RESILIENCE LEARNING MONTH EVENT Focus Group Discussion (FGD) on Climate Finance Tracking and Paris Agreement Alignment

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Marshall Islands: Integrated Urban Services Improvement Project

FGD on Climate Finance Tracking and Paris Agreement Alignment 25 November 2021

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Majuro

AND

71010

Source: ABC News. 21 Dec 2018

What is the project about

- **Country** RMI consists of low-lying atoll islands in the northern Pacific. Majuro is the country's capital and most populous atoll
- **Outcome -** Efficiency, accessibility, climate resilience, and sustainability of safe water, sanitation, and integrated SWM services improved

Outputs

- Output 1: Climate resilient, reliable, and low carbon footprint urban water supply infrastructure developed (to be financed by ADF 13 thematic pool for CCA)
- Output 2: Effective, efficient, and safe urban water supply and sanitation services provided.
- Output 3: Integrated and sustainable solid waste management developed
- Output 4: Institutional capacity and financial sustainability of MWSC and MAWC strengthened
- Output 5: Road pavements on Ebeye rehabilitated and climate proofed

The Low-Lying Atoll Facing Sea Level Rise

1.5 M.A.

Source: Over 200 evacuate as ocean swells flood Majuro Atoll | RNZ News. 29 November 2019

More Frequent and Severe Droughts

Source: Marshall Islands State of Emergency Called | RNZ News. 4 February 2016

Key issues – water supply

The principal freshwater sources in Majuro

- Rainwater harvested from the airport runway
- A large number of individual rooftop collectors
- Ground freshwater lenses

The major climate change impacts in Majuro

- Droughts
- Sea swells, high tides, storms
- Sea level rise



Address the issues – water supply investments for climate change adaptation

(i) Diversification of WS sources through installation of desalination plants

The plants' energy will be offset by energy produced by solar PV systems, saving diesel generation costs and avoiding CO_2 emissions over the period of operation

(ii) Enhancement of the rainwater catchment at the airport

The project will increase the rainwater yield from the runway catchment by sealing the runway shoulders



Dump Site in Majuro



Key Issues – SMW

- The design capacity of the current dump site has been far exceeded
- Solid waste is piled high and could collapse in the ocean at any time
- Limited land available for a new dump site

Address the issues – SWM investments for climate change adaptation

- Construction and operation of a high-temperature incinerator including O&M contract
- Improvement of the dump site (strengthening a sea wall)



Alignment with Goals of Paris Agreement

 The project activities are mostly included in ADB clarified universally aligned activities list

Questions

- "Desalination plants need to go through specific assessment"
- Waste management and waste-to-energy projects that demonstrably reduce methane emissions and/or generate energy" in in the list of candidate urban activities for universally aligned list
- Sustainability of project outcome in Pacific DMCs

