Implementing a Ridge to Reef Approach to Biodiversity and Ecosystems Functions in Nauru

First Community Consultation Report: The Introduction of the Ridge to Reef Approach and Awareness Raising Ijuw, Meneng, Anibare, Anabar, Buada. 11th-15th April 2016

Community Consultation for the 5 pilot districts within Ridge to Reef Project:

Introduction:

The community consultation for the Ridge to Reef project began on the 11th of April 2016. This is a follow up activity to confirm issues raised from the Community Based Organization (CBO) leader consultation that was held on the 14th March, 2016. The main objective was to raise awareness and introduce the project Ridge to Reef to the community members of the pilot districts. In total there were five separate community consultations. The agenda (Appendix A) of the consultation is the same for all the five district which focuses on explaining the four major components of the project. It included the expectations and overall vision of the project that is to improve and strengthened conservation of biodiversity through an integrated ridge to reef approach.

There were presentations (Appendix B) on the components of the project with detail outcomes, outputs and tentative activities which are dependent on the revision of current baselines. At the end of each presentation the Communities were given the opportunity to seek clarification and raise issues related to ridge to reef concept in their respective districts as provided below. The project team introduce component three and four in brief as it is more appropriate to talk about it at a later stage after identification of issues and possible remedial actions that are related to the project.

As a follow up event the communities were tasked to select at least six representatives from their districts that would be part of the second consultation. The next consultation will be more participatory undertaking resource mapping and threat analysis exercise. The information from these community consultations will be consolidated and taken back to community by their district representatives for clarification and ratification.

Component 1: Conservation of Marine Biodiversity

The main points raised during the presentation included:

- The major Outcome for Component 1 and the two Outputs together with the activities.
- Definition of a Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) and the different management tools which could be implemented within it.
- The different activities aligned as contributing factors to the two Outputs.

Benefits associated with the Ridge to Reef project in improving ecosystem processors through biodiversity conservation and community benefits through gears provided.

Anabare

District:



Community Issues:

- 1. How can the Project address the impacts of climate change like coral bleaching?
- 2. Is there any form of compensation or alternative sources of livelihood? Which the Project can provide if communities were willing to give up portions of their reef for conservation e.g. Aquaculture?

Responses:

Nauruan's will need or have to adapt to the impacts. Although climate change is a global issue and beyond our control, setting up protected areas and controlled sites will be a good way to adapt and maintaining some of our coral reefs. Alternative source of livelihoods. There are opportunities for communities to provide alternative sources which the project can help fund.

Buada District:



- 1. Community to be treated the same and would like to receive five canoes like the coastal communities.
- 2. The community would like to maintain access to use the coastal marine resources if coastal districts have decided to set up marine protected areas or other management tools within their marine environment.

Responses:

Although providing the canoes for Buada community was not in the project document; this can be looked into since it can also be a way of monitoring the catch per unit effort.

The community can access and fish in the undesignated areas and the open waters. People from Buada and other communities have to conservation and management and observe implemented in coastal districts.

Ijuw Community:



1. To regulate and manage the extraction and mining of Rock and Sand in their coastal areas

Response:

The community is advised to have in place bi-laws to regulate and restrict commercial extraction of Rock and Sand as part of their management plan This can be enacted as a regulation of the district in the review of the current legislation.

Anabar Community:

1. To blow up the reefs to increase the inflow/access of fishes from the open water into the reef flats. Providing fish havens within the inter-tidal zone.

Response:

The best way to provide fish haven is through setting up protected areas. Once the marine resources feel safe they will stay in the area and aggregate which will overspill to nearby areas restoring and restocking the marine environment.

Component 2 - Sustainable water and land Management

The purpose of the presentation was to make aware the community about sustainable land and water management component and the expected cooperation from the community for successful implementation of project activities.

- During the community consultation Land use officer has explained the R2R objectives in terms of water and Land management activity that would be implanted in five pilot districts.
- It was also presented the broad areas of interest of the R2R project in relation to sustainable water and land use including promoting home gardens for vegetable and fruit production for family food system improvement, efficient rain water collection and water use, capacity building of communities for agriculture, raising and introducing trees and fruit crops to achieve above objectives..
- During the presentation summery of activities that would facilitated by the R2R were elaborated including preparation of Resource Management Plan with community participation, capacity building, providing agricultural tools and planting materials, assist improvement of rain water harvesting systems and government plant nurseries, eco- friendly compost toilets demonstrations and training opportunities.
- Use of Picture presentation to communities to familiarize with fruits vegetable and timer trees furthering their knowledge on potential for rowing crops under agro-climatic conditions and utilization of produce for health and improvement of family food systems.
- 1. **Issues raised at the consultation.** Why R2R is interested on introducing new crop varieties which is not available in the Island?
- 2. Explain the need and potential of these crops that would improve the food security and health of communities.
- 3. The selection of crops and trees for planting is decided by communities by their choice.
- 4. The need demonstrations on how to grow and use proposed new crop produce.



Conclusion

The attendance level (Appendix C) in these consultation varies from community to community. This maybe an indication of commitment or willingness of the people however this leaves a challenge for the project team to implement robust awareness program.

The concept of conservation is not new to the people of Nauru. It was an old practice that needs revival however the project should provide options or alternatives to help people to conserve their resources. In addition exposure to other examples from communities who have done this successfully will put this concept in better perspective.

The project is looking forward to the next combined community consultation on the 28th -29th of April 2016 to a thorough discussion of each community needs.

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Appendix A

Agenda:

Time	Activity	Facilitator
1800hr -1830hrs	Introduction of Ridge to Reef Project	Rebecca
1835hrs – 1905hrs	Component 1: Conservation of Marine Biodiversity	КК
1910hrs – 1940hrs	Component 2: Sustainable Water and Land Management	Soma
1945hrs – 2015hrs	Component 3 & 4	Rebecca
2015hrs – 2030hrs	Question & Answers/Selection of 6 district reps	Rebecca
2030hrs	Dinner	

Appendix B

19-Apr-16







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21-Apr-16







Component 1: Conservation of Marine Biodiversity

SUTCOME 1.1: reproved management effectiveness of new matheconservation areas

Anthony C.L.B. Anthony of Community Research County Manager

SUTNET 1.1.3

What is a Locally Managed Marin Area (LMMA)

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Fipeline Activities: for output 1.1.2 Network the proposal mathemapiatory feature of the

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Activities for Output 1.1.2

- Community Consultation
- Development of marine management action pla
- Implementation LMMA Management Plan
- Gather data on Inshore resources.
- Implement effective marine based alternative

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Component 2: Sustainable Land and Water Management

21-Apr-16



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What R2R provides under the Pro

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- · Seed and planting materials

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Appendix C Participant List:

R2R Project Community Consultation Meeting District: バリロロ

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17 Sylumia Ergabate	Sidon	5563586	
18 Tholoroma Ayunge	the	4/7382	
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District: Meneg. Date: $13 - 04 - 2016$						
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