

## Project Spotlight

### for Grants and Interagency Agreements, Office of Global Change

**Directions:** Please complete, at minimum, one form for each semi-annual report. Add spaces to the sections, as necessary, in order to provide a full response.

In spotlighting an activity or outcome of the project:

1. **Identify** the project activity
2. **Explain** how the activity is furthering the goals of the program;
3. **Describe** how the project activity has positively impacted , made positive difference for people on the ground;
  - a. utilize numbers (i.e., number of people impacted, number of local governments support, number of persons in attendance, number of people impacted by the policy developed, etc.),
  - b. include photos of or quotes from beneficiaries
  - c. Include corresponding documentation (i.e., brochure, website, curriculum material, a copy of the policy, etc.) .

## Project Spotlight

### 1. Identify/describe the project activity or outcome.

#### EbA Implementation: Taro Coastal Tree Planting

The students took time out from their normal class to plant trees along the coast and within Taro Island and learn about climate change and undertook coastal planting in 3 zones as shown below.



Other organizations and partners of the Choiseul Integrated Climate Change Programme also took time out to plant trees with the students. These include SPC-GIZ, Youth at work, the Choiseul provincial government, LLCTC and representative of the Ministry of Environment.

The ministry of forests Director of Herbarium Mr. Myknee Sirikolo was the lead technical officer with support from the SPREP EbA officer in Solomon Islands Mr. Fred Siho Patison.

The students and partners who participated in the coastal tree planting activity were able to learn about the importance of using natural solution as a measure to reduce climate change impacts and also the importance of preserving and maintaining important coastal ecosystems.

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Choiseul Deputy Provincial Secretary: Geoffrey Pakipota planting the first tree and witnessed by SPREP officer and MECDM representative.

**2. Explain how the activity furthers the goal of the project/program or how the outcome indicates the program goals are being achieved.**

The coastal replanting activity for taro contributed to the overarching goal of increasing the ability of taro island to adapt to climate change and to reduce the risk of natural disasters. In addition is the participation of young schools students that bring awareness and a long term appreciation of using natural solution to address the impacts of climate change.



The activity also brought together the stakeholders of Choiseul bay to collaborate and partner in strengthening the resilience of Taro coastal ecosystem.

Given that this is an EbA demonstrations site for Choiseul, communities will be encourage to replicate and up-scale coastal tree planting as a cost-effective adaptation option and disaster

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risk interventions. The focus on ecosystem health also promotes the importance of maintain coastal ecosystems to reduce vulnerabilities of communities and their coastal infrastructure and that the integrated approach will be fully realized.

**3. Describe how the project activity or outcome achieved has positively impacted, made a difference for people on the ground? Be descriptive, utilize numbers to represent magnitude or reach of the activity or outcome, provide corresponding documentation, and photos, as applicable.**

More than 35 standard 6 students of Taro Primary School participate in the SPREP-USAID Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) Project to plant over 120 Trees on taro Island.



Above: All students and partners involved in the EbA tree planting activity

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Taro Island is the provincial center for Choiseul province and has a population of over 1000 people. It is the main hub for business activities, location for hospital referrals, main airport and other major gatherings for all communities around the province. The implication for the current coastal tree planting and rehabilitation is that the resilience of major infrastructures for businesses, transport, medical and livelihood is further strengthen by enhancing the coastal ecosystem. Another important outcome is level of awareness that the activity created for the whole Taro Island residents and those visiting from communities around Choiseul.

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