



Pacific R2R Programme Workshop

Most Significant Change

The GEF Pacific IW R2R Project - FSM



Name of Person recording story	Trenton Skilling, Intern - KCSO
Name of storyteller	Presley P. Abraham, Mayor – LTG
Date of Recording	19 th of July

Community is Aware Now

My name is Presley Abraham, the new Mayor of the Lelu Town Government, starting from January 2019. I used to work as a Project Coordinator for Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority (KIRMA) which takes is deeply involved in the start-up of the R2R Program – both the STAR project and the IW project in Kosrae.

The R2R Program started just a few years ago. During my time with KIRMA, I have experienced and noticed some changes since the start of the projects. A couple years before, we hadn't done any R2R projects, so since it started, we realized some changes that occurred in this project.

One of the main changes I've noticed is the water quality. At the state level, We have conducted several water tests to our rivers, and also to some recreational areas within the state. Data indicates that some areas have very polluted water.

Although there are no such developments to the water quality, we realized that through the information passed and efforts done by the R2R Program in Kosrae, our people are starting to be very aware of controlling and maintaining water quality and conditions at the ground level.

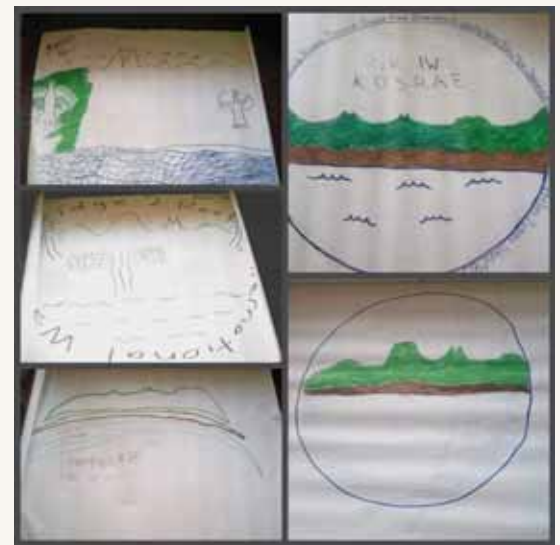
The significant change is evident not in the water system but in the knowledge and awareness of the people regarding water quality and how to make the water condition much better.



Current Pig Pens used by Kosraean farmers - Pig Pens along the Mutunnena Channel

I've chosen this significant change because I'm aware of the efforts the R2R Program is doing. More specifically the piggery projects that have started in Kosrae. I know that there will be actions done, and there will be changes and improvement in the water quality after the projects have been implemented.

Thank you for this chance to share my views and experience with the R2R Program. I will also try my best to improve at the community level, to develop the sustainability of the environment, working together with the R2R Program. Thank you.



7th graders from all over Kosrae draw LOGOS they think is most appropriate for the FSM IW - R2R Project Piloted in Kosrae