



# Climate Change Adaptation and Income Diversification in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

## Description

### Objectives

Reduce the vulnerabilities associated with [climate.change](#) faced by Pohnpei's coastal communities through sustainable small-scale aquaculture ventures, fishery management [capacity.building](#), and shoreline resiliency improvement.

### Project Summary

It is predicted that increases in surface air and sea temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, [ocean.acidification](#), and sea level rise will lead to a 40-percent decrease in coral cover and a 65-percent decrease in fish abundance and diversity in the Pacific Islands by 2100. Already, the increasing pressure on inshore [fisheries](#) has led to perceived declines in fish stocks and [food.security](#) concerns. According to a 2013 [World.Bank](#) report, the [Federated.States.of.Micronesia](#) (FSM) ranked 150 out of 185 nations in ease of doing business, one of the lowest in the Pacific. On Pohnpei Island, the lack of income-earning opportunities for its population of 35,000 has relegated most coastal communities to a semi-subsistence lifestyle dependent on fishing.

With a grant from USAID's Pacific-American [Climate](#) Fund (PACAM), the Marine and Environmental [Research](#) Institute of Pohnpei (MERIP) is increasing the resilience of communities to the impacts of [climate.change](#) by working with coastal rural communities that support protected areas to start small-scale aquaculture ventures. These include the farming of giant clams, sponges and coral-- highly sustainable activities, well-established within the region-- and the farming of rabbitfish as a new source of income for Pohnpei and an alternative food supply.

The PACAM-funded project also strengthens local fishery management capacity through workshops and community meetings that focus on key management issues such as the catching of undersized or immature fish, Marine Protected Area (MPA) [compliance](#), and [climate.change](#) impacts. Pilot projects will be implemented in coastal communities to improve knowledge of sustainable mangrove management and of the effects of land-based activities on [water](#) quality and coral [health](#).

See project factsheet for full details.

Project Status [Completed](#)

Duration 36 months

Project Type [Capacity Building](#)

Total Funding	343,590
Donor Currency	USD
Project Scope	Community

#### Related Documents

[Climate Change Adaptation and Income Diversification in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia Factsheet](#)

#### Project Sites

? Submitted by [makelesig@sprep.org](mailto:makelesig@sprep.org) on Mon, 06/02/2017 - 14:33

#### Implementing Countries

[Federated States of Micronesia](#)

#### Project Donor(s)

[Pacific-American Climate Fund](#)  
- Funding Amount: USD 343,590

### Donor Contact(s)

Peter Collier  
Sharon Gulick

### Implementing Organisation(s)

Marine and Environmental Research Institute of Pohnpei (MERIP)

### Implementing Organisation Contact(s)

Simon Ellis

### Topics

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing  
Fisheries  
Climate Change  
Adaptation  
Ocean acidification  
Meteorology and Weather  
Climate  
Tides

### Focus Area

Sustainability  
Community-based approach  
Capacity building

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