

FAST FACTS

United Nations
Development Programme



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Action for the Development of Marshall Islands Renewable Energies

The Republic of the Marshall Islands consists of 29 atolls and five coral islands spreading across a sea area of over 1.9 million square kilometers. 53,158 people (2011 Census) reside on 24 atolls and islands.



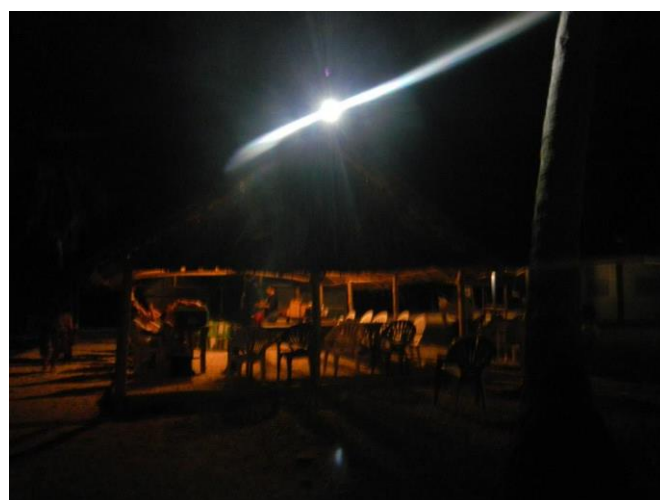
Lagoon in the Marshall Islands.

The Marshall Islands is currently heavily dependent on imported fossil fuels for its energy supply, with petroleum accounting for more than 85% of the country's commercial energy consumption. The Government is keen to increase country's solar energy generation capacity, building on its initial installation of about 1,300-1,400 stand-alone photovoltaic systems in outer atoll households with support from various donors.

With the objective of assisting Marshall Islands to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from unsustainable uses of fossil fuels through the utilization of the country's renewable energy resources, the ADMIRE project was started in 2008, funded by the Global

Environment Facility and implemented through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Enabling more activities with more lights



Meetings are organized under a light at Council House on Maloelap Atoll.

One thousand two hundred and twenty one (1,221) solar home systems have been installed in the outer atolls of Jaluit, Namdrik, Ujae, Kwajalein Ailuk, Utrik, Maloelap, Namu, Lib and Lae. Another 116 solar photovoltaic streetlights have been installed in Rita, Majuro and 78 (13 sets) solar PV lights for basketball courts in Majuro, Ebon, Jaluit, Namdrik, Mili, Maloelap and Ailuk.

Eight individuals received technical training on solar home systems in Majuro and a further 150 individuals from the six atolls have been trained on installation and preventive maintenance of solar home systems. ADMIRE also assisted with funds to produce the end-user guide and other materials and also charter the vessels needed to deliver and install the solar home systems to the outer atolls.

Communities experiencing this technology for the first time are enjoying the benefits of these systems

with better cooking facilities, more hours to produce handicrafts for the women, and time for studies and socialization for children.

Promoting renewable energy by promoting local products

ADMIRE piloted a financing scheme with development partners to support local produce and promote renewable energy. The programme enabled people in Arno atoll to pay for electricity generated by renewable energy by trading *kili* bags (handicrafts) and copra produced by the communities through a women's group.

Renewable energy awareness is high at all level



A school on Maloelap Atoll now has solar power.

Working closely with other development and government partners, targeting Marshallese in the minor atolls, ADMIRE has been able to reach Marshallese with various awareness programmes on renewable energy.

ADMIRE targeted youth and supported the Summer Energy Science Camp organized in 2012 by the University of the South Pacific, where 50 youth participants from Majuro discussed renewable energy solutions. The topic of renewable energy has also been developed to be included in the high school curriculum.

Awareness raising efforts were made in collaboration with various groups and events. These succeeded in reaching out to a wider range of people in Marshall

Islands, including national women's conferences, Women United Together in the Marshall Islands (WUTMI) at the Marshall Islands National Women's Day event as well as the Mayor's Conference, the Youth to Youth in Health event and at the Council of Iroij (Chiefs).

Awareness tools such as brochures were produced, translated into the vernacular language and distributed in the outer islands. Information on renewable energy was also spread regularly through a weekly radio programme.

People in the Marshall Islands are becoming more and more aware of the technology and the changes it brings to their families and communities.

- 1,221 solar home systems have been installed in six atolls.
- 150 individuals from outer atolls have been trained on installation and preventive maintenance of solar home systems.
- 116 solar photovoltaic streetlights and 78 (13 sets) solar photovoltaic lights for basketball courts have been installed.
- Project total budget 975,000 funded by the Global Environment Facility.

For more information, please contact:

Winifereti Nainoca, UNDP Sustainable Development Pathways Team Leader, winifereti.nainoca@undp.org

United Nations Development Programme

Levels 8, Kadavu House
414 Victoria Parade, Private Mail Bag
Suva, Fiji Islands
Ph: +679 3312500
www.fj.undp.org



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