



IOM MICRONESIA

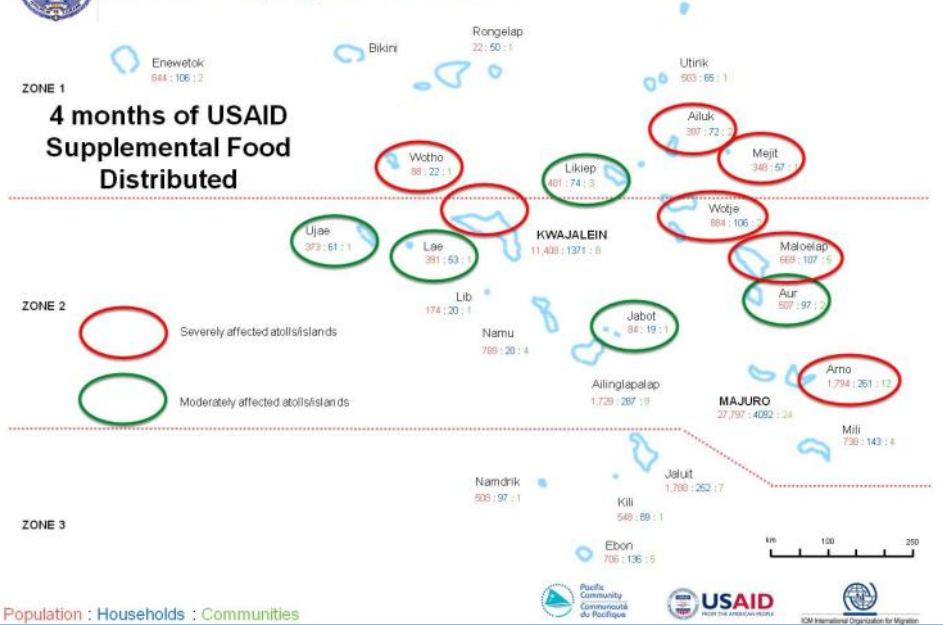
Republic of the Marshall Islands

El Nino Drought Response

SITUATION REPORT #10 • 7 November 2016



RMI Geographical Zones



Supplemental Food Assistance and Non Food Item Distribution
© IOM 2016 (IOM Majuro)

New Zealand Embassy Supports Rainwater Harvesting Improvement Project in Kabin Meto (Ujae, Lae, Wotho)

Through generous donations from the New Zealand Embassy, and in coordination with the Office of the Chief Secretary, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Rainwater Harvesting Improvement Program (RWHIP) is near completion. The overall objective of the RWHIP is to improve and expand the use of rainwater harvesting systems in order to provide relief to households during times of drought while also providing a long-term, sustainable source of water collection that extends beyond times of disaster. During prolonged periods of drought there is a common misconception that there is no rain at all. This is not true as there is often some rain—though at rates that are well below average. It is rare for a location in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) to have no rainfall for one month or more. It is for this reason that the RMI WASH Cluster has decided to create and implement the RWHIP. The Program is part of a well rounded and holistic approach to ensuring that vulnerable communities have access to water at all times—including during periods of drought.

The 3 RWHIP teams were composed of staff from IOM, Volunteers from the Marshall Islands Red Cross Society (MIRCS), staff from Ministry of Public Works and local community members. Teams are wrapping up final installations and returning to Majuro to debrief. Households that received support were chosen by the community on a needs basis and tailoring assistant to individual households was delivered. IOM thanks all of its partners for taking part in the RWHIP!



Improvements in progress
© IOM 2016 (IOM Majuro)



Home prior to rainwater harvesting improvements
© IOM 2016 (IOM Majuro)



Improvements in progress
© IOM 2016 (IOM Majuro)

CONTACTS

IOM Micronesia

✉ micronesiaenquiries@iom.int

☎ +691 320 8735

🌐 www.iom.int

IOM RESPONSE



Supplemental Food Assistance

Four months of supplemental food assistance have been successfully distributed to all severe and moderately affected atolls/islands covering the period of July—October 2016. An additional 3 months of supplemental food assistance, purchased and delivered to port in Majuro by Food and Nutrition Services of the United States Department of Agriculture, will be distributed by IOM in November to the severely affected atolls/islands: Arno (Rearlaplap), Maloelap, Wotje, Mejit, Ailuk, Wotho, Ebadon and Enibuj.



Non-Food Items RO Unit Handover

As part of the 2016 El Nino Induced Drought Response Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has provided emergency response funding that supported WASH promotion across the affected communities in the RMI and the procurement of reverse osmosis (RO) units to produce up to 800 gallons of safe drinking water per day for three outer island schools: Jaluit High School, Wotje High School, and Guegegue (Kwajalein Atoll High School).



RO Unit Handover in Jaluit Atoll © IOM 2016 (Photo: IOM Majuro)

On October 22, a delegation from Majuro was hosted in Jaluit High School (Jabor, Jaluit) to formally hand over the RO units. Those in attendance included Hon. Senator Nemra, Chief Secretary Langidrik, Nitijela Clerk, Postmaster General, Public School System (PSS) Associate Commissioner Paul, IOM, Ministry of Public Works, media representatives, Jaluit High School, and the greater Jaluit community.

The handover event included the signing of a Deed of Donation between IOM and the Office of the Chief Secretary, officially donating all three units to the Government of the RMI. The ceremony also included the ratification of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Office of the Chief Secretary and the PSS, establishing PSS

ownership and responsibility for the use, care, and maintenance of the three RO units.

Of note during the event was the lively attendance of Jaluit community members—particularly representatives from the student government body of Jaluit High School. Donations from DFAT also included key tools and spare parts that will support the maintenance for 18 months. The unit will be powered from petrol-run pumps that already exist on the

"We, the leadership, people of Jaluit and high school students, are very grateful for this generous gift from the people and Government of Australia in close partnership with IOM and RMI. To show our deep appreciation, it is incumbent upon us now to ensure this RO machine is well utilized and maintained properly for many years to come." - Senator Casten Nemra

island and which are operated by Marshalls Energy Company (MEC). To complement the donation of the RO units, IOM, FCI Water Makers, and the New Zealand Red Cross Facilitated a series of trainings on the set-up, operation and maintenance of 800 gallon per day RO units in June of 2016. Participants included staff from Majuro Water and Sewer Company (MWSC), and most importantly, school and power plant representatives from the respective islands receiving RO units in order to ensure the continued and efficient maintenance the RO units.

WASH Promotion in High Schools

The IOM Emergency Response team partnered with the IOM Climate Adaptation Disaster Risk Reduction and Education (CADRE) Plus team to conduct a WASH during Times of Disaster Contest open to all high schools in the RMI. The contest is three prong.

1. Best WASH Practices Poster Contest—9th and 10th grade
2. "My Drought Experience" Essay Contest—11th and 12th grade
3. "Water for Life" STEAM Contest— school wide.

The contest also included distribution of hand soap for school bathrooms. Winners will be announced November 18, 2016.



WASH promotion high school contest and support © IOM 2016 (Photo: IOM Majuro)

IOM's activities are funded by and conducted in partnership with the following Organizations:



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

