



Pacific R2R Programme Workshop

Most Significant Change

The GEF Pacific IW R2R Project - RMI



Name of Person recording story	Jessica Zebedee
Name of storyteller	Jina David
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Disinclination



Jina David

My name is Jina David. I am the Project Manager for Jo-Jikum, and I am also one of the councilmen in the Majuro Atoll Local Government (MALGOV) from the rural side of the island, Laura. I lived in Laura and had been there for more than 20 years now, and as Laura's councilman, I know all the activities that take place.

I was involved with the IWRM when it first started with Moriana Phillip. At the time, I used to be a water quality expert at the College of the Marshall Islands (CMI) Land Grant. We used to do water samples and awareness together to the people in Laura. I also worked with Julius Lucky in doing water education and awareness regarding the water lenses in Laura.

It was a lot of work. We worked with the farmers in Laura, we worked with some of the people in Laura, but in some ways, it did not turn out to be as successful as we hoped it would.

There haven't really been any changes. We now have 3 compost toilets sitting in Laura that are not being utilized. The method introduced to the farmers about dry litter pig fence was not wholly accepted; they tried, but the people have long decided that they don't want to use that method anymore.



One of Laura's piggy project



One of Laura's piggy project

I feel like we could've done more education about the water lens because from what we know, it's the only backup plan for the water company here on Majuro that pumps its water from the lens during the drought seasons.

This is something we should collaborate with the local government. We need to work with the landowners and have them understand that it is vital to find alternative ways of preserving the water lens and keep them from getting contaminated; to keep the lenses clean. People are still in the habit of digging up holes and burying their wastes. This isn't to say it's the people's fault. They just don't understand what they are doing.