**Module 6 – Projects /2**

**PROJECT SCREENING**

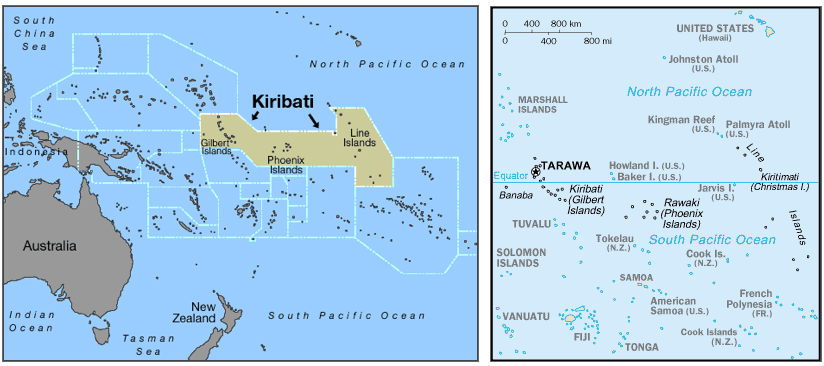
**Introduction**

During the identification phase all projects should be screened to determine their potential impact on the environment and for exposure and sensitivity to climate change. For impact the screening process will determine if an Environmental Impact Assessment is required or if other actions are needed during the formulation phase. For climate change, screening will help identify the degree of climate-related risk the project is subject to and how to respond to these during formulation. Screening may also identify ‘opportunities’ to improve the project and the sustainability of its outcomes.

**Instructions**

Rapidly review the information below. General background information an illustrative photo and map are provided for Kiribati in the Pacific followed by details on a Water Supply and Sanitation Project.

Then use Annex 7 in the Guidelines to screen this project. The results of the screening process should be recorded in the form given in Part 3, page 49 of Annex 7 which will be annexed to the Project Identification Fiche.



**Background**

Kiribati (pronounced *KIRR-i-bas*), officially the Republic of Kiribati, is an island nation located in the central tropical Pacific Ocean. It is composed of 32 atolls and one raised coral island, dispersed over 3,500,000 square km straddling the equator, and bordering the International Date Line to the east. The name Kiribati is the local pronunciation of "Gilberts", derived from the main island chain, the Gilbert Islands. Kiribati became independent from the United Kingdom in 1979. It is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, the IMF and the World Bank, and became a full member of the United Nations in 1999.

Total land area is 811 sq km; this includes three island groups - Gilbert Islands, Line Islands, Phoenix Islands.

The total coastline is: 1,143 km.

**Climate**

Tropical; marine, hot and humid, moderated by trade winds.

**Demographics**

21 of the 33 islands are inhabited. The population is 112,850 (July 2009 est.).

**Economy**

Kiribati is one of the world's poorest countries. It has few natural resources. Commercially viable phosphate deposits were exhausted at the time of independence. Copra and fish now represent the bulk of production and exports. Tourism provides more than one-fifth of GDP.

In 1956 Kiribati established a sovereign wealth fund to act as a store of wealth for the country's earnings from phosphate mining.

Kiribati Water Supply and Sanitation Project

# Identification

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Title/Number | Water and Sanitation for Outer Islands (Phase I) / 2009/021-182 | | |
|  | Total cost | EC contribution *:* 3.950M€ *(31% of IP)* | | |
|  | Aid method / Method of implementation | Project approach *–* Decentralised management | | |
|  | DAC-code | 14030 | Sector | Basic Water Supply and Basic Sanitation |

# Rationale

## Sector context

Kiribati National Water Resources Policy 2009 (NWRP) and its accompanying 10 year National Water Resources Implementation Plan (NWRIP) are Cabinet responses to wide-spread community concerns about the availability and quality of freshwater raised in consultations throughout the Gilbert Group of islands in 2003-5. The World Health Organisation identifies infant mortalities due to water-borne diseases as extremely high in Kiribati. This project is a direct response to the NWRP priorities.

The NWRP was built on previous decisions and initiatives, including the Cabinet decision in 2004 to make all outer island water supplies sustainable. It complements the Kiribati Development Plan (KDP) 2008-11 and the 1977 Public Utilities Ordinance and is relevant to the Government’s (GoK) policies on developing Growth Centres in atolls beyond Tarawa (1994) and on Adaptation to Climate Change (2005). The latter is apposite given the predicted impacts of sea-level rise on land area and fresh groundwater availability.

The vital roles of women, commerce, local government, non-government organisations (NGOs) and churches in water are recognised in the NWRP, which specifies that these groups all have a responsibility for ensuring implementation of policy. The NWRP is an integrated approach to water management, and states that implementation will be overseen by the multi-agency National Water and Sanitation Coordination Committee (NWSCC) which reports through the Ministry of Public Works and Utilities (MPWU) directly to Cabinet. The NWRP recognises safe water and sanitation practices are intimately linked and foreshadows the development of complementary national sanitation policy.

## Lessons learnt

Kiribati has over 30 years experience in major donor-funded water and sewerage projects including: the Australian International Assistance Bureau’s Tarawa Water and Sewerage Project (1978-86) ; the UNDP Integrated Atoll Development Program (1987) ; the UNDTCD Draft 10 Year Master Plan (1992) ; the UNDP/UNCDF-OICWSP (1990-5) Outer Island (OI) Water Supply Project in the Gilbert Group; the AusAID funded Kiritimati Water Supply and Sanitation Project (1997-2002); and the $US15 M ADB Tarawa-based Sanitation, Public Health and Environment Project (2000-2005). These projects, costing tens of millions of dollars, have had mixed and in many cases limited successes.

An extensive background review of these projects and other issues prior to the NWRP and NWRIP in 2008 concluded that the main challenges to the sustainability of outer island and rural water and sanitation systems are: lack of local community engagement in, ownership and maintenance of water and sanitation projects; limited agency and local capacity; failure to recognise and address connected water and land ownership issues; limited understanding of the unique and fragile nature of fresh groundwater in atolls; managing highly dispersed island communities through centralised bureaucracies; agencies with conflicting agendas; the limitations of separate contracted design and construct projects; a lack of training and mentoring of island staff; limited resources; and lengthy delays in maintenance.

The on-going EU EDF9 Improvement of Health Services in the Outer Islands Project provides valuable lessons in delivering infrastructure projects to OI communities. It used a Project Management Unit as the implementation agency to deliver contracted outcomes, which included consultation with and training of local councils and communities, combined design and build approach, using local contracts, engagement of local labour and maintain a core works supervision team. It has endeavoured to foster local ownership of the local infrastructure.

In addition, the Kiribati Solar Energy Company (KSEC), since 1992, has provided electricity generated from renewable energy sources in OIs by charging a monthly fee. This provides a model for operational and maintenance cost recovery in the water supply to outer islands.

The Ministry of Health and Medical Services has established local level *Kamwengaraoi* health and hygiene committees which operate at the household/village level which could form the basis of village water and sanitation committees. The umbrella NGO KANGO also operates at the village level.

## Complementary actions

The AusAID funded $AUD 0.778 M KAPII Kiribati: Improving the Sustainability and Supply of Freshwater, scheduled to start in 2009, includes pilot projects on: community consultation; groundwater assessment; training in assessment; monitoring and reporting; rainwater harvesting; infiltration gallery and water reticulation construction at selected sites in rural North Tarawa and the Gilbert islands of Tamana and Tabiteuea Meang as well as South Tarawa. This project incorporates the initial design phase of a rainwater component in Banaba and components of project were designed to provide training to the lead water agency MPWU as a precursor to this EU project.

This proposal complements the €8.8M EU EDF9 Improvement of Health Service in the Outer Islands Project , which has built 74 health clinics in outer island villages in the Gilbert Group to improve local health and lessen inward migration to Tarawa. These are also the implicit aims of the current project.

## Donor coordination

The primary and overarching objective of European Consensus on Development and development cooperation is the eradication of poverty in the context of sustainable development, including pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This project is aimed at contributing directly to three of the MDGs: promote gender equality and empower women; reduce the mortality rate of children; and ensure environmental sustainability. Within the last MDG, it is focused specifically on Target 3**:** Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. EU aid donor partners in the Pacific also have strong commitment to the eradication of poverty, to sustainable development, to the MDGs and to regional stability.

The NWRP establishes mechanisms for donor coordination in the water and sanitation sector in Kiribati. The ToR of the NWSCC designates it as the national body to coordinate water and sanitation projects within Kiribati and provide advice to MPWU and Cabinet on their appropriateness. The regional organisation SOPAC also provides excellent donor advice on the range of water and sanitation projects underway within member states, including Kiribati.

Projects currently underway or planned for Kiribati include the $AUD 0.8M KAPII freshwater project (above) with MPWU and the NWSCC, a $AUD30K UNICEF trial project with Ministry of Education to supply improved water systems and waterless ventilated pit latrines to outer island and rural primary schools initially in Abemama but then to all the Gilberts, and two IWRM projects run through SOPAC to supply a support person for the NWSCC and a project to assist in the development of a National Sanitation Policy and Implementation Plan. In addition, the ADB and AusAID are considering a technical assistance grant, possibly with an ensuing infrastructure project, to Kiribati to assist the Government (through the PUB) to address sanitation issues in Tarawa. JICA has been approached by the GoK to provide funding for a renewable energy desalination plant for Banaba.

# Description

## Objectives

The overall objective is to *improve living conditions and health of communities in the outer islands of the Gilbert Group.*

**Performance indictor**: *OI based rates of infant mortality due to water-borne diseases and rates of dysentery and related illnesses (data collected from village clinics by Ministry of Health and Medical services).*

**Base line values**: *Under analysis by MHMS but infant mortality rate approximately 10.7/1000.*

Specific objective is to *assist the GoK in increasing the sustainable, safe and adequate supplies of water and appropriate and sustainable sanitation for village in the outer islands of the Gilbert Group.*

**Performance indicator**: *number of OI villages with operating improved water systems*

**Baseline values:** *3 presently operational*

**Performance indicator:** *percentage of OI households using beach, bush or sea*

**Baseline values:** *beach 51.8%, bush 26.2%, sea 29.8% (National Statistics Office 2005)*

## Expected results and main activities

**1.Detailed knowledge of the quantity, quality and sustainable use rates of groundwater and rainwater** **throughout the Gilberts for the design of water supply and sanitation systems.**

Activity: Conduct hydrogeological surveys of outer islands; b assess potential for rainwater harvesting and collection

Indicators: Number of island surveyed/ Baseline value: 0

**2.Improved and sustainable access to groundwater**

Activity: Design and install groundwater abstraction and combined storage and reticulation systems for individual villages after obtaining approval of village committees and landowners

Indicators: Number of water pumping schemes installed and operating/ Baseline value 0

**3.Increased rainwater harvesting, storage and use in outer islands.**

Activity: Improve rainwater collection, design and install rainwater systems for individual villages and Banaba

Indicators: Number of water tanks and harvesting systems installed. Baseline value: 120

**4.Village water supply systems operated, maintained and supported by local communities.**

Activity: Establish and train village water and sanitation committees.

Indicators: Number of village water committees, number training sessions/ Baseline value: 0

**5.Increased knowledge of island populations on hygiene practices**

Activity: Develop and promote an appropriate community awareness campaign on health hygiene, sanitation and water. Engage local island churches in the campaign

Indicators: Number of trainings conducted, number of communities trained /Baseline value: 0

**6.Well trained MPWU and Island Council water technicians.**

Activity: Provide training for MPWU staff in project management, situational analysis, particularly groundwater and rainwater assessment and supply system design improve water collection

Indicators: Number of trainings conducted, number of staff trained/ Baseline values: 0, 3

## Risks and assumptions

*1.No statutory basis*

The *Directions Assigning Ministerial Responsibility* (5 August 2003) specify that the Minister for Public Works and Utilities is responsible for water management and sewerage systems and that MPWU is the designated lead water agency. There appears to be no statutory basis for MPWU to control or administer water in outer islands. The *1977 Public Utilities Board Act* Regulations appear specific to Tarawa and not outer islands. Under prevailing customary law, the landowner owns the groundwater. Public water supply from private land could involve lengthy negotiations. The draft 1994 Water Resources Bill if modified and passed could resolve the issue. The NWRP commits the government to: “Review, improve and initiate, where necessary, national water legislation and supporting regulations*.*”

*2.Lack of local ownership and engagement*

Past outer island water supply donor projects have been unsustainable because of there was minimal local ownership of the schemes. The establishment of village or island level water, sanitation and health committees and their engagement in the planning, approval and revenue raising processes, including using the KSEC model may address this issue.

*3.Limited capacity*

The MPWU has limited experience in managing and undertaking a project of this magnitude and scope. The setting up of an implementation PMU and the provision of appropriate TA during the project is designed to increase local expertise in managing and carrying out the project. Island Councils have no experience in the collection of revenue although island churches do. TA will have to be provided to address this issue and the use of revenue to maintain and operate systems. Island water technicians will be trained in maintenance and operation and a mentoring system established. Conducting this project in two Phases, I & II, may assist in capacity building.

*4.Capacity to pay*

A crucial assumption in this project is the capacity of villagers to pay for the operation and maintenance of water supply and sanitation systems. This will need to be investigated with the village or island level water, sanitation and health committees. It is important to include local churches in this investigation since they collect up to 50% of disposal island income.

## Crosscutting Issues

The project address the cross cutting issues of:

*Good governance* – setting up village or island level water, sanitation and health committees, provision of training to Island Councils and MPWU.

*Gender equality* is promoted because the disproportionate burden of provision of household water will be lifted from women and young girls;

*Health* will be improved through increased access to safer drinking water and better hygiene

*Environmental sustainability* is promoted by introducing practices which take into account the safe yield of groundwater systems and protection of the quality of groundwater.

*Human rights* – this project will enure that the right of citizens to safe drinking water and appropriate sanitation is available irrespective of their geographic location and will respect land ownership.

## Stakeholders

The direct beneficiaries in this project are the *ca* 45,000 people (47% of population) in outer island communities in the Gilbert Group. They were consulted extensively during KAPI (2003-5), which also consulted widely with government, NGO and the private sector. Their concerns over highest priority water and sanitation issues resulted in the NWRP, the NWRIP and this project. Stakeholders are Island Councils, who will have overall responsibility for operating and maintaining the installed systems GoK ministries within the NWSCC, including MPWU, MHMS and Ministry of Environment Land and Agricultural Development. Ownership of the project by local communities is essential and has been addressed above.

# Implementation issues

## Method of implementation

The Project will be implemented through decentralised management. The overall responsibility for the implementation of the programme lies with the NAO, who may request the EC to implement technical assistance contracts under Article 23.6 of Annex IV to the Cotonou Agreement. For procurement undertaken by the NAO the EC will control ex ante the contracting procedures for contracts > €50,000 and ex post for procurement ≤ €50,000. Through the signing of programme estimates, payments may be decentralised for operating costs and contracts up to the following ceilings:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Works | Supplies | Services | Grants |
| < €300,000 | < €150,000 | < €200,000 | < €100,000 |

## Procurement and grant award procedures

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the EDF procedures and standard documents laid down and published by the EC for implementation of external operations, in force at the time of the launch of the procedure in question. All programme estimates must respect the procedures and standard documents laid down by the EC, in force at the time of the adoption of the programme estimate in question. The Project is granted the derogation from the rules of origin established and published by the EC regarding the award of contracts in the context of cooperation with third countries. For any other derogation the Contracting Authority must receive the prior written approval of the EC.

## Budget and calendar

The total Phase I project cost is estimated at EUR 3.95 million, of which 3.95 million shall be financed the general budget of the European Communities. The budget of the part of the project for which the payments of expenditure will be decentralised as is set out in the TAP. Up to 20% of the Phase I budget will be used to assist the GoK in a situational analysis of outer island water resources, sanitation needs and over 35% on provision of infrastructure, 15% on supporting the PMU, 10% on short to medium term TAs and 6% is reserved for contingencies.

**Activity timetable after contract approval**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activities** | **Year 1** | | | | **Year 2** | | | | **Year 3** | | | | **Year 4** | | | | **Year 5** | | | |
| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| **Prioritisation of island locations & Cabinet endorsement** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Set up PMU** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Establishment of Village WSCs in priority islands** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Islandsituational analysis & water resources assessment** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Provision of water infrastructure in priority order** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Project publicity** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Community hygiene/ water campaign** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Reporting/Review** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Evaluation/Audit** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Performance monitoring

Indicators for performance monitoring are (baseline data is discussed in the TAPs):

Number of island surveyed/ Baseline value: 0

Number of water pumping schemes installed and operating/ Baseline value 0.

Number of water tanks and harvesting systems installed, Baseline value 120

Number of village water committees, number training sessions/ Baseline value: 0

Indicators: number of trainings conducted, number of communities trained /Baseline value:0

Number of trainings conducted, number of staff trained/ Baseline values: 0, 1

## Evaluation and audit

The PMU will provide progress reports every 6 months. Progress of the project will be monitored by the NAO and the EC. An evaluation of the Project will be conducted at 18 and 36 months and end of Phase I. A provision for Audit is included in the budget. Under the 10th EDF Financial Regulation, the EC can use this provision to independently audit of expenditure under this Agreement.

## Communication and visibility

The visibility activities will include radio and TV publicity, inter island and inter village competitions in rainwater harvesting, competition to produce song and dance routine to publicise project, special activities on *World Water Day* and placards, stickers, project caps and T-shirts with logos and other relevant material to be distributed in the outer islands. Additional activity concerning establishment of Village/Island Water and Sanitation Committees and community education and awareness campaign are aimed to enhance the visibility of the Project. All studies, reports, conferences and seminars supported under this initiative will highlight the EU’s financial support via logos and banners. Press releases with information on the EU’s funding support to Kiribati will be issued to coincide with significant events in the programme cycle such as the signing of Finance Agreements, launching of programmes, reviews and evaluations.