

TOKELAU

Managing Water Scarcity through
Strengthened Water Resources Project

OCTOBER 2023 UPDATE

Background

The Water Scarcity project was launched in June 2020 by SPC and MFAT with the participating atoll countries of the Cook Islands, Kiribati, the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Tokelau and Tuvalu. More recently the raised limestone islands of Nauru, Niue and Tonga joined the project in response to ongoing water scarcity issues experienced.

The project was conceived with a vision to support the development of sustainable and resilient water systems. It aims to address water-related challenges through integrated and community-driven approaches, empowering local communities to actively participate in the decision making process.

The implementation of country activities is being carried out through a mixture of implementation modalities including sub-recipient Grants, direct procurement and technical support from SPC's Geoscience, Energy and Maritime Division.

Activities Completed



Investment Plan

1



Tank repairs

193



Water asset
surveys

1



Awareness raising
events

3



Communities
benefiting (to
date)

3



Number of
people
benefiting (to
date)

1,111



Improved drinking
water storage
volume accessible
(litres) (to date)

520,000

Financial Snapshot

Total Budget (NZD)	\$608,000
Funds paid out	\$364,800
Funds acquitted	\$306,939 (50%)
Funds remaining	\$301,061 (50%)

Looking ahead

- Finalising grant extension until June 2024
- Undertake community tank repairs

2023 - 2024 Activity Overview

Tokelau is currently implementing activities from their second subsidiary country Grant Agreement with SPC with funding of NZD 608,000. The Department of Economic Development, Natural Resources & Environment (EDNRE) is leading the implementation of the Water Scarcity project in Tokelau.

The project primarily supports repairs to damaged and inadequate household and community rainwater harvesting systems on Fakaofu, Nukunonu and Atafu Islands.

The key activities include:

- Rehabilitate or repair water catchment/storage infrastructure
- Implement water monitoring systems and undertake assessments of water resources infrastructure
- Deliver training in water infrastructure maintenance and sustainable water use and management
- Develop leakage maintenance plan and deliver associated training of plumbers on sustaining water management systems.

The focus of the activities to date have been under 'Operation Raindrop' where the project team have been undertaking the repairs to household rainwater harvesting systems including gutters and spouting. The team has encountered significant delays with shipping of materials and logistics but have made good progress with repairs to 193 households completed to date.

During 2023-2024 the project team have now shifted their attention to completing repair works to concrete community and household storages now that the necessary materials have arrived in Tokelau from New Zealand. In addition the team will work on establishing the pilot monitoring water demand initiative, finalizing the survey of rain water harvesting infrastructure and development of training programs.

The team will continue to work closely with the Tuapulega (Island Council), NDMO, Meteorological Services, Island Governments and Ministry of Health to ensure the project outcomes are met.
