

# Preliminary national diagnostic for environment statistics

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COUNTRY: REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

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## National vision

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Our national vision for sustainable development, biodiversity, green economy and ecosystems for Republic of the Marshall Islands is: A Resilient Marshall Islands to the impacts of climate change (RMI National Climate change Policy Framework, January 2011)



# Environmental concerns

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Saltwater intrusion to wells and impacts of prolonged drought to crops

Availability and quality of drinking water to meet WHO standards

Storm intensity, erosion, flooding

Impact of Coral bleaching to coral and subsistence fisheries

Changing rain patterns, air and sea temperature

Marine eco-system



# Policy priorities and tools

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Strengthen the enabling environment for climate change adaptation and mitigation including sustainable financing

Adaptation and reducing risks for a climate change resilient future

Energy security and low carbon future

Disaster preparedness, response and recovery

Building education and awareness

Food security



# Stakeholders and institutions

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**Stakeholders in environment sustainable development :** Chief Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Finance, Banking and Postal Services, Office of the Environmental Planning and Policy Coordination, Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce, Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority, Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of Health and Human Services, Ministry of Education, Economic Policy, Planning and Statistics Office (EPPSO), Women United together Marshall Islands, Marshall Islands NGOs, Marshall Islands Conservation Society, National Disaster Management Office

## **Role of the National Statistic office in environment statistics:**

The role of the National Statistic Office is monitoring and reporting on the National Strategic Plan and collects data from different Government Ministries/Agencies. It is the main data hub for the government

## **Mechanisms:**

National Disaster Committee, Coastal Management Advisory Council (CMAC), National Climate Change Committee, Water Task Force, TTE (Tile Til Eo)



# Data sources

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Economic Policy Planning and Statistics Office (EPPSO)

National Energy Office

Office of Environmental Policy Planning and Coordination

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Environmental Protection Authority

Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority



# Existing compilations

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RMI State of Environment Report 2016

Waste - Container Deposit Legislation passed by the Cabinet 2017

Ocean - RMI Remaanlok National Conservation Area Plan & National Oceanic Symposium Implementation Plan

- Symposium implementation plan identifies the agencies responsible for actions under the four themes (sustainable fisheries, climate change, marine pollution, coral reefs and marine protected areas).



# Priority environment data needs

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Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 1994

- Marine Water Quality Regulations 1992
- Marshall Islands Fisheries Regulations 1998
- Ozone Layer Protection Regulation 2004
  - Pesticides and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS) Regulations 2004
- Public Water Supply Regulations 1994
- Solid Waste Regulations 1989
- Toilet Facilities and Sewage Disposal Regulations 1990



# Constraints

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- Technical Capacity
  - Data development
  - Policies for data management needs to be in place
  - Data limitations
  - Inter governmental communications and coordination
  - Financial Resource
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# Opportunities: Priority Actions

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Strengthen availability and quality of water for WATSAN (water and sanitation) needs

Support outer islands through development and implementation of their resource management plans via Reimaanlok process

Strengthen Food security by supporting soil enrichment programs and targeting specialized species in each atoll/island

Enhancing Renewable Energy through solar and wind power



# Questions?

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Komoltata

