



Pacific Islands Ridge to Reef National Priorities – Integrated water, land, forest and coastal management to preserve biodiversity, ecosystem services, store carbon, improve climate resilience and sustain livelihoods

# Looking ahead COVID-19 and post R2R?

## Facilitators

Samasoni Sauni – Regional Program Coordinator, RPCU, DCRP, GEM  
Rhonda Robinson - Deputy Director, DCRP, GEM

RSTC Virtual Meeting 19th 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2020



# Overview

- Aim is to encourage strategic discussion on the next step into the future, with respect to a follow up phase or project supporting future R2R investments & ICM planning, or not . . .
- Two papers guiding discussion on this session: -
  - RSTC Chair's Report 2020 – highlights, challenges & opportunities [\[GEF IW R2R/RSTC.6/wp.02\]](#)
  - What's next post R2R and COVID-19 [\[GEF R2R/RSC.5/wp.15\]](#)

# Guiding Questions

- Discuss and ask questions for clarifications on **timelines, specific tasks and associated outputs?**
- Discuss and **provide inputs into the concept paper**, whether or not there is interest to support designing a more streamlined R2R project in upscaling future R2R investments and ICM planning? **Endorse** a preferred option.
- **Discuss and endorse** a further no-cost extension of up to 12 months from September 30<sup>th</sup> 2021.







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# What's Next COVID-19 & Post R2R?

Samasoni Sauni – Regional Program Coordinator

Session 6 – Looking ahead COVID-19 and post R2R?  
Virtual Meeting, October 16, 2020, 1030H-1330H





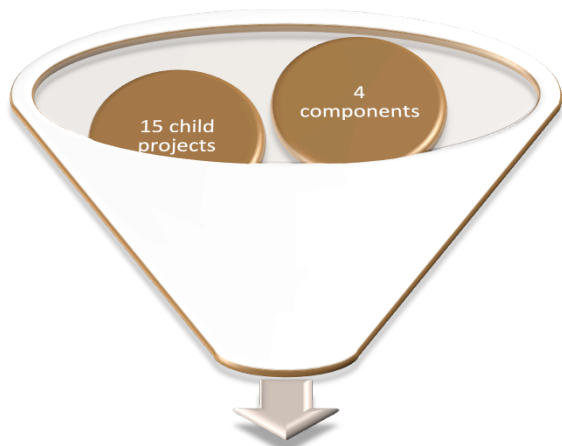
- Overview
- Making the case?
- Strategic issues and adaptive measures
- Financial status and forecast





## This presentation aims for:

- ✓ RSC to consider and reflect on progress of project implementation, and role of RSTC in the remaining duration; and
- ✓ RSC to discuss and agree on broader vision and strategic directions post R2R
  - Next phase? Preferred option?
  - No-cost extension? Up to 6 or 12 months subject to UNDP policies?

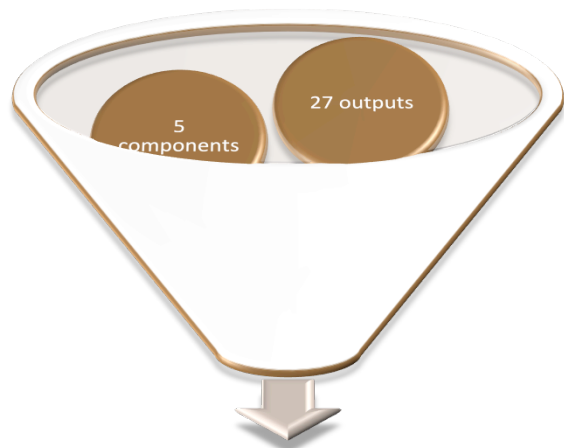


Program objectives

Focal Area	# Outcomes	# outputs
Biodiversity	4	5
Climate Change Adaptation	4	6
Climate Change Mitigation	1	1
International Waters	5	5
Land Degradation	7	7
Sustainable Forest Management/ REDD+	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>28</b>

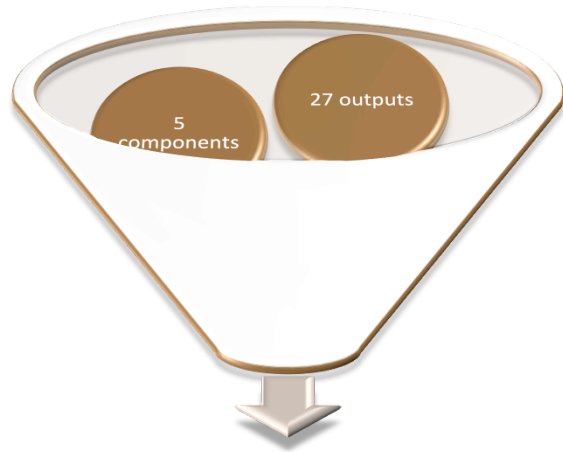






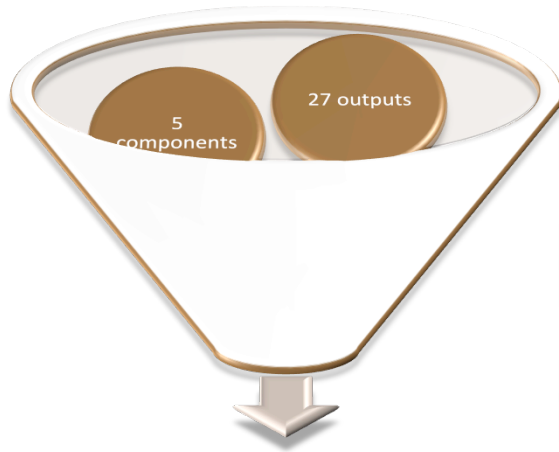
Project objectives

To **test** the **mainstreaming of Ridge to Reef, climate resilient approaches** to **integrated** land, water, forest and coastal management in the **Pacific Island Countries** through strategic planning, capacity building and piloted local actions to **sustain livelihoods** and preserve **ecosystem services**



## Project facts

- ❑ **GEF ID:** 5404
- ❑ **PIMS ID:** 5221
- ❑ **Fund source:** Global Environmental Facility
- ❑ **Lead GEF IA:** United Nations Development Program
- ❑ **Executing Agency:** Pacific Community (SPC)
- ❑ **Partners:** 14 Pacific Island Countries
- ❑ **Total budget:** USD 10.3 million
- ❑ **Duration:** August 2015 to September 2021



## Project components

### Component 1

National Demonstrations to support R2R ICM/IWRM approaches for island resilience & sustainability

### Component 2

Island-based investments in human capital & knowledge to strengthen national & local capacities for R2R ICM/IWRM approaches, incorporating CCA

### Component 3

Mainstreaming of R2R ICM/IWRM approaches into national development planning

### Component 4

Regional & national R2R indicators for reporting, monitoring & adaptive management & knowledge management

### Component 5

Ridge to Reef regional & national coordination

IW GEF R2R Science to Policy – Theory of Change

Project Objective: To test the mainstreaming of 'ridge-to-reef' (R2R), climate resilient approaches to integrated land, water, forest and coastal management in the PICs through strategic planning, capacity building and piloted local actions to sustain livelihoods and preserve ecosystem services

Impacts

Increased knowledge and understanding around R2R approach

Greater use of science based information in decision making process

Improved institutional setting for informed decision making and action

Outcome

1.1 Successful pilot projects test innovative solutions that link ICM, IWRM and climate change adaptation

1.2 Diagnostic analysis for prioritizing/ scaling up key ICM/ IWRM reforms & investments

3.1 National and regional strategic action frameworks for ICM/IWRM endorsed nationally & regionally

Outputs

IW Pilot Site Diagnostic Reports  
National Diagnostic Reports  
Characterisation and Prioritisation Procedure Guidelines

Effective data and knowledge sharing

Effective networks

National State of the Coast Reports

Assessment and advice to organisations

National Strategic Action Frameworks for ICM/IWRM

Plans and Policies

Activities

Data collation and field surveys

Technical support

R2R Networks

R2R Training

Stakeholder engagement

Participatory analysis and decision making

# Action Plan for IW Science to Policy Approach

## Step One

### R2R Mainstreaming Team & Scoping

- Team leads and participates in all Regional and National IW R2R program of activities
- include people representing the pilot site, local leaders and skilled interested individuals from various groups (community, church, youth, women, NGOs) and relevant national agencies
  - national IW R2R Project Manager will act as Secretariat for the team

## Step Two

- Joint planning, analysis, and communication of findings
- Share field and secondary data for input into models and SoC Reports

### Baseline and Data Collection

- Data will be collated for the pilot site and relevant national level data
- Gaps in recent data for the pilot site will be filled with field survey (RAPCA)
  - Data collected will be used in steps 3-5

## Step Three

- Support stakeholder participation in diagnostic process and SoC consultations

### Diagnostic Process

- Problem understanding and articulation

### Diagnostic Process

- priority systems and plans for actions and interventions
- Policy evaluation and recommendation

## Step Four

### Spatial Prioritisation

- national-scale prioritization map to inform selection of sites for management interventions
- Map of marine, catchment health, and human pressures on land - seascapes

## Step Five

- Support stakeholder participation in diagnostic process and SoC consultations

### State of the Coast Report

Linkages between the efforts to identify and evaluate socio-environmental issues and problems, empirical data for priority coastal areas, and identified options for reform and intervention form the substance of the report.

## Step Six

- Joint planning for policy reform
- Support stakeholder participation in consultations

### Strategic Action Framework

- All of the decision support tools developed above will be used in this process
- Countries may choose to incorporate into existing high level planning

STAR Projects can collaborate during these stages



## Strategic issues and adaptive measures

Strategic issues	Adaptive measures
Challenges in ensuring <b>technical robustness</b> as basis for decisions in sustainable resource governance	Modification of science to policy theory of change enforced in combination with adaptive management measures
Limited local capacity, disparity in technical skills and management experience among managers, and turnover of staff	Augmentation of technical support through national and regional technical service providers
<b>COVID-19</b> Pandemic travel restrictions	Non-conventional approach for providing support to national implementation
GEF Pacific R2R <b>programmatic</b> implementation remains a challenge	Continued advocacy for joint planning, data sharing, lessons learned documentation, & results reporting



# Key Issues

- A follow up project?
  - *Continue testing, replicate and upscale?*
  - *what to do with R2R tools & products being developed?*
    - *Examples: online regional dbase, spatial prioritisation modelling, science-policy framework,*
- No-cost extension?
  - Streamlined strategy to deliver on full science-policy continuum
- Efficacy of R2R Programme Governance Platforms
  - RSC, RSTC, RPCG



## Overall rating

Development objective (DO)	July 2018-June 2019	July 2019-June 2020
Development objective (DO)	Moderately Unsatisfactory	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Implementation progress (IP)	Moderately Unsatisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory

## Outcome 1.2

National diagnostic analysis for ICM conducted for prioritizing and scaling-up key ICM/IWRM reforms and investments

### Forests and Education – Learn to Love Forests



Forests contribute to food security and livelihoods.

PacificR2R Samoa Rapid Coastal Assessment  
Team complete trial forest biodiversity and cover assessment of Fagalii Catchment with information on endemic and invasive species. Team incl Ministry of Natural Resources and #Environment, local experts and community volunteers. (December, 2018)



#PacificR2R  
#intlForestDay




- Conducted Island **Diagnostic Analysis (IDA)** to the priority countries (coinciding with the RapCA).
- Enhanced **procedures for characterizing island coastal areas for Integrated Coastal Management (ICM)** in collaboration with national stakeholders.
- Successfully **trialed the refined methodology for the procedure** and required indicator sets driving the linked land-sea model.



### Outcome 3.1

National and regional strategic action frameworks for ICM/IWRM endorsed nationally and regionally




*“Managing our water resources is critical because it impacts our everyday lives. The IW R2R project will strengthen the capacity for watershed assessment, mapping and planning to ensure that we are sustainably managing our water resources for the future of Fiji.”*

**Leaving no one behind**

Tavenisa Luika  
IW R2R Project Manager  
FIJI

#PacificR2R  
#WWD2019  
#Water4All





*“The IW R2R project employs a community-to-cabinet approach to natural resource management. From mobilizing communities to care for Tagabe river health to regulating development activity within the catchment, we are connecting people with nature for sustainable livelihoods and development.”*

**Leaving no one behind**

Erickson Packett  
IW R2R Project Manager  
VANUATU

#PacificR2R  
#WWD2019  
#Water4All





*“To ensure access to safe water for everyone in Tonga, the IW R2R project is working with communities to develop an Integrated Water & Coastal Management Plan for the sustainable management of our scarce natural resources.”*

**Leaving no one behind**

Silia Lager  
IW R2R Project Manager  
TONGA

#PacificR2R  
#WWD2019  
#Water4All





*“To ensure availability and sustainable management of water for all, IW R2R Palau continues to empower local communities to engage in participatory water quality monitoring through the Melekeok Conservation Network (MCN) so that they may establish a long term water quality monitoring program that will be longlasting beyond the project life.”*

**Leaving no one behind**

Leena Muller  
IW R2R Project Manager  
PALAU

#PacificR2R  
#WWD2019  
#Water4All




- ❑ Commissioned consultant to determine options for mainstreaming R2R in the Pacific. A simple guide will be developed as an output of this consultancy.
- ❑ **Strategic Action Plans (SAP)** will proceed once the RapCA and IDAs are completed.
- ❑ **Regional Strategic Framework (SAF)** will also proceed once the SAP from the pilot countries are in place.
- ❑ **State of Coasts reports (SoC)** will proceed in accordance with the S2P Theory of Change.



# Future Opportunities & Directions

- **Technical & innovative technologies & related measures mainstreaming R2R** concept across water, forest and coastal areas
- **Resource governance dimensions mainstreaming R2R** aligned with community to cabinet approach
- **IDA/SoC/SAF/SAP process** and formulations to access and leverage funding support (GEF-8, EU and others), building on previous consultations, frameworks and policies (e.g. SPREP SAP, 1997)
- **Strategic areas** to consider in next phase (see para. 14 & 15)

# Suggested Way Forward

- **Option 1** – support for next phase of R2R investment (current, testing)
- **Option 2** – support for next phase of R2R investments (streamlined, replication & upscaling)
- **Option 3** – support for next phase of R2R investments (use own GEF STAR allocations)
- **Option 4** – No support, case closed.



**Comp 1** National demonstrations

**Comp 2** Strengthening capacities for R2R

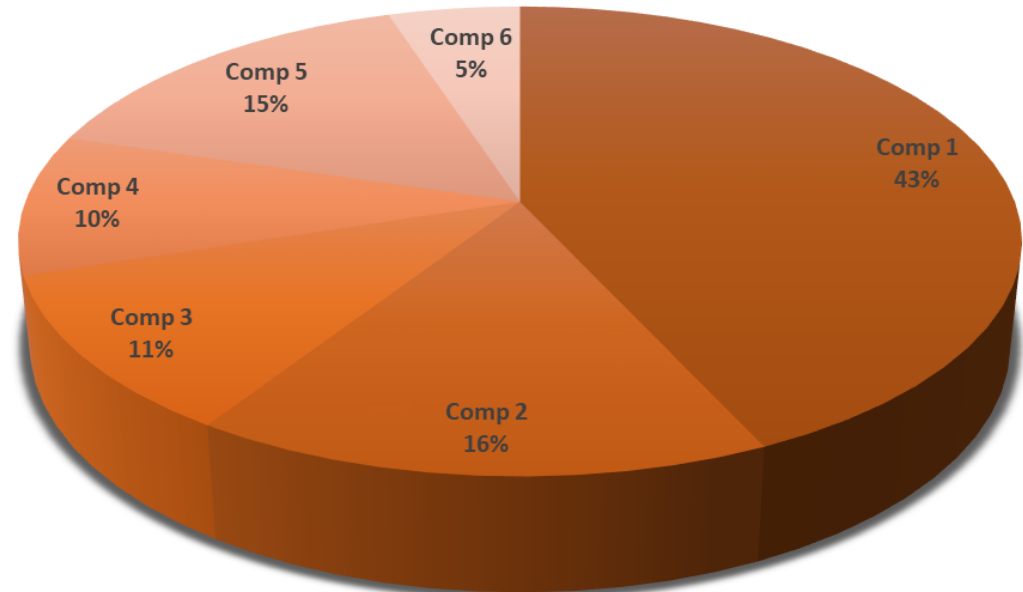
**Comp 3** R2R mainstreaming

**Comp 4** Adaptive management, M&E, KM and Communications

**Comp 5** R2R coordination

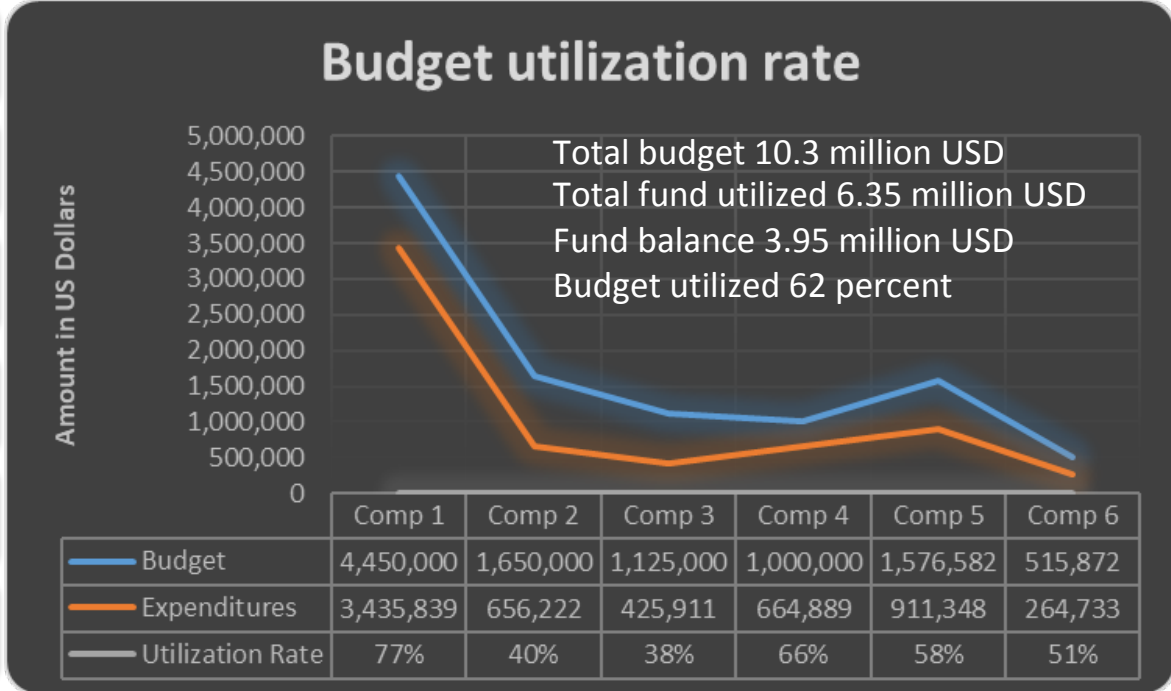
**Comp 6** Program management

Budget share per component



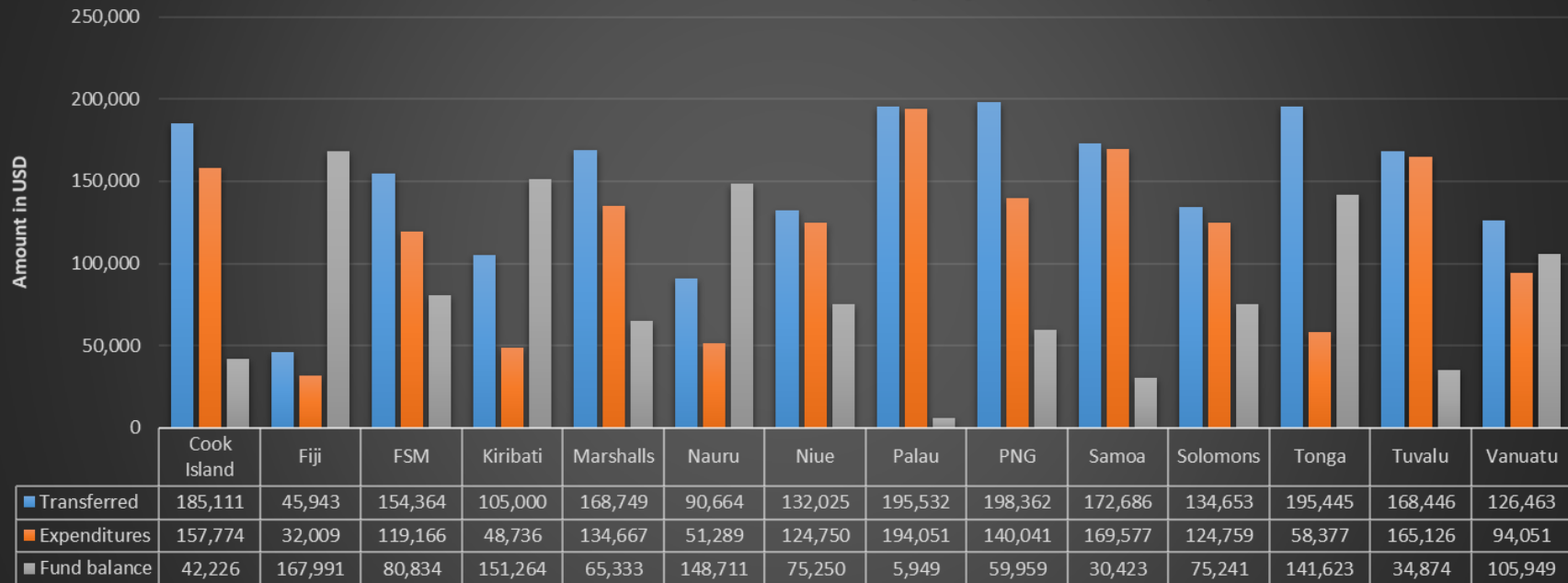


- Comp 1** National demonstrations
- Comp 2** Strengthening capacities
- Comp 3** R2R mainstreaming
- Comp 4** Adaptive mgt, M&E, KM and Communications
- Comp 5** R2R coordination
- Comp 6** Program management

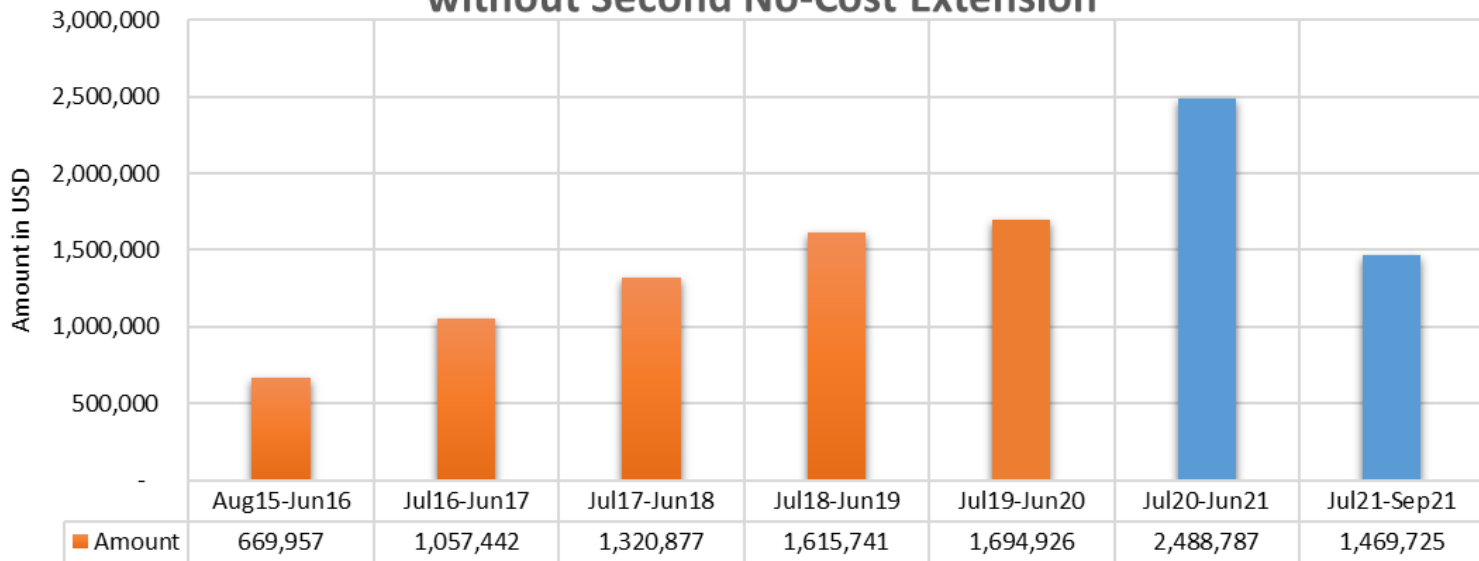




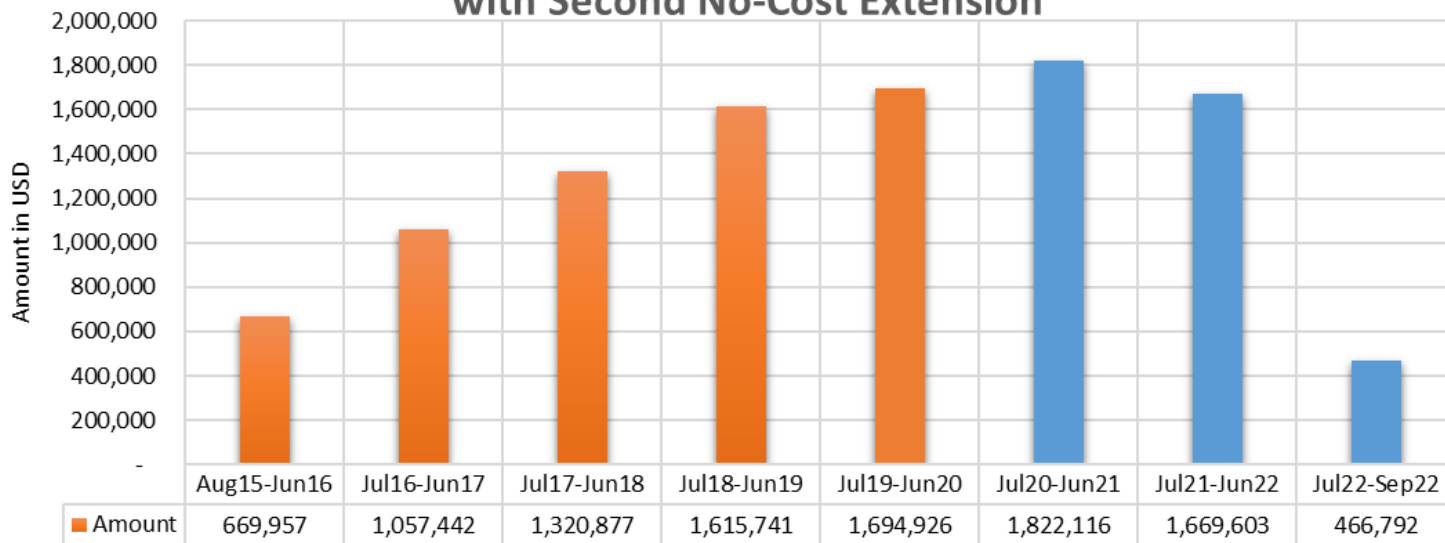
### Financial status of the national IW R2R projects, as of Sept. 30, 2020



### Expenditures and forecasts without Second No-Cost Extension



### Expenditures and forecasts with Second No-Cost Extension





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# VINAKA THANK YOU VERY MUCH

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**Photo credits**

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**Layout**

Navneet Lal, Graphics and multimedia assistant  
Template: Shaleh Antonio, CCMEA

**References:**

Regional IW R2R Project - Project Document  
Reports of the National demonstration projects  
Other project reports...

