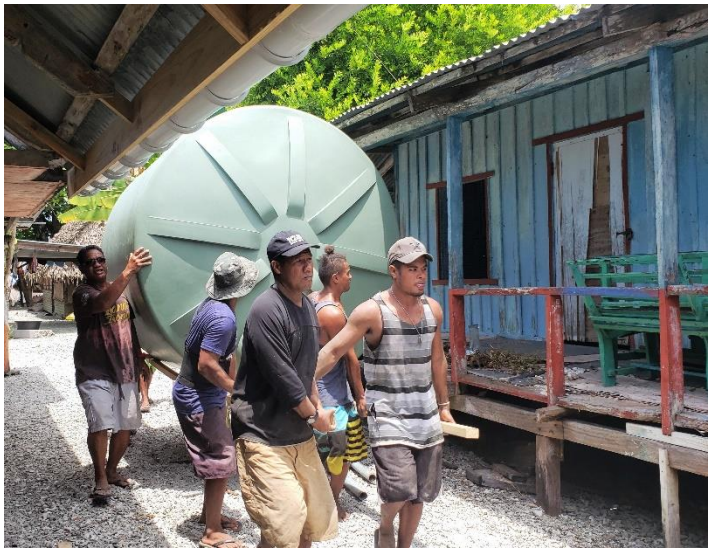

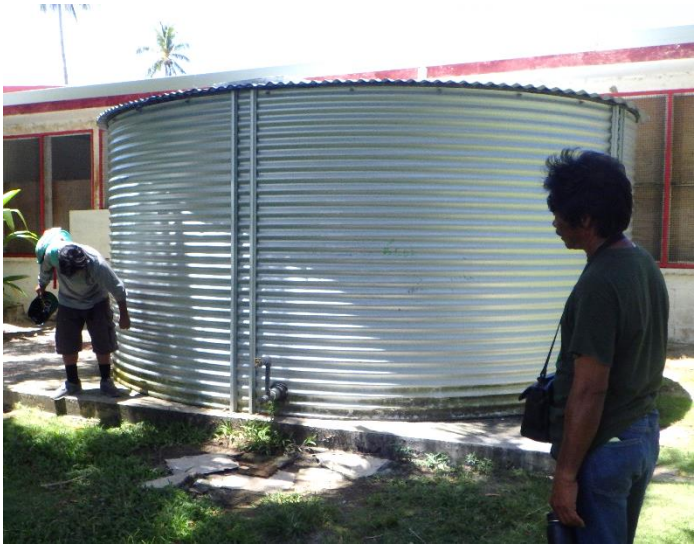

The project is providing rainwater catchment systems in selected FSM state outlying islands.

Key Highlights

Increasing access to quality water

- Conducting assessments on existing water storage systems for community buildings.
- Consulting with the communities in Polowat, Pulusuk and Pulap to identify the most appropriate sites rainwater harvesting systems.
- Working with the communities to upgrade existing rainwater harvesting systems and install new ones in community shelters in Polowat, Pulusuk and Pulap islands.
- Establishing schedules and providing training for the regular maintenance of rainwater harvesting systems.

Providing training in the monitoring of water quality

- Training of residents to monitor water quality in household systems and ways to manage pollution issues.
- Promoting water hygiene through WASH Programme campaigns to schools in Polowat, Pulusuk and Pulap.

Building community resilience

- Building the capacity of community leaders and island council members in climate resilience through accredited training.
- Assessing island development plans to identify entry points for climate and disaster resilience.

Monitoring and Learning

- Assessing the impacts of past climate change adaptation projects and applying the results to national strategic planning.
- Installing a manual rain gauge in Polowat and compiling the rainfall data to inform state and national emergency planning for droughts.

Activities meet the following SDGs:

About the SUPA project

The Global Climate Change Alliance Plus Scaling up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA) project is about scaling up climate change adaptation measures in specific sectors supported by knowledge management and capacity building. The 4.5 year project (2019-2023) is funded with € 14.89 million from the European Union (EU) and implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC) in partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and The University of the South Pacific (USP), in collaboration with the governments and peoples of Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Tonga and Tuvalu.

The **Overall Objective** of the GCCA+ SUPA project is to enhance climate change adaptation and resilience within ten Pacific island countries.

The **Specific Objective** is to strengthen the implementation of sector-based, but integrated, climate change and disaster risk management strategies and plans.