

Nauru: Summary of activities for outputs 1 and 3

- Output 1: Impact analysis to strengthen national strategic planning**
- Output 3: Scale up resilient development measures in specific sectors**



Resident fills a bucket from a tank provided by the project

Nauru timeline January – June 2023

Output 1: Impact analysis to strengthen national strategic planning	
November 2022	Representatives from Nauru participated in the Applied Training in impact analysis (iA) and the impacts database held in Fiji
Planning and KRA 4: National Coordinator	
March 2019	Presentation of GCCA+ SUPA project at an Inception Meeting in Fiji attended by a representative from Nauru
October 2019	Project sector selected – water security Implementing agency identified – Department of Climate Change and National Resilience
January 2020	Project National Coordinator commenced In-country consultation held
February 2020	Project concept note approved
April 2020	PDD signed
December 2020	PDD Amendment 1 signed
June 2021	PDD Amendment 2 signed
KRA 1: Selection of households for enhanced water storage	
April 2020	Criteria and on-the-ground checklist developed using the People Centred Approach to select the most vulnerable households
October 2020	List of most vulnerable households endorsed by National Steering Committee and Cabinet
October 2020	Community based impact assessment conducted of Colorbond tank installations from a previous project completed
September 2021	Vehicle delivered to DCCNR to facilitate delivery of project activities
June 2023	Agreements between Government of Nauru and recipient household signed confirming the recipients' responsibility for the maintenance of the water storage systems
KRA 2: Purchase and install water storage measures (tanks, concrete base, taps) for selected households	
October 2021	98 plastic tanks (76 x 10,200L and 22 x 5,300) delivered to Yaren Port, Nauru
January 2022	Plumbing and construction materials for the installation of the tanks delivered to Yaren Port, Nauru
January 2022	Confirmation from Government of Nauru to use their own resources to fund the installation of the tanks at the recipient households.
December 2022	Installation of 96 tanks on concrete bases and with plumbing accessories (taps and washout outlets) at selected houses completed.
June 2023	Delivery of 96 pumps and additional accessories to directly connect the water tanks to the recipient houses as per request from government of Nauru dated 06.09.22 with commitment from Government to complete installation of the pumps outside of the GCCA+ SUPA project and using their own resources
KRA 3: Household training in maintenance and awareness campaign	
March 2021	World Water Day activities held including school and video competitions, radio quizzes and exhibition
January 2023	Demonstration on how to repair polyethylene water tanks
May 2023	Communication materials: Two videos completed: "Six essential tips for maintaining plastic water tanks" and "Securing Nauru's water lifeline for the most vulnerable people"
June 2023	Maintenance tools for recipients of the 96 tanks delivered to Yaren Port, Nauru

June 2023	Planned maintenance training workshop (scheduled for June) cancelled due to an emergency situation relating to the uncovering of an unexploded World War II Ordinance at the new port construction site
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Nauru highlights

Background

The Republic of Nauru lies approximately 0.5°S and 167°E. It is a single raised atoll with an area of 21 km² with a maximum elevation of 71m. The island is surrounded by a fringing coral reef between 120 and 300m wide. The highest point on the island is Command Ridge (71m). The population of Nauru is 10,084 (2011 census). Nauru has a small economy and the National Sustainable Development Strategy (2005-2025) includes a number of economic reform and management goals, with the short to medium term priorities of stabilising, reviving and diversifying the economy. The narrow range of employment and income streams makes Nauru economically vulnerable to climate change.

The project used a consultative and people centred approach to (i) prepare a methodology for impact analysis (iA) of past projects and share it with participants from Nauru; and (ii) increase production, delivery and storage of desalinated water to households, communities and businesses in Nauru.

Highlights output 1

Representatives from Nauru participated in the Applied Training in impact analysis (iA) and the impacts database held in Fiji in November 2022. The purpose of this workshop was to share the “light” version of the methodology to analyse past actions and learn from their successes and failures so as to improve strategic planning in the future.

Highlights output 3

The Government of Nauru selected the water sector as the focus for output 3. Households in Nauru purchase desalinated water for drinking and domestic purposes, which is delivered to individual water storage tanks and accounts for 70-80% of water needs in Nauru. The remaining 20-30% is supplied through rainwater harvesting, bottled water and groundwater sources.

The overall objective of the project was to reduce vulnerability in the water sector for Nauru’s communities. The specific objective of the project was to contribute to increased water storage for vulnerable households in Nauru. The project had four KRAs: (1): Selection of households for enhanced water storage; (2): Purchase and install water storage measures (tanks, concrete base, taps) for selected households; (3): Household training in maintenance and awareness campaign; and (4) National Coordinator.

The following are the output 3 highlights in Nauru:

- The GCCA+SUPA project was presented to the countries at an Inception Meeting in Fiji in March 2019. Following this meeting water security was selected as the focus sector and the Department of Climate Change and National Resilience as the implementing agency.
- The project successfully applied a People Centred Approach to identify the most vulnerable households. A set of criteria using census data and on-the-ground spot checks was developed for selection. A video has been prepared on the process: “Securing Nauru’s water lifeline for the most vulnerable people”.

- The criteria and the final list of 96 recipient households was approved by the National Steering Committee and the Cabinet.
- The project provided 96 recipient households with water tanks (74 x 10,200L and 22 x 5,300L tanks) for the storage of desalinated water. The tanks have been installed on concrete slabs with taps and washout outlets. Beneficiaries have signed agreements confirming their responsibility for maintenance of the systems. Beneficiaries have also been provided with tools to maintain the tanks.
- The Government of Nauru used their own resources to fund the construction of the concrete bases and the placement of the tanks and taps at the recipient households as a direct contribution to the project.
- 96 pumps and additional accessories were purchased and delivered to Yaren port, Nauru to connect the water tanks to the recipient houses. (The government of Nauru has committed to install the pumps outside of the GCCA+ SUPA project and using their own resources).
- A video on the repair and maintenance of plastic tanks has been prepared and distributed.
- Awareness activities included competitions, radio quizzes and exhibitions as part of World Water Day activities.

Nauru details: output 3

The PDD was signed in April 2020 following a consultative phase.

Assessment, consultation and design of measures

- The consultative phase included the 2019 Inception Meeting in Fiji, which was followed by several discussions with the Secretary of DCCNR also in 2019.
- In January 2020 an in-country consultation was held with representatives from District communities, Department of Health, Department of Infrastructure, Nauru Utilities Corporation, Eco Nauru, and the Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment. Increasing household water storage capacity for desalinated water was identified as the priority for the GCCA+ SUPA project.
- Following the consultation, a community impact assessment of the colorbond water storage tanks (20,000L capacity) implemented with support from a different development partner was conducted. This showed that these tanks had suffered from corrosion due to the incorrect placement of tank liners, added to which replacement liners were not available in Nauru.
- Polyethylene tanks were selected for the GCCA+ SUPA project. This decision was agreed by the government of Nauru and the SPC Project Engineer. The installation design, specifications and bill of quantities were then prepared with input from the Department of Infrastructure and the Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment.

KRA 1: Selection of households for enhanced water storage

Development of criteria for selection of vulnerable households

- Using the People Centred Approach and the PLANET checklist for guidance, six criteria were identified for the selection of the most vulnerable households:
 1. Occupied houses with no tank. (A tank is defined as a water container having a capacity of more than 5,000 litres).
 2. There are occupants older than 50 years.
 3. There are occupants with disabilities.

4. There are occupants under 18 years of age.
 5. The total number of occupants in the house.
 6. The number of occupants earning a regular income (regular is defined as weekly, fortnightly, or monthly)
- A checklist for on-the-ground spot checks was prepared.

Selection of households

- The 2019 mini-census and the data provided by the Nauru Utilities Corporation were used to prepare a list of households meeting these criteria. 254 houses were listed and spot checks together with interviews with the owners were conducted in May and June 2020 to confirm the status of the identified households. 165 households were verified, representing 65% of the total.
- The criteria were applied to the 165 assessed households and the outcome of this process was the selection of 50 households for the GCCA+ SUPA project.
- The list of 50 households was approved by the Cabinet of the Nauru Government and the National Steering Committee. This was important to show that there were no personal preferences in the selection process.
- The list of selected households was subsequently supplemented with other households from the list of 165 to bring the number of selected households to 96.

KRA 2: Purchase and install water storage measures (Tanks, concrete bases, taps) for selected households.

- The installation design, Bill of Quantities, and costing for the construction of 96 concrete slab and plumbing connections for the 76 x 10,200L and 22 x 5,300L water tanks was prepared.
- The tanks and construction materials were purchased and delivered to Yaren port, Nauru over the period November 2021 to January 2022.
- Plans for SPC to procure the services of a contractor to undertake the installations were abandoned when the Government of Nauru confirmed they would fund the installations using their own resources.
- The 96 household installations were completed in December 2022.
- Oversight of the installations was undertaken by DCCNR using a compliance checklist that included compliance with the Rescue and Fire Safety Act 2019.
- Agreements between the Government of Nauru and each household were signed by June 2023, confirming that maintenance of the tanks was the responsibility of the householder.
- At the request of the Nauru Government, the project procured 96 centrifugal pumps and fittings to directly connect the water tanks to the households. These materials were delivered in June 2023. The Department of Climate Change and National Resilience had earlier confirmed its responsibility for installing the pumps using its own resources.

KRA 3: Household training in maintenance and awareness campaign

- The project had scheduled a training workshop in the maintenance of the water storage measures for the 96 recipient households. Unfortunately, this workshop had to be cancelled as an unexploded World War II ordinance was unearthed in the vicinity of the new port construction work in June 2023 and arrangements had to be made for its safe removal. Rescheduling was not an option as the project's implementation period concluded on 30 June 2023.

- The project had purchased basic maintenance tools which were distributed to the recipient households.
- The project supported awareness activity focused on the importance of maintenance of water storage tanks.
- Promotional items such as water bottles, t-shirts and carry on bags were distributed to schools and communities among the 14-district of Nauru.
- The project produced a video focused on the maintenance of water storage tanks: “Six essential tips for maintaining plastic water tanks”.
- A second video: “Securing Nauru’s water lifeline for the most vulnerable people” was produced and provides an overview of how the project was implemented using the people centred approach.

KRA 4: National coordinator

- ❖ The National Coordinator commenced in January 2020 and was responsible for scheduling, organising and reporting on all the project’s activities. Monthly progress reports were submitted.

Challenges

- Covid 19 travel restrictions posed the biggest challenge in implementing the GCCA+ SUPA project. The pandemic affected the wellbeing of all Pacific Islanders in a variety of ways such as isolation, illness, and financial instability. The travel restrictions brought about by COVID-19, meant that consultations between the project team at SPC Fiji and government partners in Nauru for project planning and design were convened entirely through virtual meetings. This arrangement was hampered by poor internet connections.
- Significant challenges had to be overcome in the procurement of materials, in particular plumbing materials. Due to the COVID-19 and global supply chain disruptions, several items were difficult to source, and shipment schedules were significantly disrupted with continuous delays. Increases in the price and shipment of materials and shipping were also experienced over the course of the project.
- Recipient homeowners were not present during the construction work, and the presence of guard dogs created a risk for the contractors and oversight personnel.
- Several revisions had to be made to the list of recipient households due to residents relocating.

Lesson Learnt

- Applying a people centred approach in the design, planning and implementation of the project is critical to achieve acceptable and culturally appropriate measures.
- An inclusive community consultation approach that considers all members of the communities including women, youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities is important for informed planning and implementation.
- Having countries select the area of national focus and the project activities provides for national ownership and building resilience.
- Conducting impact assessments of past projects provides for sustainability of specific actions.
- Recognising the high cost in transportation costs of implementing projects in small island states, in-country consultation is an opportunity to identify local suppliers.
- Considering the availability of replacement materials and spare parts as well as servicing requirements are important criteria to include in the design of measures and measures that have worked.