



Pacific R2R Programme Workshop

Most Significant Change

The GEF Pacific IW R2R Project - Solomons



Name of Person recording story	NPM/ Staff member
Name of storyteller	Lucy Maefiti, Renlau Community Member
Date of recording	18 th of June 2019

Self-Reliant



Lucy Maefiti

I did attend several trainings organized by other projects and organizations with Renlau Community women’s savings club, however, the compost training organised by the Ridge to Reef project in 2017 has help us with new perspectives of organic waste.

We have to wake up around 5am and organize ourselves and clean all sorts of rubbish that washed ashore from the river and dug holes and bury them. We do it heartedly every morning as it was our daily job, we get limited support from World Vision through its livelihood support programme, and however it is just a onetime support. We joined workshops and meetings

organise by various organisation but we can’t do much because luck of resources that enable us to help ourselves. As a result, our women’s saving club remain dormant from the passing years.

I attended the Ridge to Reef compost training organise for our community and after the training, I started to realize that we cannot rely too much on supports from government, city council and other projects and non-government organisations. We go through hands on training and demonstration, and the R2R provided compost bins place in certain location within our community. Today, we no longer buy vegetables at the main market but rather plant our own using the compost bins provided for both daily consumption and as well as selling at the market. Most of the villagers in our community came and pay vegetables from us and now we able to earn money through our produce. We were able to meet our family daily needs and even save some for school fees as well. We were able to teach other mothers and youths in our community on organic composting from food scraps from our kitchens and demonstrate to them and they were able to take home the knowledge and put into practices the knowledge gained.



National Project Manager of GEF/SPC IW Ridge to Reef Solomon Islands Project handing over Compost Bins to Renlau Community Representative on behalf of the Renlau Community after training workshop organized for them.

The Ridge to Reef project has changed our lives and way we see waste or rubbish in our community. Before we ignore and see waste as waste not coins but today, we were able to see transformation in our community. Attitudes towards waste are also changed and waste in our community has been significantly minimized than before.