



# 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	Kalisto Kwaru
Date of recording	19 <sup>th</sup> of June 2019

## Changing phase



Kalisto Kwaru

I came to know about the Ridge to Reef programme in 2017 through an invitation from the Ministry of Environment because the project site was located at Mataniko River Catchment. Since the establishing of Ridge to Reef program in our community through educational awareness and support, my community has benefited most from this project. I was a committee member in this community, and all we do is we organised ourselves during Christmas holidays for sporting activities.

After the inception program for the Ridge to Reef project, we put together a proposal to support for clean up and other activities such as educational awareness and sports in which was funded through the Ridge to Reef project as a community activity.

The tree planting programme was another, our community began to fully realize the importance of trees in our community. After the April 11th 2011 flooding we have seen that it claims several lives because trees have been cut down at the river bank and destroy homes. Through my community participating in tree planting organised by the Ridge to Reef project, our people started to see the importance of trees in community. Before we cut down trees for firewood and other materials for our homes now we put to stop because it helps us from flooding and the way we see trees are now different after the tree planting program. In addition, we believe that we will enjoy the greenish again although it will take several years to grow. We really appreciate the tree planting programme and our children are educated to respect trees in our community by every morning they watered those trees in the zones which the trees are planted.

I see Ridge to Reef project as a project that has assisted us and through our strengthened relationship fostered during the start of the project, we seen a lot of changes occurred in our community. We were able to work together as community and restore respect from other neighbouring communities.



National Project Manager of GEF/SPC IW Ridge to Reef Solomon Islands Project together with Ministry of Environment representative handing over hardware tools to Tuaruhu Community committee members for the community clean-up programme.