

Integrated WASH Resilience and Disaster Preparedness in Remote Atoll Schools and Communities

Pacific American Fund



Coordinated water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) planning, particularly at provincial and community levels, is key to empowering climate change-vulnerable communities. In Kiribati, Tuvalu, Tonga, and Vanuatu, existing WASH systems are difficult to maintain, and many schools and healthcare centers lack sufficient WASH facilities. Furthermore, women and girls are left out of WASH planning, and their needs are not considered part of programming.

With the support of USAID's Pacific American Fund, Live & Learn Environmental Education (LLEE) aims to strengthen WASH resilience by supporting institutions and communities to identify their risks and needs more accurately. This will help them to develop, implement an sustain inclusive and sustainable WASH planning.

Location: Kiribati, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Timeline: September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025.

OBJECTIVES

- Resilient, safe, inclusive, and coordinated WASH services and practices for schools, healthcare facilities and communities, established
- Improved understanding of gender and social inclusion (GESI) in WASH contributing to changed behavior responses in schools, healthcare facilities and communities resulting in more equitable WASH roles and decision making
- Evidence of effective, inclusive, gender-responsive, and resilient WASH generated and shared, resulting in uptake of approaches by stakeholders.



ABOUT THE PACIFIC AMERICAN FUND

USAID's Pacific American Fund is a US \$35 million five-year grant facility that addresses critical development challenges across 12 Pacific Island Countries. The Fund awards grants on an open and competitive basis to qualifying local, national, and internationally operating civil society organizations.

Activities

- **Community Engagement:** Through community engagement with provincial government leaders and local communities, LLEE will better understand existing WASH system strengths and weaknesses.
- **Contextualizing Expertise:** LLEE will leverage and contextualize existing best-in-class toolkits and resources from UNICEF and the World Health Organization, including the Drinking Water Safety & Security Plans for communities, the Three-Star Approach for schools, and the WASH Facility Improvement Tool for healthcare facilities.
- **Empowering Women:** LLEE will integrate women into WASH planning and decision-making processes to ensure systems are inclusive and effective.
- **Preparing Communities:** LLEE will train and prepare local leaders and practitioners on resilient WASH development practices.
- **Generating Learning:** LLEE will carefully assess what works and what doesn't throughout this activity lifecycle to scale what works among local organizations and community stakeholders.



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The project seeks to strengthen and inform climate-resilient WASH systems and improve WASH service levels to achieve improved quality of life impact in 135 communities, 90 schools and 18 health centers in Kiribati, Tuvalu, Tonga, Vanuatu. This activity will directly benefit 11,172 children and 2,900 households. Additionally, two crosscutting themes of gender and social inclusion and knowledge and learning will contribute to greater impact and sustainability.