



**RAROTONGA WATERTANK SUBSIDY
PROJECT – *A mechanism for public / private
partnership***

Funding and Criteria

Scheme funded by Cook Islands Government - \$3M over 3 years (2013 to 2015)

1. Budget based on the fact that (of the 3000 homes on Rarotonga) approximately 2000 were located within water problematic areas. This area was from the West (Arorangi area) through the North (Township) to the East (Muri area) of Rarotonga.
2. Scheme provided a \$1,500.00 subsidy to purchase and install a 6,000 litre plastic water tank (plus pipes, tap fittings and installation). This would normally cost approximately \$2000.00. Approved homeowners would pay \$500.00 to their preferred supplier for this basic package.
3. Extra's would include and cost;
 - ✓ An electric water pump (housing included) cost approximately \$400.00
 - ✓ Concrete base for tank (2.2m X 2.2m 0.15) cost approximately \$300.00

Scheme criteria

1. Occupied domestic residential dwellings in Rarotonga which currently don't have a water tank. (minimum capacity 6,000 litres)
2. Cook Islands Investment Corporation - Government employment rental accommodation which don't currently have a water tank.
3. Non Profit/Non Government Organisation (NGO) headquarters which don't currently have a water tank.
4. New Domestic dwellings which are under construction and which do not have a water tank where construction will be completed within 3 months of the subsidy approval date.
5. Property owners with multiple properties will be allowed to make an application for each property on the basis that dwellings being rented for profit or gain will be exempt. Each application will be assessed independently and not as a bulk approval.
6. All parties will be required to complete an Application Form to determine eligibility and priority in terms of need.
7. Subsidies will NOT be available to property owners who have installed tanks at their own cost in the period leading up to the launch of this program.

Arrangements & Statistics

Operational arrangements

1. Homeowner would complete an application and file this with their preferred supplier.
2. The supplier would refer all applications to MFEM for checks and approval
3. Project Manager would visit the homeowner to assess the site
4. Upon application approval the supplier would enter into some financial arrangement with the homeowner before delivery and installation
5. Upon completion of the installation the supplier would advise MFEM at which a check of the work will be done and the supplier paid the subsidised amount.
6. The supplier will continue to follow up with the homeowner the remainder of any funds owing to them.

Statistics to date

1. Commenced - May 2013
2. By end 2014 – 1575 installed tanks installed
3. Another 162 applications approved
4. By end 2015 – Targeting 2000 tanks

Lessons learned

- **Partnerships** – Encouraged involvement
- **Management** – Encouraged partners to have a role in managing certain parts of the project
- **Administration costs** - Minimised
- **Communications** – between partners crucial to the success of the project. Also between beneficiaries. Project awareness raised through the suppliers (included adverts in newspaper, TV adverts and Road signs)
- **Contribution** – Encouraged contribution from Private sector and beneficiaries
- **Pride & Ownership** – Fostered ownership as owners instilled pride in their tanks.
- **Project timelines** – Delivery efficiency
- **Implementation:** Driven by all partners

- **Resistance to Change:** Contributions (beneficiaries not meeting repayment timelines with suppliers). Other water projects not taking on board the same model for various reasons.
- **Rainwater harvesting:** Not included in the package



Introduction

- Global Climate Change Alliance: Pacific Small Island States Project.
- Funded by the European Union
- Implemented regionally by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
- The purpose of the project is to promote long-term strategies and approaches to adaptation planning and **pave the way for more effective and coordinated aid delivery to address climate change at the national** and regional level.

LFA training - Perspective of the SRIC-CC Programme

- 10 Pa Enuu members from within the SRIC-CC Programme attended the training (Focal Points)
- Prior to the LFA training, 2 members had received some formal training in project proposal writing
- Objectives of the training aligned well with our plans for FP capacity development;
 - Introduction to the logical framework approach
 - Background on the project management cycle
 - Introduction to monitoring and evaluation
 - Proposal writing (informed by the logical framework approach)
 - Introduction to climate change donors in the Pacific region

Feedback & Lessons learned

Post training;

- All learnt something new
- All found the training methodologies effective (participatory)
- Within two months, I had received 10 proposals. 4 were well written and went on to approval. 4 were concepts and required more work in consultations. 2 proposal writers required me to sit with them and go through the LFA in the Maori language. All 10 proposals have since been approved. Today we are managing 38 different projects.
- All wanted to run a refresher training.

Lessons learned;

- Managers should set requirements for reps participating in the training.
- Confidence in community consultations (including meetings with community leaders) strengthened
- Members were able to strategically plan well to address issues and changing situations on the ground
- Participatory discussions increased amongst our members
- Run refresher training within two years after the initial training