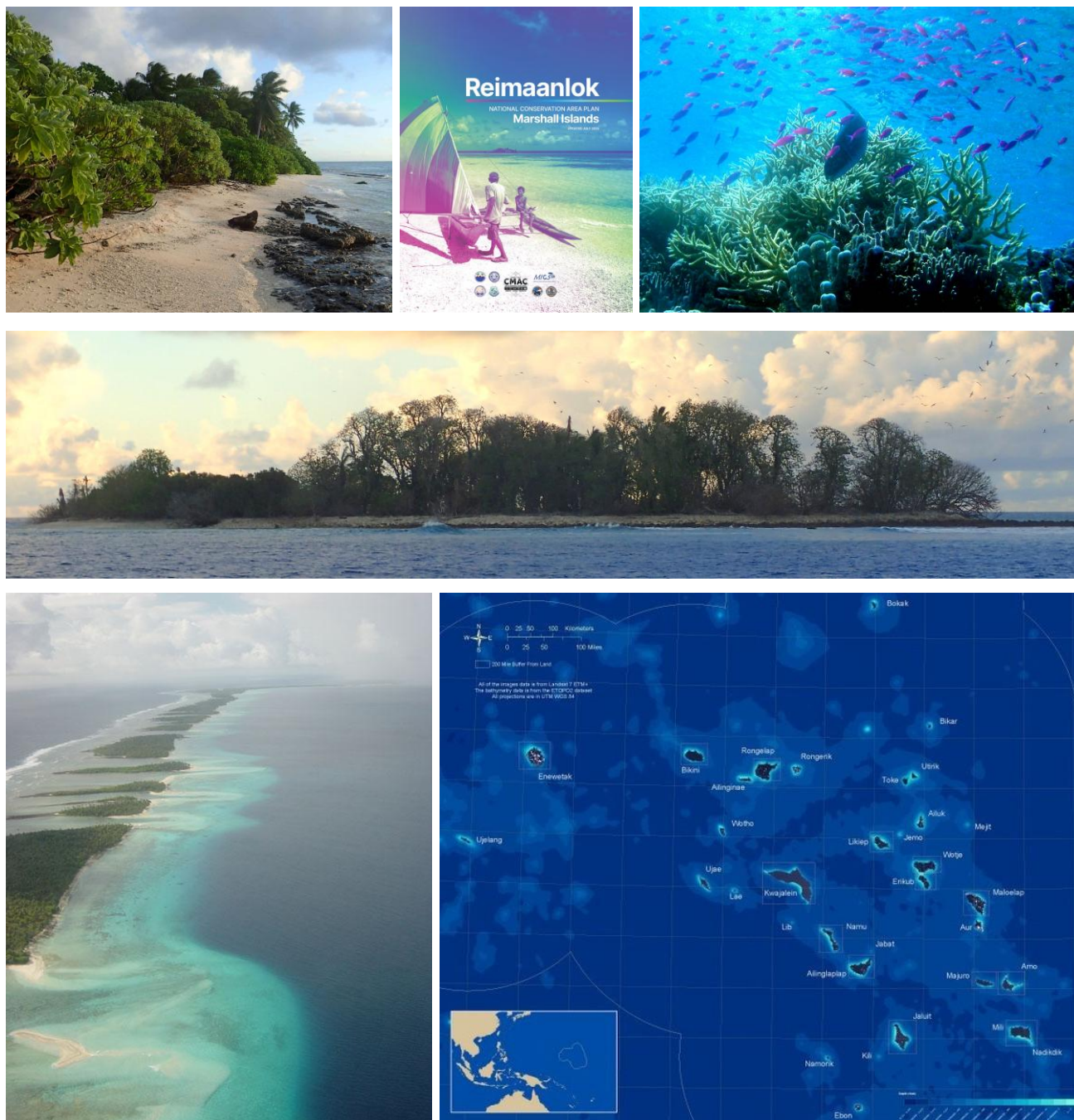


Marshall Islands National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan: 2026–2030



February 2026 [Final Feb 27]



Convention on
Biological Diversity



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Acknowledgements

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Abbreviations

ORGANIZATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
CCD	(RMI) Climate Change Directorate
CMAC	(RMI) Coastal Management Advisory Council
CMI	(RMI) College of the Marshall Islands
COFFIS	Coalition on Phasing Out Fossil Fuel Incentives Including Subsidies
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific
DSCC	Deep-Sea Conservation Coalition
EPA	(RMI) Environmental Protection Authority
EPPSO	(RMI) Economic, Policy, Planning, and Statistics Office
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (of the UN)
FFA	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	(German) Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GoRMI	Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands
HAC	High Ambition Coalition
IKI	International Climate Initiative
IMO	(UN) International Maritime Organization
INSDC	International Nucleotide Sequence Database Collaboration
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWC	International Whaling Commission
KAJUR	Kwajalein Atoll Joint Utility Resources
KBE	(RMI) Kili-Bikini-Ejit Local Government
LRC	(RMI) Local Resource Committee
MAWC	(RMI) Majuro Atoll Waste Company
MCT	Micronesia Conservation Trust
MEC	Marshalls Energy Company
MCST	(RMI) Micronesian Center for Sustainable Transport
MICNGOs	Marshall Islands Council of Non-Governmental Organizations
MICS	Marshall Islands Conservation Society
MIMRA	Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority
MIOFA	Marshall Islands Organic Farmers Association
MIRA	Marshall Islands Resilience and Adaptation Trust Fund
MIRCS	Marshall Islands Red Cross Society
MoCIA	Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs
MoEST	(RMI) Ministry of Education, Sports, and Training
MoFAT	(RMI) Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
MoFBPS	(RMI) Ministry of Finance, Banking, and Postal Services
MoNRC	(RMI) Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce
MoPWIU	(RMI) Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure, and Utilities
MoTCIT	(RMI) Ministry of Transport, Communications, and Information Technology
MVTC	(RMI) Maritime Vocational Training Center
MSWC	Majuro Water and Sewer Company
NCBI	(US) National Center for Biotechnology Information
NDMO	(RMI) National Disaster Management Office
NEO	(RMI) National Energy Office
NNC	(RMI) National Nuclear Commission
NSP	(RMI) National Strategic Plan
OCIT	(RMI) Office of Commerce, Investment, and Tourism
OCS	(RMI) Office of the Chief Secretary
OECI	Ocean Exploration Cooperative Institute
OET	Ocean Exploration Trust
OPC	(RMI) Office of the President and Cabinet
OPCW	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
OPOC	Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner
PASO	Pacific Aviation Safety Office
PIDP	Pacific Islands Development Programme
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PPA	Pacific Power Association
PSS	(RMI) Public School System

RMI EPA	RMI Environmental Protection Authority
RMIPA	RMI Ports Authority
SPC	Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SPTO	South Pacific Tourism Organisation
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TTM	(RMI) Taiwan Technical Mission
UH	University of Hawai'i
UHSG	University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program
UN	United Nations
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNEA	UN Environment Assembly
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UNESCO	UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USAG-KA	US Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll
USP	University of the South Pacific
WUTMI	Women United Together Marshall Islands
WB	World Bank
WSO	(RMI) Weather Service Office

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

ABS	Access and Benefit-sharing (Clearing-House of the Nagoya Protocol)
AHTEG	Hoc Technical Expert Group (on DSI on Genetic Resources)
Basel	(UN) Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal
BBNJ	(UN) Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (Agreement under UNCLOS on Conservation and Sustainable Use)
BCH	Biosafety Clearing-House (of the Cartagena Protocol)
BRS	Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm (Conventions)
Cartagena	Protocol (to UN CBD) on Biosafety
CBD	(UN) Convention on Biological Diversity
CDL	(RMI) Container Deposit Legislation
CITES	(UN) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (of Wild Fauna and Flora)
CMS	(UN) Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (of Wild Animals)
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSP	Conference of the States Parties
CWC	(OPCW) Chemical Weapons Convention (on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling, and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction)
ESF	(WB and ADB) Environmental and Social Framework
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
FPIC	Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (per CBD SB8J)
GBF	(Kunming-Montreal) Global Biodiversity Framework
GBFF	(Kunming-Montreal) Global Biodiversity Framework Fund
GCF	Green Climate Fund
ICRW	International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling
IPPC	(FAO) International Plant Protection Convention
ITPGRFA	(FAO) International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
KBF	Kunming Biodiversity Fund
Kigali	Amendment (to the Montreal Protocol) on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer
KMGBF	Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
Kyoto	Protocol (to UNFCCC)
LCST	(RMI) Low Carbon Sea Transport (Project)
MC	Micronesia Challenge
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
Minamata	(UN) Convention on Mercury
Montreal	Protocol (to the Vienna Convention) on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer
MOP	Meeting of the Parties
MSP	Meeting of the States Parties
Nagoya	Protocol (to UN CBD) on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization
NBT	(RMI) National Biodiversity Team
NOS	(RMI) National Ocean Symposium
BIOFIN	(Pacific) Biodiversity Finance
PAN	(RMI) Protected Areas Network
Paris	Agreement (to UNFCCC)
PIC	(Rotterdam) Prior Informed Consent
PSIDS	Pacific Small Island Developing States
Ramsar	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance
Reimaanlok	(RMI) National Conservation Area Planning Process

RNPT	(RMI) <i>Reimaanlok</i> National Planning Team
Rotterdam	(UN) Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade
SBSTTA	Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice (to CBD)
SB8J	Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) (on Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to CBD)
SCCF	(GEF) Special Climate Change Fund
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SOP	standard operating procedure
SPS	(ADB) Safeguards Policy Statement
Stockholm	(UN) Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
UES	USAKA Environmental Standards
UNCCD	UN Convention to Combat Desertification (in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa)
UNCLOS	UN Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFSA	UN Fish Stocks Agreement (under UNCLOS on Conservation and Management of Straddling and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks)
Vienna	(UN) Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer

CONCEPTS, PLACES, PROJECTS, and PLANS

ACWA	Addressing Climate Vulnerability in the Water Sector (Project)
AIS	alien invasive species
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
CARE	Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, Ethics (principles)
DM	disaster management
DRM	disaster risk management
DRR	disaster risk reduction
DSI	Digital Sequence Information (on genetic resources)
EA	(RMI) Environmental Assessment
e.g.	for example (Latin: <i>exempli gratia</i>)
et al.	and others (Latin citation term)
FAIR	Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable (principles)
Fig.	Figure
FP	Focal Point (National and Operational)
i.e.	that is (Latin: <i>id est</i>)
IPLC	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
IUSRIP	(ADB) Integrated Urban Services and Resilience Improvement Project
K-8	kindergarten to Grade 8
km ²	square kilometres
KPI	(RMI) Key Performance Indicator
LEAP	Local Early Action Planning
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
LMO	Living Modified Organism
MiCOAST	Micronesian Community-based Fisheries Management as a Nature-based Solution for Coastal Resilience (Project)
m	metres
MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield
n	number (species count)
NAP	(RMI) National Adaptation Plan
NBSAP	(RMI) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NbS	Nature-based Solutions
NDC	(RMI) Nationally-Determined Contribution
Ne	effective population size
NEMS	(RMI) National Environment Management Strategy
NIIP	(RMI) National Infrastructure Investment Plan
NISSAP	(RMI) National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan
NSP	(RMI) National Strategic Plan
OECD	Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures
ORT	(CBD) Online Reporting Tool
PEA	(RMI) Preliminary Environmental Assessment
PFAS	Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (synthetic organofluorine POPs, ‘forever chemicals’)
POP	Persistent Organic Pollutant
PRISMSS	Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Services
PROP	Pacific Islands Regional Oceanscape Program
PROPER	Pacific Islands Regional Oceanscape Program for Economic Resilience
PSR	Pressure-State-Response
PSS	(RMI) Product Stewardship Scheme
RIP	(GEF) Regional Invasives Project

RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SLASP	(RMI) National Sustainable Lagoon Aggregate Sourcing Policy (for Majuro and Ebeye)
SLSDP	Sustainable Lagoon Shoreline Development Policy
SLR	Sea-Level Rise
SOE	State of Environment
SV	Sailing Vessel
Tile Til Eo	(RMI) 2050 Climate Strategy
TTEC	Tile Til Eo Committee
URP	(WB) Urban Resilience Project
USAKA	US Army Kwajalein Atoll
USD	United States Dollars
WASH	water, sanitation, and hygiene
7NR	(CBD) 7 th National Report
8NR	(CBD) 8 th National Report

Foreword and Endorsement

The Republic of the Marshall Islands is home to unique atoll, lagoon, and marine ecosystems that sustain our communities, culture, and identity. These ecosystems are increasingly threatened by sea-level rise, ocean warming and acidification, pollution, and invasive species. Protecting and restoring our natural environment is essential to the resilience of our society, economy, and heritage, and to the well-being of future generations.

This National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for 2026–2030 builds on a foundation that already exists across our islands. For many years, communities have practiced customary stewardship of land and sea. Since 2008, this stewardship has been strengthened through a national, community-based planning process that supports effective management of natural resources and formal recognition of conservation areas under national law. This plan recognizes that *Reimaanlok* is the heart of biodiversity management in our country.

The purpose of this strategy is not to create a new system, but to clearly describe how our existing governance, community leadership, and national planning already achieve the goals of global biodiversity commitments, while strengthening the policies, institutions, and reporting needed to meet international obligations through 2030. It connects community action, national law, and international responsibility into a single, coherent pathway for conserving biodiversity.

The strategy is organized around three national priorities: reducing threats to biodiversity; ensuring that people benefit from the sustainable use of natural resources and ecosystem services; and strengthening the tools, institutions, knowledge, and partnerships needed to support implementation. These priorities reflect how biodiversity is managed in practice across our atolls and islands, and how it contributes directly to food security, water security, climate resilience, and cultural continuity.

This plan also demonstrates how biodiversity is integrated across national policies and plans related to climate change adaptation, development, waste and pollution management, invasive species control, and cultural preservation. It highlights the roles of communities, government agencies, local governments, regional partners, and international agreements in supporting a shared national effort.

By aligning our established conservation practices with global biodiversity ambitions, this strategy provides a realistic and achievable pathway for the Marshall Islands to conserve and restore biodiversity through 2030, while strengthening national capacity for monitoring, learning, and adaptive management beyond that time.

I commend the many communities, agencies, and partners whose commitment and collaboration have made this plan possible. I am confident that this strategy reflects both our traditions of stewardship and our responsibility to future generations to safeguard the natural systems upon which our lives depend.

Moriana Phillip

General Manager

Republic of the Marshall Islands Environmental Protection Authority

Operational Focal Point for the Convention on Biological Diversity



Summary

National Context and Purpose

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2026–2030 (NBSAP) of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) sets out a practical, nationally grounded pathway to conserve biodiversity, sustain ecosystem services, and meet international obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) through 2030. It recognizes that the country’s long-standing, community-based conservation system—*Reimaanlok* (“Looking to the Future”)—already provides the foundation for effective biodiversity management across atolls and islands. The NBSAP formally aligns this national system with the KMGBF while incorporating elements not historically covered by *Reimaanlok*, including genetic resource governance, pollution management, private-sector engagement, biosafety, biodiversity finance, and biodiversity considerations across the Exclusive Economic Zone. Rather than creating a new conservation framework, the NBSAP documents how existing governance systems, sectoral management plans, and community stewardship already deliver biodiversity conservation in practice, and strengthens the institutional coordination, indicator alignment, and reporting systems required to meet global commitments.

Appendix A details the mapping between national sub-targets and KMGBF targets and indicators. Appendix B summarizes how actions are distributed across pathways, institutions, and implementation architecture. Appendix C synthesizes institutional lessons from preparation of the 7th National Report (7NR) and outlines measures to strengthen monitoring and reporting systems toward the 8th National Report (8NR). Together, these appendices reinforce that the NBSAP is both an implementation roadmap and a reporting instrument under the CBD.

Living Atolls, Living Sea

The Marshall Islands comprise 29 coral atolls and five islands without lagoons spread across more than two million square kilometres of ocean, with only 184 square kilometres of land. These low-lying atolls contain globally significant coral reef, lagoon, coastal, and terrestrial ecosystems that sustain livelihoods, culture, food security, and water security. Ecosystems provide essential services, including fisheries production, shoreline protection, freshwater regulation, and cultural continuity. At the same time, the RMI faces acute environmental pressures, including sea-level rise, ocean warming and acidification, invasive species, pollution, land-use change, and the legacy of nuclear testing. Biodiversity conservation is therefore inseparable from national priorities related to climate adaptation, food and water security, economic resilience, and long-term survival.

Reimaanlok and the Protected Areas Network

For generations, Marshallese communities have practiced customary stewardship of land and sea through traditional governance systems. Since 2008, this stewardship has been strengthened through *Reimaanlok*, the participatory national conservation planning framework that enables communities to develop locally-led resource management plans recognized under national law through the Protected Areas Network (PAN). As of early 2026, PAN coverage is 34 percent for nearshore marine areas and 19 percent for terrestrial areas. There are 20 completed management plans across 18 atolls, with additional plans finalized and pending sign-off. The 2026 additions will result in 90 percent of rural communities having spatial management plans with PAN coverage. *Reimaanlok* and the PAN align with the Micronesia Challenge commitment to effectively conserve 50 percent of marine and 30 percent of terrestrial resources by 2030, ensuring conservation is implemented through community governance, national legal recognition, and long-term management systems.

Three National Targets Aligned with Global Targets

The KMGBF establishes 23 global action targets for biodiversity conservation through 2030. For clarity and institutional coherence, the RMI consolidates these into three national targets addressing ***Reducing threats to biodiversity***; ***Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing***; and ***Providing tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming***.

Each national target contains sub-targets directly aligned with specific KMGBF targets, ensuring full global consistency while maintaining compatibility with national governance structures. This structure enables biodiversity conservation to be implemented through national institutions, sectoral plans, environmental permitting systems, and community-based management rather than through isolated initiatives. The NBSAP applies a systems-based implementation model in which biodiversity outcomes are delivered through routine governance mechanisms. This approach integrates biodiversity into the ongoing operation of institutions rather than treating it as a standalone environmental program.

Integration Across National Policies and Institutions

Biodiversity conservation in the RMI is implemented through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach. The NBSAP demonstrates how biodiversity objectives are embedded across national policies and institutional frameworks, including the National Strategic Plan, National Adaptation Plan, Nationally Determined Contribution, National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan, aggregate sourcing policies, infrastructure safeguards, and environmental permitting systems. National coordination mechanisms, community governance systems, and participation in multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) strengthen institutional coherence and ensure alignment across sectors. By documenting these linkages, the NBSAP provides a unified framework connecting community conservation, national planning, and international reporting.

Actions, Indicators, and Reporting

The NBSAP identifies nationally-relevant actions organized into four implementation pathways: MEA participation and compliance; national strategies and projects; regional cooperation and resource mobilization; and community-identified priorities. Actions reflect the full range of institutional mechanisms through which biodiversity conservation is implemented, including regulatory systems, sectoral plans, research, financing, safeguards, and community governance. Indicators are aligned with the KMGBF headline, binary, and national framework. The experience of preparing the 7NR highlighted the need to strengthen national data organization, laboratory and technical capacity, biodiversity finance tracking, and interagency coordination. Appendix C outlines practical measures to address these constraints so that biodiversity implementation is measurable, coordinated, and progressively strengthened ahead of the 8NR in 2029.

Nature-Positive and Climate-Resilient Approaches

The NBSAP adopts nature-positive approaches that restore, maintain, and enhance ecosystem health while supporting climate resilience and sustainable development. These approaches emphasize ecological restoration, sustainable resource management, pollution reduction, invasive species control, and biodiversity-sensitive infrastructure planning. By aligning community stewardship, national governance systems, and global biodiversity commitments, the NBSAP provides a realistic and operational pathway for biodiversity conservation in the RMI through 2030. It establishes a coordinated framework for implementation, monitoring, learning, and reporting, ensuring that biodiversity conservation remains embedded in national decision-making and institutional practice beyond the current reporting cycle.

1 Introduction

For consistency, the introductory subsections of this National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) are in part adapted from text in the recently updated National *Reimaanlok* Conservation Area Plan (RNPT, 2025a; originally published 2008) and associated Field Guide (RNPT, 2025b; originally published 2012). This is a recognition that the foundation for the new NBSAP is *Reimaanlok*, with additions to address other elements in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF; CBD, 2022) that are included in the plan.

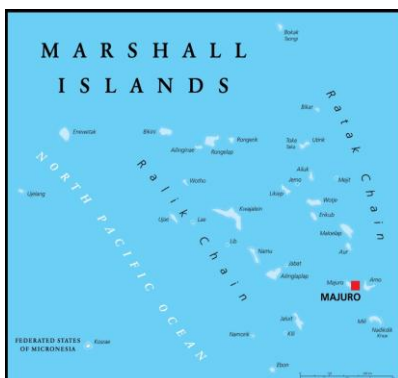
The NBSAP targets and actions described have been refined via extensive consultation by the Marshall Islands (RMI) Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) with representative rural communities and all urban communities and their local governments across the RMI between July and December 2025, as well as with national agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with mandates and activities that affect biodiversity. The NBSAP is a synthesized roadmap of targets, actions, and indicators from more detailed sectoral and agency plans with biodiversity elements, coordinated for national policy cohesion and consistency across plans and alignment with the KMGBF through 2030. It includes innovative actions identified from the aforementioned whole-of-society and whole-of-government consultations, as well as pragmatic actions associated with national responsibilities for the engagement and integrated implementation of all Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) for which RMI is a signatory. The NBSAP identifies lead entities for implementing actions and reporting on indicators, but does not restate timelines or other details of implementation that exist in other more detailed plans.

The purpose of the NBSAP is fourfold:

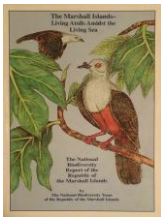
- Coordinate and focus implementation of local, national, regional, and international actions for the national conservation of biodiversity;
- Meet national obligations for the implementation of the United Nations (UN) Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), facilitating the framework for the preparation of the 7th and 8th National Reports (7NR and 8NR);
- Align national biodiversity planning and management with the KMGBF, and contribute to the ongoing global review of collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF; and
- Adhere to the deliverables and timeline for biodiversity planning and management funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) via the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

This section outlines RMI geography and biodiversity, national biodiversity policy and planning, conservation and *Reimaanlok*, and the KMGBF.

1.1 Marshall Islands Geography and Biodiversity

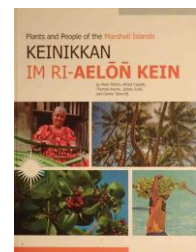
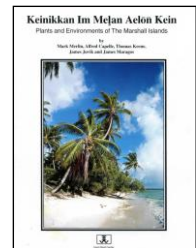


The entirety of the Marshall Islands lies in the central-western portion of the Conservation International Polynesia/Micronesia Hotspot. The RMI consists of 29 low-lying coral atolls and five islands without lagoons, rising from the central western Pacific abyssal plain to just a few meters above sea level. Despite an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) spanning over 2 million km², less than 0.01% of this area is land (184 km²). This large geographic area has the second largest proportion of water to land ratio of any sovereign state, after Tuvalu. The approximately 1,200 islands are divided into the *Ratak* (Sunrise) and *Ralik* (Sunset) chains, with their coral atolls formed over millions of years on top of basalt cores.



The first national biodiversity report of the *Aelon Kein* (Marshall Islands in Marshallese) considered the nation to be “Living Atolls Amidst the Living Sea” (RMI NBT, 2000) and informed the first NBSAP (RMI NBSAP Team, 2000). The vast geography contains some of the world's most pristine coral reefs and terrestrial habitats, with rich and abundant biodiversity documented, including over 700 species of flora (excluding algae) and almost 5,100 species of fauna. It is important that the NBSAP includes an overview of the species groups and habitats in the RMI, for context.

Two-thirds of the documented floral species are marine and terrestrial vascular plants ($n = 468$), critical for ecosystem structure and biomass, and for transporting water and nutrients. The nonvascular portion comprises early colonizers that stabilize soil (and marine substrate), retain moisture, and provide recruitment surfaces for fauna (e.g., coral larvae on calcareous marine microalgae). While non-vascular plants have not been fully surveyed in the RMI, it is likely that further marine and terrestrial algae would increase species richness (at least in the marine environment) beyond that of vascular plants. Vegetation communities in the RMI (with Marshallese—*Majel* names) include Saltwater Aquatic Vegetation (*wujoj-in-lojet*) such as coral reefs and seagrass meadows; Strand Vegetation (*mar-in-ioon-kappe*) along sandy and rocky shores; Mangrove Vegetation (*jon*) found incidentally in inland depressions and saltwater-influenced swamps; Atoll Forest (*bulon-mar*) of native trees (*wojke*), shrubs (*mar*), herbs (*wut* or *mar*), vines (*martobalbol*), and epiphytes (*mar rot en ej eddek ioon mar kojat*) in uncultivated areas; and Cultivated Vegetation (*keinikkan*) including agroforests (Merlin *et al.*, 1997 from 1994 original; Merlin *et al.*, 2018).



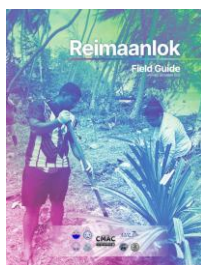
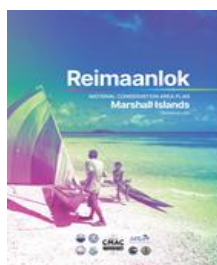
One-fifth of the documented faunal species in the nation are bony fishes ($n=1030$) and one-third are snails and slugs ($n = 1542$). Insects ($n = 571$) and the decapod family (e.g., crabs, shrimp, and lobsters) of crustaceans ($n = 560$) are both at about 10% richness (making up one-tenth of all species in the RMI), with cnidarians (corals, anemones, and jellyfish) making up 7% ($n = 362$). The majority (6% of all faunal species) of cnidarians are stony (reef-building) corals ($n=308$). Other species groups of notable richness, each between 2-3%, include bivalves ($n = 103$), birds ($n = 106$), annelid worms ($n = 133$), and the maxillopod family (e.g., copepods and barnacles) of crustaceans ($n=156$). Some species groups have low richness, yet have a significant ecological, sociocultural, and/or socioeconomic role. Examples from the vertebrates include terrestrial mammals ($n = 9$), whales and dolphins ($n = 26$), sharks and rays ($n = 29$), lizards and snakes ($n = 21$), turtles ($n = 5$), and cephalopods ($n = 5$).

It is important to emphasize that biodiversity is both species richness and abundance, and abundance varies considerably across species and species groups, within species across distinct urban and rural atolls and islands, and over time. Much of this variability can be attributed to species decline due to anthropogenic change. The NBSAP does not include an account of specific abundances or the environmental drivers, pressures, and states of ecological populations and communities. These are covered in RMI State-of-Environment (SOE) reports, marine and terrestrial surveys carried out under *Reimaanlok*, and addressed in atoll and island resource management plans. For example, significant environmental pressures from alien invasive species (AIS) are the purview of the Quarantine Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MoNRC), which conducts terrestrial alien invasive species assessment and management guided by their National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP). Further guided by *Reimaanlok*, MoNRC and communities engage in control and eradication of both alien invasive and native invasive species, with varying success. The NBSAP therefore addresses the general policy and planning response (via the actions in subsection 2.3) to the more detailed Pressure-State-Response (PSR) framework in the SOE and the myriad of actions outlined in national policies and plans (subsection 1.2) and ongoing and pipelined projects carried out by the multitude of biodiversity actors in the RMI (subsection 2.3).

1.2 National Biodiversity Policy and Planning

Policy cohesion and consistency across plans is assured in the NBSAP via review of biodiversity elements across numerous national policies and plans referenced in action statements in subsection 2.3. As actions contain embedded hyperlinks for further information, policies and plans cited in this subsection are not listed in the references in Section 3, except for *Reimaanlok* and Protected Areas Network (PAN) documents.

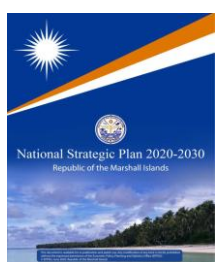
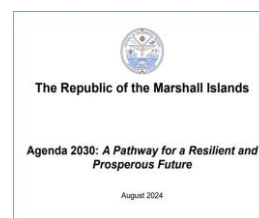
In addition to being addressed in action statements, the most relevant multisectoral policies/plans are summarized here to illustrate how they address biodiversity:



• **National *Reimaanlok* Conservation Area Plan** (RNPT, 2025) and associated **Field Guide** (RNPT, 2025) and **Protected Areas Network Strategic Action Plan** (RMI PAN Office, 2020). Biodiversity is the central concept in the *Reimaanlok* (‘Looking to the Future’ in Marshallese) conservation and protected areas approaches, which combine biodiversity objectives with community resource management and traditional knowledge to foster sustainable ecosystems. Refer to the dedicated subsection 1.3 for a more comprehensive *Reimaanlok* and PAN description.



• **National Agenda 2030: Pathway for a Resilient and Prosperous Future** (Agenda 2030; 2024). Agenda 2030 presents biodiversity as fundamental to its economic prosperity, food security, and very survival as a nation, integrating conservation with development. Marine Resources Pillar—emphasizes sustainable use of marine resources and generating revenue from tuna fishing licenses while ensuring long-term conservation, considering them crucial for economic development and food security. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation—prioritizes climate action (i.e., Paris Agreement) to protect its vulnerable ecosystems from sea-level rise (SLR) and extreme weather, which directly threaten biodiversity. Food Systems Transformation—addresses unsustainable reliance on fuel wood and kerosene by promoting cleaner energy that reduces deforestation and associated environmental damage, and emphasizes local fishers as partners in sustainable food systems. Integration with National Plans and Global Frameworks—aligns primarily with the National Strategic Plan, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and generally with the KMGBF, incorporating biodiversity targets for conservation and sustainable use, and integrating ecosystem values into restoration planning through coordinated, stakeholder-driven programs.



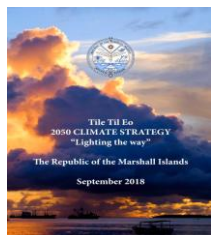
• **National Strategic Plan 2020–2030** (NSP; 2024). The NSP recognizes the nation's heavy dependence on natural resources and the need for their sustainable management, which depends upon biodiversity conservation. Integration of Traditional Knowledge—promotes the use of traditional culture, customs, and values in resource management and conservation, including their early application via the school curriculum, development of traditional skills, and exposure to traditional products. Marine Resources Pillar—includes the goal of “sustainable and responsible use of marine resources” that focuses on managing inshore and offshore environments, protecting marine mammals and turtles, and supporting the ‘blue foods system’ that aligns with *Reimaanlok*. Land Resources Pillar—highlights provisions that ensure the protection of existing vegetation, including native food trees and their sustainable agricultural practices.

• **Nationally Determined Contribution** (NDC; 2025). The NDC primarily focuses on aggressive greenhouse gas mitigation through an economy-wide fossil fuel transition to renewable energy and decarbonizing shipping, rather than specific nature-based activities (e.g., coastal blue carbon projects) that explicitly link mitigation to biodiversity outcomes.

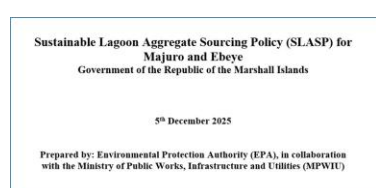
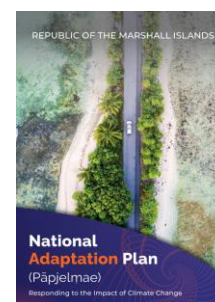


The primary mention of natural systems' importance comes in the context of adapting to climate impacts, with conserving natural assets for long-term survival as a critical co-benefit of ecosystem health. Primary Mitigation Strategy—commits to reducing economy-wide emissions significantly (at least 58% below 2010 levels by 2035) through energy transition and international shipping decarbonization, which do not inherently include on-the-ground biodiversity conservation actions as mitigation measures. Adaptation and Resilience Linkages—highlights SLR, extreme weather, and coral bleaching as the most intense pressures on the natural environment in the RMI. In addition to urgent mitigation, the NDC calls for nature-based adaptation to address the accelerating vulnerability to climate change by reducing exposure and sensitivity while increasing adaptive capacity, effectively linking NDC outcomes with priorities in the National Adaptation Plan.

- **National 2050 Climate Strategy** (*Tile Til Eo*; 2018). *Tile Til Eo* ('Lighting the Way' in Marshallese) addresses biodiversity through climate resilience and adaptation efforts aimed at protecting RMI's natural resources. While primarily focused on emissions reduction, the strategy integrates biodiversity as a framework for national adaptation planning and aligns with *Reimaanlok* and the NBSAP (2000). It advances deep decarbonization, adaptation and resilience planning, and synergies with broader environmental policies, thus enabling a framework that indirectly supports biodiversity conservation and ecosystem health.



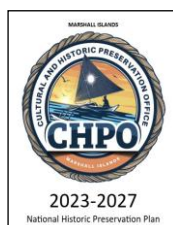
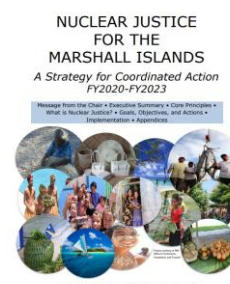
- **National Adaptation Plan** (NAP; 2023). The NAP views biodiversity as a critical natural defense and adaptation tool central to its 'survival plan' in the face of the existential threat of climate change, primarily through its focus on ecosystem-based resilience and hybrid solutions to combat SLR. Nature-Based Solutions - Prioritizes nature alongside engineered infrastructure for shoreline protection, and sustainable sources of aggregate for land reclamation, elevation, and construction. Traditional Knowledge and Resource Management—emphasizes traditional knowledge in resource management such as the use of traditional building materials, fishing methods, and local food sources. Alignment with Existing Plans—results from whole-of-society and whole-of-government coordination so that adaptation conforms with biodiversity actions in existing national plans, such as the protection of coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass meadows. Food Security—links biodiversity to food security through initiatives like community gardens, increased agroforestry, and a greater diversity of agricultural crops that are resistant or at least resilient to drought and saltwater exposure.



- **National Sustainable Lagoon Aggregate Sourcing Policy for Majuro and Ebeye** (SLASP; 2025). The SLASP is the national framework to guide environmentally-sustainable extraction of fine aggregates in recognition of mineral security as a critical pathway for climate change adaptation. It prevents extraction in sensitive areas, steers dredging toward lower-risk deep lagoon environments, requires rigorous environmental assessments, enforces strict operational controls, and holds operators accountable for ecological damage. Explicit Biodiversity Protection—focus on sustainability, with particular attention to coral reefs and foraminifera. Spatial Exclusion of Ecologically-Sensitive Areas—prohibits dredging within the shallow coastal zone and nearshore lagoon areas, within traditional *mo* areas under customary law, and within a minimum distance from protected areas. Shift Away from High-Impact Practices—promotes dredging only in deeper lagoon sediments and away from reef flats and shorelines. Mandatory Environmental Assessment and Adaptive Management—requires that all extraction has a Preliminary Environmental Assessment and Environmental Management Plan, and an Environmental Impact Assessment where necessary, which ensures biodiversity risks are identified early, mitigation measures are applied, and projects can be modified or rejected if impacts are unacceptable. Operational Controls to Minimize Ecological Disturbance—utilizes only suction dredging in contrast with more mechanical extraction, employs industrial turbidity curtains with real-time monitoring, and calls for post-dredging bathymetric

surveys to assess physical and ecological change. Restoration and Accountability Mechanisms—applies the polluter-pays principle, where operators are responsible for rehabilitation and restoration costs, reinforcing accountability for biodiversity impacts and discouraging environmentally harmful practices.

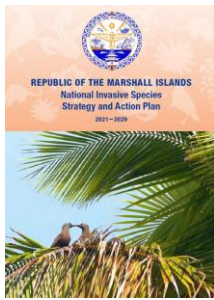
● **National Nuclear Commission 2020–2023 Strategy for Coordinated Action** (NNC Strategy; 2021). The NNC Strategy acknowledges the nuclear legacy violation of the right to a healthy environment and aims to restore ecosystems damaged by nuclear testing, supporting broader national efforts like protected areas and climate resilience. Environment Pillar—focuses on restoration and aims to address the ongoing nuclear contamination that continues to impact local marine and terrestrial biodiversity and traditional food sources. Environmental Remediation—advocates for the cleanup of radioactive fallout that has damaged flora and fauna, and emphasizes the need for technical capacity to monitor and protect specific ecosystems, which were devastated by the 67 nuclear tests conducted between 1946 and 1958. Link to Human Rights—highlights that loss of biodiversity is directly linked to loss of access to traditional and nutritious food, forcing a reliance on processed imports. Resilience and Restoration—emphasizes that biodiversity continues to be severely impacted, with some studies indicating the initial loss of up to 28 coral species in specific areas, and supports efforts to align with broader national efforts that integrate biodiversity conservation and restoration into development planning.



● **National Historic Preservation Plan 2023–2027** (CHPO; 2023). The plan addresses biodiversity by linking cultural preservation with sustainable practices, focusing on traditional knowledge (e.g., sustainable fishing/building), promoting local products (e.g., eco-materials for housing and boats), and combating invasive species, all while addressing climate impacts threatening both heritage and nature, seeing them as intertwined cultural and natural resources. Traditional Knowledge and Practices—promotes using traditional skills (e.g., boatbuilding, fishing gear) and materials (e.g., thatch, local products) over imported ones, linking cultural continuity with resource management. Community-Based Solutions—supports NGOs (i.e., Youth to Youth) to extend resource management training and awareness, empowering communities to manage biodiversity. Education and Awareness—advocates for incorporating traditional resource management knowledge from elders into school curricula, teaching youth the importance of biodiversity. Research and Development—encourages combining traditional methods with modern techniques for better use of local materials, enhancing sustainability. Invasive Species Management—develops strategies (like the Natural Enemies for Invasive Species Program) to control harmful weeds, recognizing their threat to local ecosystems and culture. Climate Change Adaptation—prioritizes strategies that address threats to both cultural sites and natural resources, considering them interconnected challenges. Policy Integration—aims to embed biocultural and sociocultural concerns into national decision-making, recognizing that protecting natural heritage requires broad participation from all sectors.

● **National Environment Management Strategy 2017–2022** (NEMS; 2018). The NEMS recognizes that biodiversity protection requires combining modern environmental governance with deep cultural ties and strong community participation. Traditional Knowledge and Community Focus—emphasizes revitalizing traditional resource management and involving communities for local ownership and implementation. Education and Awareness—integrates formal and non-formal education and awareness programs to build capacity and understanding of biodiversity issues. Invasive Species Control and Protected Areas—implements biosecurity projects and training to prevent and manage invasive species and promotes protected areas as part of wider landscapes, consistent with *Reimaanlok*. Sustainable Practices and Policy Integration—promotes sustainable fishing, food security through local agriculture, climate-resilient practices, and links to relevant national plans and regional initiatives.





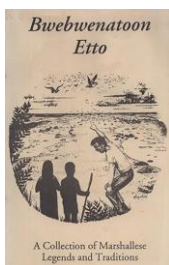
- **National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan 2021–2029** (NISSAP; 2023). The NISSAP establishes a prioritized framework to mitigate the impact of invasive species on native ecosystems. Prevention—implements border controls and awareness programs to prevent additional invasive species from entering the RMI. Early Detection and Rapid Response—emphasizes swift action on new incursions in urban areas to prevent establishment and spread to outer atolls and islands. Targeting Specific Threats with Control and Eradication—identifies high-risk pathways for established species (both native and alien invasives) that pose significant threats to native biodiversity. Protecting Endemic and Keystone Species—addresses threats to unique RMI species through research and monitoring.



- **RMI EPA 2024–2027 Strategic Plan** (in 2024 Annual Report, updated from 2022–2025 Plan; 2021). The updated plan focuses on protecting ecosystems, managing resources on outer islands, and integrating environmental safeguards into development. It indicates a shift toward addressing pressing environmental challenges through increased partnerships and community-based management, and prioritizes pollution monitoring, with a specific focus on updating regulations, permits, and operating procedures. Effective Regulations and Enforcement—strengthens and streamlines regulations, permits, monitoring, enforcement, and public education to ensure consistent compliance across all divisions. Clean, Safe Marine Waters—establishes a cross-sector marine pollution task force and implements a national oil spill response plan to clearly manage and respond to vessel-related marine pollution in Majuro. Safe Fresh Water Supplies—improves household water management, expands water quality monitoring and enforcement, and continues mapping groundwater resources to safeguard freshwater supplies. Resilient Coastal Zones—promotes sustainable coastal development through updated shoreline policies, environmental assessments and permits, and the expansion and protection of designated protected areas through *Reimaanlok*. Reduced Risk from Waste and Pollution—minimizes environmental and health risks by reducing hazardous and plastic waste, manages abandoned vehicles and scrap metal, and strengthens monitoring and sanitary survey processes. Capable RMI EPA—builds institutional capacity through staff training, stronger management systems, expert networks, and a strategic action plan aligned with national priorities and long-term resource mobilization frameworks. Capable Communities—empowers communities through targeted awareness campaigns, supports outer island resource management, and advocates for stronger government action to elevate environmental issues and secure financial support.



1.3 Conservation and Reimaanlok

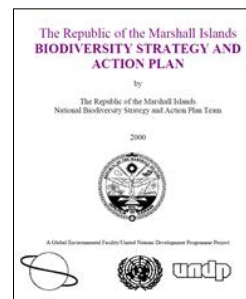


Local stories (*bwebwenato*) and climate records indicate that the land and its biodiversity and people have been under constant pressure from episodic weather events—and are thus part of a dynamic environmental system. Of crucial importance to human survival in the RMI are the limited larger sections of atolls that have historically been capable of storing freshwater lenses that allow for some agriculture, and which also provide some degree of security during infrequent storm and drought events. Thus, traditional life has been based on subsistence fishing and agriculture. The triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution are changing the dynamic, as existential scenarios of SLR and extreme weather events create an uncertain future for food and water security, and habitation. In 1986, the RMI became a self-governing democracy. The islands' population surged after World War II to about 60,000 inhabitants, with two-thirds living in the urban areas of Majuro and Ebeye. Currently, however, out-migration (11,000 people from 2011–2021) for reasons ranging from climate change to geopolitics has reduced the in-country population to 42,418 (78% urban; 22% rural), across 20 atolls and four islands without lagoons (RMI 2021 Census; SPC, 2024). Other publications may report a higher number of inhabited atolls due to historical population data.

Conservation and sustainable resource management have long been central to Marshallese culture. Facing the dual global crises of climate change and biodiversity loss, the RMI has strengthened its commitment to conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems, drawing on longstanding community-based conservation within holistic atoll management.

Timeline

In 2000, the RMI was one of the first Pacific Island countries to complete its first National Biodiversity Report (RMI NBT, 2000), as well as its NBSAP under CBD (RMI NBSAP Team, 2000). In 2006, the RMI signed the Micronesia Challenge (MC), a commitment by Micronesian countries and territories to “effectively conserve” 30% of nearshore marine and 20% of terrestrial resources by 2020. In 2007, a workshop in the RMI reviewed past resource management efforts and reflected on the development of fragmented plans for community-based fisheries management, conservation management, and coastal management on high-population atolls. The workshop concluded that an integrated, multi-agency approach, combining fisheries, conservation, and coastal management, would be more effective than maintaining independent plans.



In 2008, a core team from the Coastal Management Advisory Council (CMAC) developed the original *Reimaanlok*: National Conservation Area Plan to integrate planning and serve as the strategy to achieve the ambitious MC. The *Reimaanlok* planning framework emphasizes community-driven management supported by national agencies, aiming to empower communities, foster national cohesion, and ensure sustainable resource management. In 2012, CMAC complemented the framework with a detailed implementation field guide for facilitators. In 2015, the RMI passed the PAN Act, with amendments in 2018 and 2023. In 2020, PAN regulations were enacted, formalizing CMAC and establishing the PAN Office, which enabled the development of the PAN Strategy and Action Plan (RMI PAN Office, 2020).



In 2025, CMAC updated the National *Reimaanlok* Conservation Area Plan (RNPT, 2025a) and its associated Field Guide (RNPT, 2025b), including the step-by-step approach to conservation in the RMI, known as the *Reimaanlok* Community Process Steps (Fig. 1).



Figure 1: *Reimaanlok* Community Process Steps (RNPT, 2025a&b)

As of early 2026, PAN coverage is 34% for nearshore marine areas and 19% for terrestrial areas. There are 20 existing management plans from completed *Reimaanlok* processes across 18 atolls, with five new processes completed and awaiting sign-off in two atolls and three island jurisdictions. Therefore, there will be 25 completed management plans across 20 atolls and three islands in 2026. Eleven of the existing management plans (five from 2004-2016 and two from 2020-2021) have been updated recently, with three of those already signed and eight awaiting sign-off in 2026. There are two atoll processes due to start their management plan revision.

Management planning is primarily community-based, with a greater proportion of plans for populated atolls and islands than for unpopulated ones. For example, the 2026 additions will result in 90% of rural communities having spatial management plans with PAN coverage. *Reimaanlok* and the PAN align with the updated MC targets to effectively conserve 50% of marine and 30% of terrestrial resources by 2030, as endorsed at the 24th Micronesian Islands Forum (2019).

Effective Management

Reimaanlok focuses on nearshore marine resources, while the MC (2030, not 2020) and the KMGBF encapsulate protection targets that cover the entire EEZ, at 50% and 30%, respectively. Nearshore is defined as all resources from the high-water mark oceanward to a depth of approximately 100 m on the lower reef slope, including all atoll lagoons. Given this definition, there are 14,157 km² of nearshore marine waters in the RMI. Both *Reimaanlok* and the NBSAP use “effective management” language in describing management approaches and specific targets. The NBSAP includes a protected areas sub-target (subsection 2.2.1) that mirrors *Reimaanlok*, focusing on maintaining a minimum percentage of the strongest legally-protected areas while also calling for effective management in the remaining areas.

Effective management of marine waters that includes at least 30% of nearshore waters in Type 2 and/or Type 3 conservation areas, with fisheries management also between and around areas; AND effective management of 30% of land areas that includes at least 20% in Type 2 and/or Type 3 conservation areas (sub-targets 1.3).

It is the effective management language in the *Reimaanlok*/NBSAP sub-target that aligns with MC and KMGBF for the broader EEZ, instead of using explicit percentages for beyond the nearshore.

Effective management in *Reimaanlok* is defined as management that maintains or improves atoll ecosystems—their biodiversity, health, productivity, and integrity; sustains artisanal and subsistence use of resources; and protects and preserves areas of significant natural and cultural heritage, through publicly developed, legitimately recognized, and actionable management plans with clear objectives; includes long-term biological and socioeconomic monitoring and evaluation against management objectives; and is recognized through customary or legal rules, and compliance systems.

This definition applies to holistic atoll-level management, not only to formally designated protected areas. Such management is intentionally broader than effective conservation (such as CBD’s Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures; OECM), encompassing livelihoods, governance, culture, and resilience—not just ecological condition. Below is a consolidated list that combines types of RMI conservation areas, level of protection (from highest to lowest), descriptions, recognition under the PAN Act/Regulations, and the analogue designation for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Restricted and Protected Area Type 3—Highest protection; Total restriction, no activities allowed, either as a standalone site or within a larger protected area; Strictly Protected Area under PAN, with full legal enforceability; and IUCN category Ia (Strict Nature Reserve) or Category V (Protected Landscape/Seascape).

Special Reserve Type 2—High level of protection; Subject to very low-level subsistence, with only occasional, or special-occasion activities; High-protection Area under PAN; and IUCN category Ib (Wilderness Area).

National Sanctuary Type 5—Protected with restrictions; large protected area declared by the Minister, which may include Type 2, Type 3, and/or Type 4 areas; National Sanctuary designation under PAN; and IUCN category applicable to sub-area types since national-scale overlay is not a single protection level.

Subsistence Only Type 1—Moderate protection; Managed exclusively for non-commercial subsistence use; Managed Resource Protected Area, legally recognized under PAN if rules and compliance systems are in place; and IUCN category VI (Protected Area with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources).

Traditional Mo Type 4—Lowest formal protection, highest customary authority; Areas of land, islands, or reef managed and restricted through traditional *mo* practices by *Leroij* or *Iroij* (chiefs). Customary Protected Area, legally recognized under PAN if formally documented and endorsed; and IUCN category VI (Managed Resource Protected Area).

For national reporting under CBD, conservation area types 1, 4, and 5 are recognized as OECMs. Inclusion of these sites in the PAN (and for effective management) requires additional documentation, endorsement, and compliance standards beyond those required for OECM recognition under CBD.

Figures 2a,b and 3a,b show the progression of coverage for each of the conservation area types over time for nearshore marine and terrestrial areas in the RMI, respectively¹. The relatively flat progression over the last decade after the early progress, followed by more recent steep increases reflects the many management planning processes initiated post-PAN establishment, that were completed on a similar timeline. The dominance of types 1 and 2 (figs. 2a,b) demonstrate the national priority to allow for subsistence (types 1-2) while closing the gap toward progressively more protection (types 2-3). The higher protection offered by types 2 and 3 (primary focus of the protected areas sub-target) makes up less than half of the PAN totals (figs 3a,b), with no terrestrial type 3 areas currently in the PAN.

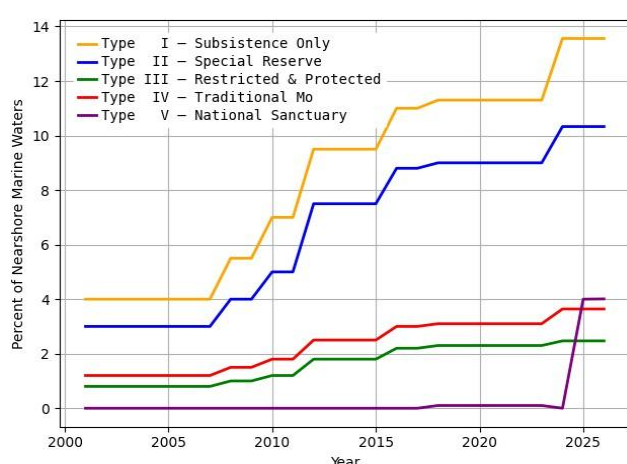


Figure 2a: Time Series of Nearshore Marine Conservation PAN Coverage by Management Type.

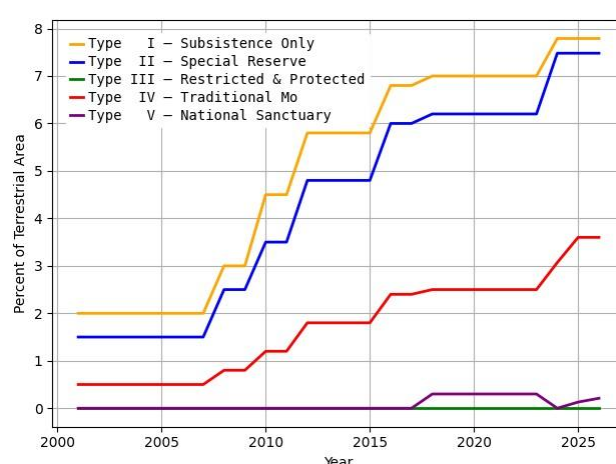


Figure 2b: Time Series of Terrestrial Conservation PAN Coverage by Management Type.

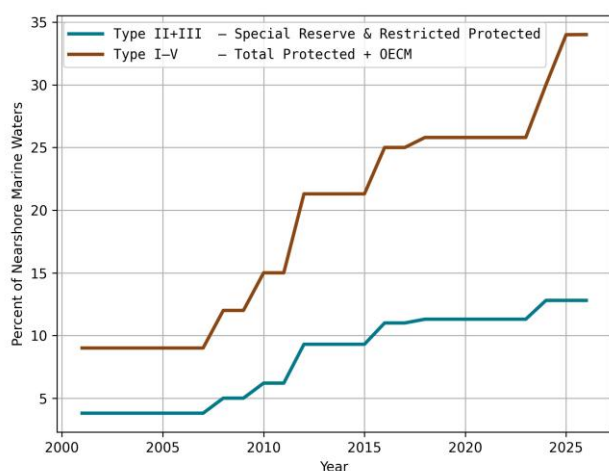


Figure 3a: Time Series of Nearshore Marine Conservation PAN Coverage by Type 2 & 3 Combined and Type 1-5 Combined.

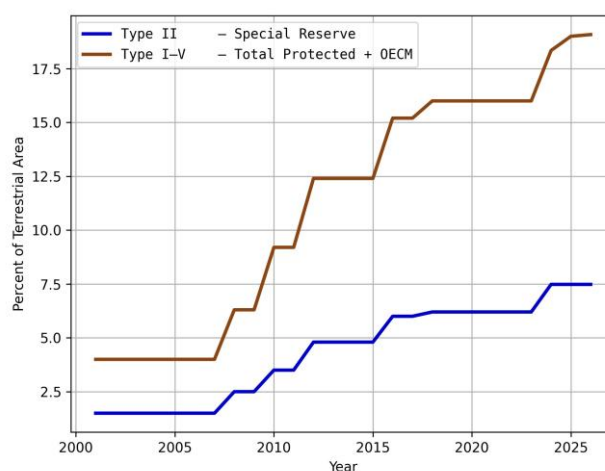


Figure 3b: Time Series of Terrestrial Conservation PAN Coverage by Type 2 and Type 1-5 Combined.

¹ Figures 2a,b and 3a,b are useful as comparisons among levels of protection and their progression projected back in time based on current PAN types. They are not to be interpreted as exact representations of historical PAN designations because PAN came into effect as the umbrella institutional arrangement only in 2015. Moreover, PAN designations only had two categories up until 2025 when types 1-5 were established. The old PAN categories 1 and 2 are intentionally reversed in the new PAN categories, with historical designations re-defined in the PAN database, re-affirmed in management plan updates, and reflected in Figures 2a,b and 3a,b.

Nature-Positive

The terms “nature-based” and “nature-positive” are sometimes used interchangeably in biodiversity discussions, but they have distinct meanings. Nature-based refers to practices and solutions that use natural processes and resources to address environmental challenges in specific contexts. In contrast, nature-positive emphasizes restoring, enhancing, and maintaining the health of ecosystems to ensure their long-term sustainability. Both approaches are transformative, integrating ecological principles into planning and engineering practices, and recognizing nature as a critical asset. The NBSAP specifically uses “nature-positive approach” in targets to align with CBD Secretariat’s guidance on creating a nature-positive future (UNDP *et al.*, 2021). Several sub-targets (Sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2) illustrate this use.

Mitigation and adaptation of the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, including ocean acidification and warming, through nature-positive approaches (sub-targets 1.8).

Effective management and use of wild species for the benefit of local communities through nature-positive approaches (sub-targets 2.9).

Effective management of areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry through nature-positive approaches (sub-targets 2.10).

Ecosystem services restored, maintained, and enhanced through nature-positive approaches for the benefit of local communities (sub-targets 2.11).

In infrastructure planning and implementation, nature-positive places nature at the center of design, fostering biodiversity and ecosystem function rather than merely reducing impact. This approach aligns with the global goal to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030 and achieve full ecosystem recovery by 2050, with measurable gains in species, processes, and ecosystem health. This approach prioritizes quantifiable positive biodiversity outcomes, improves the state of nature in absolute terms, and integrates biodiversity recovery into broader planning and adaptation strategies. While the KMGBF, MC, and *Reimaanlok* do not explicitly use the “nature-positive” language in their targets, their goals are closely aligned with the concept. The KMGBF aims to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030—the global nature goal—while MC and *Reimaanlok* focus on maintaining and enhancing ecosystems. *Reimaanlok* promotes nature-positive outcomes indirectly through Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and effective ecosystem management rather than through an explicit nature-positive framework. The NBSAP does not reject NbS; instead, it reframes nature-based approaches to align existing NbS efforts with the global nature-positive goal.

1.4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework



The CBD is a multilateral treaty also referred to as the Biodiversity Convention. The KMGBF was adopted during the 15th Conference of the Parties to the CBD in 2022, and sets out global targets to safeguard biodiversity for 2030 and beyond. The KMGBF did not create its targets in isolation; it builds upon Aichi biodiversity targets for continuity, SDGs for broader development alignment, and the aforementioned

CBD post-2020 guidance for measurable, nature-positive outcomes, while incorporating regional context such as MC targets for conservation.

In 2024, CMAC decided that *Reimaanlok* would be aligned with the KMGBF through the required development of a new NBSAP, and that the NBSAP would primarily be informed by the targets and actions in *Reimaanlok* (RMI EPA, 2024). The RMI benefits from having biodiversity targets that are aligned with both *Reimaanlok* (as the implementer of national and local biodiversity conservation) and KMGBF (as the CBD instrument providing overarching and detailed guidance in a global context). The NBSAP includes aspects of biodiversity (e.g., genetic resource management) not covered by *Reimaanlok*, and serves as the intended global recognition of RMI biodiversity, powered by *Reimaanlok* from the bottom-up.

2 Biodiversity Strategy Elements

This section outlines the strategic themes and goals, targets, actions, and indicators that make up the NBSAP from 2026 through 2030. Guidance for the development of these elements is informed by alignment with the KMGBF and the longstanding national focus on *Reimaanlok*.

The rationale for a 5-year NBSAP is that this 2026–2030 period encompasses both the 7NR and 8NR (February 2026 and June 2029, respectively) and both the first and final global reviews of collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF (October 2026 and the last quarter of 2030, respectively). The CBD framework recommends that Parties voluntarily update their NBSAPs in 2027 (after the first global review) and again in 2031 (after the final 2030 review). The RMI plans to update the current NBSAP in early 2031, as updating it earlier would be too soon for any substantive changes. By that time, many of the national policies and plans that are the focus of specific actions in the current NBSAP, may be outdated and/or revised. Similarly, projects referenced in specific actions will likely be complete, and local communities may have other concerns that need to be addressed. Furthermore, the indicators in the NBSAP that are used for reporting will likely need to be adapted for the post-2030 global biodiversity framework that will replace the KMGBF, and the RMI needs to focus on significantly improving capacity for data collection and reporting between completing the 7NR and embarking on the 8NR.

While the RMI attempted to update its NBSAP in 2016–2017, no formal document was finalized or submitted to CBD. This effort was primarily intended to align the original NBSAP (2000) with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The technical content produced was instead incorporated into other national frameworks that were being finalized at the time, such as the second RMI NDC (2018), *Tile Til Eo* 2050 Climate Strategy (2018), and the NEMS (2018). More biodiversity-specific, the effort also informed the completion of the 6th National Report (RMI CCD, 2020) and contributed to an informal CMAC review of the *Reimaanlok* process.

2.1 Strategic Themes and Goals

This subsection outlines the strategic themes and goals of the NBSAP, which are taken verbatim from the KMGBF, while the targets, actions, and indicators are adapted to reflect the national context.

Themes

- Reducing Threats to Biodiversity
- Meeting People’s Needs through Sustainable Use and Benefit-Sharing
- Tools and Solutions for Implementation and Mainstreaming

Goals

- A Reduce threats to biodiversity by 2030 through effective management based on biodiversity conservation, mitigation, restoration, research, and regulatory compliance.
- B Meet people’s needs by 2030 through sustainable use and benefit-sharing of wild species, renewable and genetic resources, urban green and blue spaces, and their ecosystem services.
- C Provide tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation by 2030 through international environmental agreements and technology-sharing, financial resources from all sources, biosafety and regulatory compliance, and private sector incentives, with accessible information and participatory decision-making that is all-inclusive and gender representative.

KMGBF Goal A The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored, substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050; human induced extinction of known threatened species is halted, and, by 2050, the extinction rate and risk of all species are reduced tenfold and the abundance of native wild species is increased to healthy and resilient levels; and the genetic diversity within populations of wild and domesticated species, is maintained, safeguarding their adaptive potential.

KMGBF Goal B Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued, maintained and enhanced, with those currently in decline being restored, supporting the achievement of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050.

KMGBF Goal C The monetary and non-monetary benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and digital sequence information on genetic resources, and of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, as applicable, are shared fairly and equitably, including, as appropriate with indigenous peoples and local communities, and substantially increased by 2050, while ensuring traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources is appropriately protected, thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in accordance with internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments.

KMGBF Goal D Adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and access to and transfer of technology to fully implement the GBF are secured and equitably accessible to all Parties, especially developing country Parties, in particular the least-developed countries and Small Island Developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, progressively closing the biodiversity finance gap of USD 700 billion per year, and aligning financial flows with the GBF and the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.

2.2 Targets

The KMGBF has 23 action-oriented global targets for urgent action through 2030 (Fig. 4; UN CBD, 2022). The targets relate to implementation actions that Conserve biodiversity, Avoid harm, Safeguard benefits and ecosystem services, and Act through mainstreaming and capacity-building. Together, their measurable results are intended to enable progress toward the outcome-oriented goals for 2050—halting biodiversity loss and restoring nature; using land and seas responsibly; sharing benefits and ecosystem services; and mobilizing the necessary resources.

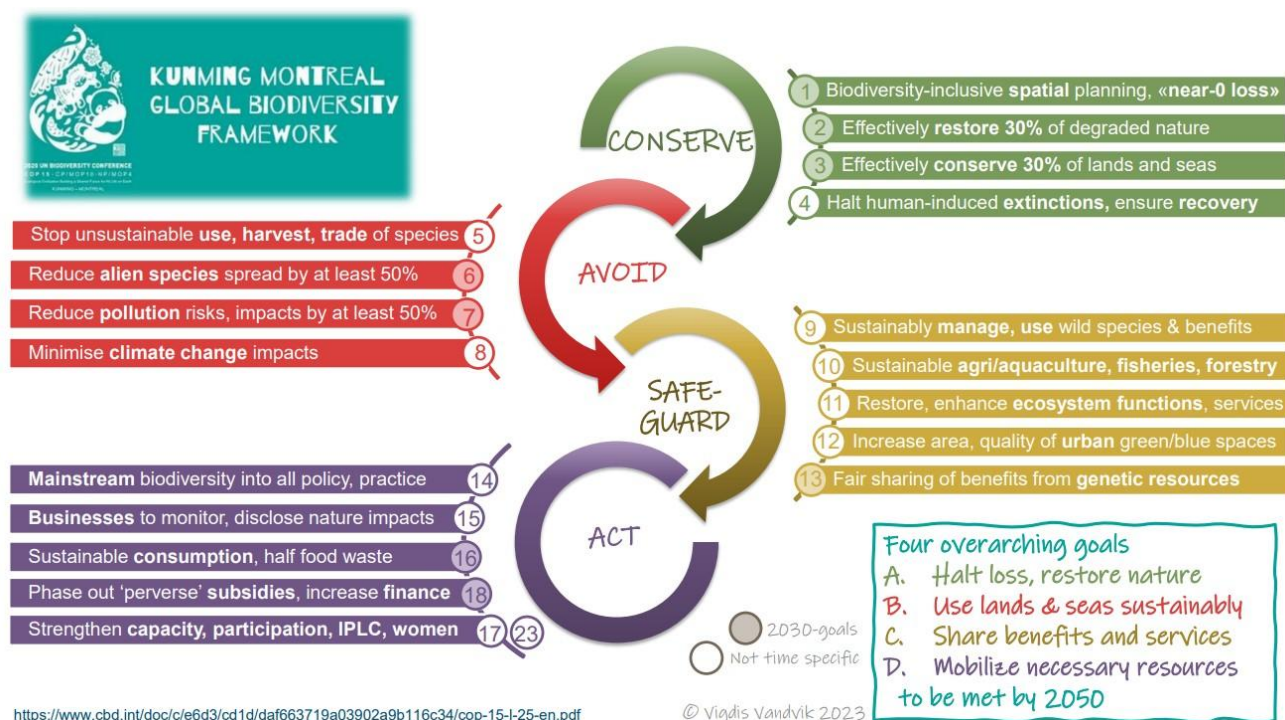


Figure 4: Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Targets

There are three national targets, presented across three subsections, consistent with the strategic themes:

- Reducing Threats to Biodiversity—Target 1
- Meeting People’s Needs through Sustainable Use and Benefit-Sharing—Target 2
- Tools and Solutions for Implementation and Mainstreaming—Target 3

Each of the three targets includes a set of target statements, or “sub-targets,” adapted for the national context while remaining directly aligned with the 23 targets of the KMGBF (Target 1 has eight sub-targets, 1.1–1.8; Target 2 has five sub-targets, 2.9–2.13; and Target 3 has ten sub-targets, 3.14–3.23). For each national target and its associated sub-targets, the corresponding KMGBF targets are presented, with their content hyperlinked (in [blue](#)) for reference. It is important to note that, despite the explicit use of sub-targets, the RMI adopts only three national targets for reporting purposes, rather than reporting against all 23 KMGBF targets individually.

The NBSAP sub-targets are formulated as statements of the expected condition (state) that the resource or attribute will achieve once actions (responses) have been implemented to address the effects (pressures) on the resource or attribute. In this way, the national targets and actions align with standard Pressure–State–Response (PSR) frameworks, widely used in the Pacific in SOE and MC reporting, and most notably for the RMI, through *Reimaanlok*. The KMGBF targets, by contrast, are presented as objective-oriented statements, designed to be more explicitly action-focused. This distinction reflects a matter of approach rather than substance, and enables the RMI to maintain consistency across planning and reporting processes.

Note: A detailed mapping of these targets and sub-targets, associated mechanisms, reporting sources, and indicator approaches is provided in Appendix A.

2.2.1 Reducing Threats to Biodiversity—Target 1

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| 1.1 | All atolls and islands engaged in <i>Reimaanlok</i> processes to conserve biodiversity and manage nearshore marine and land resources, with most offshore waters and deep benthic environments of high biodiversity importance under spatial planning to reduce biodiversity loss. |
| 1.2 | At least 30% of degraded nearshore waters and land areas are under effective ecological restoration or have been restored. |
| 1.3 | Effective management of marine waters that includes at least 30% of nearshore waters in Type 2 and/or Type 3 conservation areas, with fisheries management also between and around areas; AND effective management of 30% of land areas that includes at least 20% in Type 2 and/or Type 3 conservation areas. |
| 1.4 | Biophysical research, proposed or carried out, supports management actions to halt human-induced extinction of known threatened species and for the recovery and conservation of species. |
| 1.5 | Compliance with all national regulations and local government ordinances pertaining to the sustainable harvesting and trade of wild species. |
| 1.6 | Effective management of native and alien invasive species on biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation in line with existing national plans. |
| 1.7 | Effective management of waste, chemicals, pollutants, and nuclear radiation in line with existing national plans. |
| 1.8 | Mitigation and adaptation of the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, including ocean acidification and warming, through nature-positive approaches. |

- [GBF Target 1:](#) Plan and manage all areas to reduce biodiversity loss.
- [GBF Target 2:](#) Restore 30% of all degraded ecosystems.
- [GBF Target 3:](#) Conserve 30% of land, waters, and seas.
- [GBF Target 4:](#) Halt species extinction, protect genetic diversity, and manage human-wildlife conflicts.
- [GBF Target 5:](#) Ensure sustainable, safe, and legal harvesting and trade of wild species.
- [GBF Target 6:](#) Reduce the introduction of invasive alien species by 50% and minimize their impact.
- [GBF Target 7:](#) Reduce pollution to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity.
- [GBF Target 8:](#) Minimize the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and build resilience

2.2.2 Meeting People's Needs through Sustainable Use and Benefit-Sharing—Target 2

The KMGBF refers to both indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in targets, but the NBSAP refers to local communities. Since the majority of the RMI population is indigenous, local community control over resources depends on traditional, local, and national government institutional arrangements.

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| <p>2.9 Effective management and use of wild species for the benefit of local communities through nature-positive approaches.</p> <p>2.10 Effective management of areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry through nature-positive approaches.</p> <p>2.11 Ecosystem services restored, maintained, and enhanced through nature-positive approaches for the benefit of local communities.</p> <p>2.12 Urban green and blue spaces enhanced for human well-being and biodiversity.</p> <p>2.13 Established national capacity to manage traditional knowledge and genetic resources, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.</p> |
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GBF Target 9: Manage wild species sustainably to benefit people.

GBF Target 10: Enhance biodiversity and sustainability in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry.

GBF Target 11: Restore, maintain, and enhance nature's contributions to people.

GBF Target 12: Enhance green and blue spaces and urban planning for human well-being and biodiversity.

GBF Target 13: Increase the sharing of benefits from genetic resources, digital sequence information and traditional knowledge.

2.2.3 Tools and Solutions for Implementation and Mainstreaming—Target 3

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| <p>3.14 Holistic resource management and implementation of bilateral and multilateral environmental agreements.</p> <p>3.15 Private sector compliance with national regulations and local government ordinances that affect biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.</p> <p>3.16 Relevant and accessible information for people to make consumption choices based on nutrition and biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.</p> <p>3.17 National capacity enhanced to implement biosafety measures.</p> <p>3.18 Private sector incentives across economic sectors that contribute to biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.</p> <p>3.19 Financial resources from all sources that contribute to biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.</p> <p>3.20 National capacity for regional and international research and technology-sharing enhanced for biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.</p> <p>3.21 Biodiversity information available and accessible to stakeholders and decision makers to guide action.</p> <p>3.22 Equitable, accessible, and all-inclusive representation and participation in decision-making for biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.</p> <p>3.23 Gender equality and responsiveness in implementation for biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.</p> |
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GBF Target 14: Integrate biodiversity in decision-making at every level.

GBF Target 15: Businesses assess, disclose, and reduce biodiversity-related risks and negative impacts.

GBF Target 16: Enable sustainable consumption choices to reduce waste and overconsumption.

GBF Target 17: Strengthen biosafety and distribute the benefits of biotechnology.

GBF Target 18: Reduce harmful incentives by at least USD 500 billion per year, and scale up positive incentives for biodiversity.

GBF Target 19: Mobilize USD 200 billion per year from all sources, including USD 30 billion through international finance.

GBF Target 20: Strengthen capacity-building, technology transfer, and scientific and technical cooperation for biodiversity.

GBF Target 21: Ensure that knowledge is available and accessible to guide biodiversity action.

GBF Target 22: Ensure participation in decision-making and access to justice and information related to biodiversity for all.

GBF Target 23: Ensure gender equality and a gender-responsive approach for biodiversity action.

2.3 Actions

Actions to reach the national targets should be implemented consistently and in harmony with CBD and its Protocols, and with other relevant international obligations and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), taking into account national circumstances, priorities, and socioeconomic conditions. A summary of how NBSAP actions are distributed across pathways, leads, design types, target relevance, and sub-target operationalization and implementation architecture is provided in Appendix B.

The ongoing and proposed actions to address the national targets are presented in four subsections:

- Actions on MEA Participation and Compliance;
- Actions on National Strategies and Plans and Associated Projects;
- Actions on Regional Projects and Cooperation; and
- Other National and Local Actions

These subsections distinguish the different institutional pathways through which biodiversity action occurs in the RMI. Actions on MEA Participation and Compliance reflect the obligations of the Government of the RMI (GoRMI), through designated agency focal points, to engage with MEAs and their associated processes. Actions on National Strategies and Plans and Associated Projects reflect established national directions for biodiversity and the projects implemented nationally to support them. Actions on Regional Projects and Cooperation capture nationally-implemented initiatives that form part of broader regional or international efforts, including resource mobilization and technical partnerships. Other National and Local Actions reflect input received from communities during the whole-of-society NBSAP consultations, ensuring that local perspectives are incorporated without duplicating actions already presented in the preceding subsections.

Each ongoing and proposed action is preceded by symbols and sub-target references indicating which targets and sub-targets the action advances, based on the mechanism it uses to create change and, where relevant, the biodiversity pressure or state pathway it governs or operationalizes.

■ Target 1 Reducing Threats ● Target 2 Meeting People's Needs ▲ Target 3 Tools and Solutions

A significant number of actions are pertinent to two targets, and others apply to all three, and are therefore preceded by a combination of symbols:

■●▲ Targets 1–3 ■● Targets 1&2 ■▲ Targets 1&3 ●▲ Targets 2&3

The selected colors of the national target symbols are consistent with those used to represent the groupings of the KMGBF targets illustrated in Figure 4 in subsection 2.2:

Conserve and Avoid (■ GBF Targets 1-8), Safeguard (● GBF Targets 9-13), and Act (▲ GBF Targets 14-23)

The content of each action has hyperlinked references (in blue) for further information on the implementation lead, MEA, policy/plan, or project/activity discussed.

2.3.1 Actions on MEA Participation and Compliance

These actions reflect the obligations of GoRMI, through designated agency focal points, to engage with MEAs and their associated institutional processes. The numbered actions are grouped under thematic, unnumbered subsection headings (Rio Conventions, BRS Pollution Conventions, Other Pollution Conventions, and Other Cultural and Biodiversity-related Conventions, Treaties, and Agreements) to illustrate the institutional structure through which these obligations are carried out. While all MEAs involve reporting and submission deadlines, only those related to CBD and its Protocols are explicitly referenced, as these are directly relevant to the purpose and reporting framework of the NBSAP.

1. ▲ 3.14/3.21/3.22 [GoRMI](#) to engage in the [UN Conferences on Environment and Development](#) (Earth Summits) and related meetings and dialogues.

2. ▲ 3.14/3.21/3.22 [GoRMI](#) to engage in the [UN Environment Assembly](#) (UNEA) and related meetings and dialogues, and seek accreditation to the [Committee of Permanent Representatives](#) to the [UN Environment Programme](#) (UNEP).

[Rio Conventions](#)

3. ■▲ 1.8/3.14/3.21 [Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#) (MoFAT; National FP) and [Climate Change Directorate](#) (CCD; Operational FP) to engage in UN [Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) (UNFCCC) COPs and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
- a. [MoFAT](#) and [CCD](#) to engage in the [Kyoto Protocol \(with Doha Amendment\)](#) and [Paris Agreement](#) meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues under [UNFCCC](#).
 - b. [GoRMI](#) to convene the [High Ambition Coalition](#) (HAC) at [UNFCCC](#) COPs to secure ambitious outcomes including the development of a global response plan to achieve the targets of the [Paris Agreement](#).
4. ■▲ 1.2/3.14/3.21/3.22 [CCD](#) (National and Operational FP) to engage in UN [Convention to Combat Desertification](#) (UNCCD) COPs and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
- a. [CCD](#) to consider establishing [Land Degradation Neutrality \(LDN\)](#) targets.
5. ■●▲ 1.1-1.8/2.9-2.13/3.14/3.19-3.23 [Office of the President and Cabinet](#) (OPC; National FP), [MoFAT](#) (National FP), and [RMI EPA](#) (Operational FP) to engage in UN [CBD](#) Conference of the Parties (COPs) and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
- a. [RMI EPA](#) to submit the [7th National Report](#) on implementation (deadline February 28, 2026) to the [Online Reporting Tool](#) (ORT) for [CBD](#).
 - b. [RMI EPA](#) to serve as Pacific Subregion (Asia-Pacific) Substitute [Bureau](#) member on the [Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice](#) (SBSTTA) through SBSTTA-29 (2027).
 - c. [RMI EPA](#) to submit the [8th National Report](#) on implementation (deadline June 30, 2029) to the [ORT](#).
 - d. [OPC](#) and whole-of-government to fulfill the commitments pledged in the [Leaders' Pledge for Nature](#) for “urgent and transformational actions to address biodiversity loss, safeguard our planetary safety net, and ensure we build forward better toward net positive outcomes for nature, climate, and sustainable development”.
 - e. [RMI EPA](#) to prepare and submit the post-2030 NBSAP to the [ORT](#) in 2030–2031.
 - f. [RMI EPA](#) and partners to coordinate national implementation, reporting, financing, and capacity development for [CBD](#) and [KMGBF](#).
 - i. Advance delivery of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development ([Decision 15/8](#)) by strengthening institutional capacity, monitoring systems, and interagency coordination.
 - ii. Advance delivery of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization ([Decision 15/7](#)) by identifying, accessing, and coordinating national, regional, and international biodiversity-related financial resources.
 - iii. Advance delivery of the Gender Plan of Action ([Decision 15/11](#)) promoting gender-responsive participation in biodiversity decision-making, implementation, and reporting.
 - iv. Advance delivery of the [long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity](#) by strengthening integration of biodiversity considerations into national planning, climate adaptation, fisheries, shoreline protection, and infrastructure planning.
 - v. Advance application of the [Global Strategy for Plant Conservation](#) by strengthening in situ conservation of native plant species and habitats, improving plant biodiversity monitoring and management, and supporting ecosystem restoration and invasive species control efforts.

- vi. Strengthen integration and long-term management of [national biodiversity information systems](#), including consolidation of spatial, ecological, monitoring, and reporting data to support national planning, conservation management, and [CBD](#) and [KMGBF](#) reporting.
 - vii. Strengthen national institutional readiness for [access and benefit-sharing](#) implementation, including coordination mechanisms, policy development, and integration of traditional knowledge governance into national biodiversity management frameworks.
6.   2.13/3.14/3.21/3.22 [OPC](#) (National FP), [MoFAT](#) (National FP), and [RMI EPA](#) (Operational FP) to engage in [Nagoya Protocol](#) (on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization) Meetings of the Parties (MOPs) and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
- a. [OPC](#) or [MoFAT](#) to formally designate [RMI EPA](#) as the [Competent National Authority](#) for performing the [administrative and reporting functions](#) required.
 - b. [RMI EPA](#) to submit the [1st National Report](#) on implementation (deadline February 28, 2026) to the [Access and Benefit-sharing \(ABS\) Clearing-House](#). An [RMI Interim Report](#) dated October 6, 2022 was submitted by [CCD](#) (prior Operational FP).
 - c. [RMI EPA](#) to maintain engagement with [CBD](#) processes on Digital Sequence Information (DSI) and the development of the multilateral benefit-sharing mechanism associated with the [Cali Fund](#), including through the contribution of an atoll-based expert serving in a personal capacity on the [Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group \(AHTEG\) on DSI on Genetic Resources](#), to help ensure that allocation methodologies appropriately reflect the biodiversity extent and management realities of atoll-based and large ocean-state countries.
7.    1.4/2.13/3.14/3.17/3.20-3.22 [OPC](#) (National FP), [MoFAT](#) (National FP), and [MoNRC](#) (Operational FP) with [RMI EPA](#) as invited, to engage in UN [Cartagena Protocol](#) (on Biosafety) MOPs and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
- a. [OPC](#) or [MoFAT](#) to formally designate [MoNRC](#) as the [Competent National Authority](#) for performing the [administrative and reporting functions](#) required.
 - b. [MoNRC](#) to submit the [5th National Report](#) on implementation (deadline February 28, 2026) to the [Biosafety Clearing-House](#) (BCH).
 - c. [MoNRC](#) to submit a compliance action plan and/or progress in the adoption of legal and other measures on implementation (original deadline May 2024; revised deadline ASAP but before June 2026) to the [Biosafety Clearing-House](#) (BCH) in order for RMI to regain compliance status.
 - d. [MoNRC](#) in coordination with [RMI Ports Authority](#) (RMIPA) and with [RMI EPA](#) as invited, to strengthen national biosafety operational capacity consistent with the [Protocol](#),
 - i. Develop and implement biosafety procedures, institutional coordination, and training and operational support for inspection, monitoring, and control of transboundary movement of living modified organisms (LMOs) at ports of entry, while strengthening integration with national biosecurity systems, environmental permitting, and biodiversity monitoring and reporting processes.
 - ii. Update the [Biosafety Legislative Review—National Biosafety Framework \(2006\)](#).
- [BRS Pollution Conventions](#)**
8.    1.7/3.14/3.21/3.22 [RMI EPA](#) (National FP and Competent Authority) to engage in [Basel Convention](#) (on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal) COPs and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.

9.   1.7/3.14/3.21/3.22 [RMI EPA](#) (Official Contact Point and Designated National Authority) to engage in [Rotterdam Convention](#) (on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade) COPs and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
 - a. [RMI EPA](#) to address up to 57 absent import decisions in 2024 for Prior Informed Consent (PIC).
10.   1.7/3.14/3.21/3.22 [RMI EPA](#) (National FP) to engage in [Stockholm Convention](#) (on Persistent Organic Pollutants - POPs) COPs and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.

Other Pollution Conventions

11.   1.7/1.8/3.14/3.21/3.22 [RMI EPA](#) (National FP) to engage in [Vienna Convention](#) (for the Protection of the Ozone Layer) COPs, and [Montreal Protocol](#) (on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, with [Kigali Amendment](#) and prior amendments) MOPs and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
12.   1.7/3.14/3.21/3.22 [RMI EPA](#) (National FP) to engage in UN [Minamata Convention](#) (on Mercury) COPs and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
13.   1.7/3.14/3.21/3.22 [MoFAT](#) (National Authority) and [RMI EPA](#) (Alternate Contact) to engage in the [Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons](#) (OPCW) [Chemical Weapons Convention](#) (CWC - on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling, and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction) Conference of the States Parties (CSPs) and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
14.   1.7/3.14/3.22 [GoRMI](#) as part of Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) to continue to engage in sessions convened by the UN [Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee](#) tasked with crafting a global treaty/[legally-binding instrument on plastic pollution](#).

Other Cultural and Biodiversity-related Conventions/Treaties/Agreements

15.   1.3/3.14/3.21/3.22 [MoFAT](#) (National FP) and [Ministry of Education, Sports, and Training—Public School System](#) (MoEST-PSS; Operational FP) to engage in UN [Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization](#) (UNESCO) [World Heritage Convention](#) (Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage) General Assembly of the States Parties and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
16.   1.3/3.14/3.21/3.22 [RMI EPA](#) (National FP) to engage in [Ramsar Convention on Wetlands](#) (of International Importance) COPs and related meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
17.   1.5/3.14/3.21/3.22 [MoNRC](#) (Commissioner) and [Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority](#) (MIMRA; Alternate) to engage in [International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling](#) (ICRW) commission and committee meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
18.    1.5/2.9/3.14/3.21/3.22 [MIMRA](#) (National Authority) to engage in UN [Fish Stocks Agreement](#) (UNFSA) Meetings of States Parties (MSPs), workshops, and dialogues under the [UN Convention of the Law of the Sea](#) (UNCLOS).
19.    1.3/1.5/2.9/3.14/3.21/3.22 [GoRMI](#) to engage with the [Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner](#) (OPOC) on the recently-ratified [Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdictions \(BBNJ\) Agreement](#) ('High Seas Biodiversity Treaty') under [UNCLOS](#), and assign [MIMRA](#) as the RMI Operational Focal Point.
20.    1.5/2.9/3.14/3.21/3.22 [GoRMI](#) to reconsider historical decisions not to join the [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species](#) (CITES) and the [Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species](#) (CMS), with respect to current NBSAP targets on the trade of wild species.
21.   2.10/2.13/3.14/3.21/3.22 [MoNRC](#) (National FP) to engage in UN [Food and Agriculture Organization](#) (FAO) [International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture](#) (ITPGRFA) meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.

22.  1.6/2.10/3.14/3.21/3.22 **MoNRC** (Non-Contracting Party Information Point) to engage in UN **FAO International Plant Protection Convention** (IPPC) meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues, and consider becoming a Contracting Party to the Convention.

2.3.2 Actions on National Strategies and Plans and Associated Projects

These actions reflect established national strategic directions for biodiversity and the nationally-implemented plans, programs, and projects that support them. The numbered actions are grouped under three thematic, unnumbered subsection headings (Multisectoral Plans, Sectoral Plans, and Cross-Sectoral Delivery Mechanisms) to illustrate the differing roles, delivery pathways, and biodiversity relevance across agency mandates. Within each subsection, actions are ordered according to institutional governance hierarchy and implementation function, beginning with whole-of-government policy frameworks and national coordinating authorities, followed by statutory management authorities, and then implementation partners and delivery mechanisms. This ordering reflects the progression from national policy direction and coordination to operational implementation and on-the-ground delivery. While all agencies maintain strategies and undertake actions relevant to biodiversity, sub-actions are most extensively drawn from the plans and mandates of agencies with direct biodiversity responsibilities (MoNRC, MIMRA, CHPO, and RMI EPA), as these are most directly aligned with the purpose, implementation, and national reporting framework of the NBSAP. Sub-actions are used where needed to operationalize parent actions, clarify delivery pathways, or reflect distinct institutional roles or programmatic components nested within broader implementation frameworks.

Multisectoral Plans include whole-of-government frameworks that guide national implementation of biodiversity conservation, protected areas management, invasive species management, historic preservation, environmental protection, and climate adaptation and resilience. These plans establish national policy direction and coordination across sectors, integrating biodiversity considerations into development planning, environmental governance, and resource management. They provide the strategic foundation for coordinated national implementation. Actions in this subsection begin with national policy and coordination frameworks, followed by statutory environmental and resource management authorities, national coordination mechanisms, local governance implementation structures, civil society and technical partners, and finally project-level implementation actions and nationally-implemented programs.

Sectoral Plans include agency-specific strategies and action plans carried out by ministries, authorities, and public institutions whose mandates directly affect biodiversity, ecosystems, and environmental quality. These plans operationalize management, monitoring, restoration, permitting, and compliance within defined institutional responsibilities. They translate national strategic direction into applied biodiversity management and environmental action. Actions in this subsection are ordered according to statutory management authority and sectoral governance responsibility, followed by supporting technical and implementation partners engaged in delivery of sector-specific biodiversity outcomes.

Cross-Sectoral Delivery Mechanisms include nationally-directed delivery of infrastructure, shoreline development, and climate-resilience investments carried out under nationally-implemented plans, policies, and environmental regulations. These include infrastructure and resilience programs supported by the World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), and Compact of Free Association (Compact), which deliver nationally-defined infrastructure and resilience priorities. These actions are implemented under national regulatory authority, with RMI EPA providing environmental safeguards oversight, environmental permitting, and regulatory approvals. Cross-sectoral delivery mechanisms also include implementation actions undertaken by national coordination, disaster risk management (DRM), planning, infrastructure, and service delivery agencies whose operational responsibilities support national implementation in these areas. Actions in this subsection are ordered according to national delivery authority, beginning with national infrastructure and safeguards frameworks, followed by delivery mechanisms implemented through national ministries, utilities, and implementing partners.

Multisectoral Plans

23. ▲ 3.21/3.22 All RMI agencies to implement actions identified in relevant national regulations, policies, and strategic and operational plans, and review and update as necessary to align with the NBSAP.
24. ▲ 3.21/3.22 GoRMI and whole-of-society, led by RMI EPA, to implement the NBSAP, addressing targets, actions, and indicators through synergies with all strategies and plans listed in this subsection, as well as coordinating across national and operational focal points and MEA authorities in subsection 2.3.1.
 - a. Coordinate to increase capacity for biodiversity-related data collection and reporting on headline and binary indicators, enabling a more comprehensive 8th National Report as compared with the current 7th National Report.
 - b. RMI EPA and partners, in preparation for the post-2030 NBSAP, to continue aligning targets, actions, and indicators identified in the current NBSAP with relevant updates to biodiversity-related targets, actions, and indicators from all sources, especially the NSP, NDC, and NAP, (and LDN, if available).
25. ■●▲ 1.1-1.8/2.9-2.13/3.21/3.22 GoRMI and whole-of-society, led by relevant agencies, to implement *Agenda 2030: A Pathway for a Resilient and Prosperous Future* (2024) and all 17 UN SDGs, with emphasis on those most directly linked to biodiversity (SDG 14 Life Below Water and SDG 15 Life on Land).
26. ■●▲ 1.1-1.8/2.9-2.13/3.20-3.22 GoRMI and whole-of-society, led by the Economic, Policy, Planning, and Statistics Office (EPPSO), to implement the 2020–2030 National Strategic Plan (2020) across all sectors, and strengthen integration with NBSAP implementation.
 - a. Ensure that implementation and future updates of the Marine Resources Pillar and Land Resources Pillar of the NSP continue to fully reflect and reinforce biodiversity-integrated fisheries, aquaculture, agriculture, shoreline protection, infrastructure planning, climate adaptation, and national development planning across sectoral strategies, environmental permitting systems, and spatial planning processes.
27. ■▲ 1.8/3.21 GoRMI and whole-of-society, led by the National Energy Office (NEO), to implement the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC; 2025) across all sectors, and strengthen integration with NBSAP implementation.
 - a. Coalition on Phasing Out Fossil Fuel Incentives Including Subsidies (COFFIS)—strengthen membership commitment to the international coalition and develop national inventory capacity.
28. ■▲ 1.8/3.21 GoRMI and whole-of-society, led by NEO, to implement the 2050 Climate Strategy (*Tile Til Eo*; 2018) across all sectors, and strengthen integration with NBSAP implementation.
29. ■▲ 1.8/3.21 GoRMI and whole-of-society, led by CCD, to update and implement the National Adaptation Plan (NAP; 2023) across all sectors, and strengthen integration with NBSAP implementation.
30. ■▲ 1.7/3.21 GoRMI and the local governments of the nuclear-affected atolls, led by the National Nuclear Commission (NNC), to build on the environment pillar of the 2020–2023 Strategy for Coordinated Action to Address Nuclear Justice, reducing the risks of exposure to radiation and other toxins.
31. ■▲ 1.8/3.20/3.21 Ministry of Transportation, Communications, and Information Technology (MoTCIT) and partners to implement the Low Carbon Sea Transport (LCST) Project, centered around the low-emissions flagship SV *Juren Ae* sailing cargo and training vessel, the Micronesian Center for Sustainable Transport (MCST), and the Maritime Vocational Training Center (MVTC).
32. ■●▲ 1.1/1.2/1.4/1.5/1.6/2.1-2.3/2.6/3.20-3.23 RMI EPA to implement the NBSAP Coordinator program through placement of embedded biodiversity coordinators within host institutions, to strengthen institutional capacity and support NBSAP implementation through community engagement and biodiversity data collection for NBSAP and 7th National Report preparation, and advance biodiversity management specific to the mandate of the host institution.

- a. NBSAP Coordinator for *Reimaanlok*, embedded at the [Marshall Islands Conservation Society](#) (MICS), to support implementation of the *Reimaanlok* process, community-based conservation area management, biodiversity monitoring, and stakeholder engagement.
 - b. NBSAP Coordinator for Biosecurity and Agroforestry, embedded at MoNRC, to support implementation of the [NISSAP](#) and the [Agriculture Sector Plan](#), including invasive species monitoring, biosecurity and quarantine coordination, and integration of biodiversity priorities into climate-resilient food security initiatives.
 - c. NBSAP Coordinator for Biosafety and Pollution, embedded at [RMIPA](#), to support the update and implementation of the [National Biosafety Framework](#), strengthen port-of-entry biosafety and pollution coordination, and integrate biodiversity priorities into transport risk pathways and port infrastructure planning and operations.
33.  1.7/2.12/3.20-3.22 [RMI EPA](#) to implement its 2024–2027 Strategic Plan (in [2024 Annual Report](#)).
- a. Effective Regulations and Enforcement—strengthen and streamline regulations, permits, monitoring, enforcement, and public education to ensure consistent compliance across all divisions.
 - i. Strengthen environmental permitting and compliance systems by improving permitting workflows, compliance tracking, inspection reporting, and regulatory data-management systems to enhance enforcement effectiveness and biodiversity protection.
 - b. Clean, Safe Marine Waters—establish a cross-sector marine pollution task force and implement a national oil spill response plan to clearly manage and respond to vessel-related marine pollution in Majuro, and complete final stages of plan to address lagoon-side oil and fuel spill pollution from marine sources in both Majuro and Ebeye.
 - i. Expand safe marine water testing program with additional pollutant indicators, greater spatial coverage, and more frequent testing.
 - ii. Maintain coastal water quality monitoring data, through improved laboratory capacity or external analysis, required to determine headline indicator [7.1 on the ‘index of coastal eutrophication’](#) in the RMI, ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#).
 - c. Safe Fresh Water Supplies—improve household water management, expand water quality monitoring and enforcement, and continue mapping groundwater resources to safeguard freshwater supplies.
 - d. Resilient Coastal Zones—promote sustainable coastal development through updated shoreline policies, environmental assessments and permits, and the expansion and protection of designated protected areas through the [Reimaanlok](#) process.
 - e. Reduced Risk from Waste and Pollution—minimize environmental and health risks by reducing hazardous and plastic waste, managing abandoned vehicles and scrap metal, and strengthening monitoring and sanitary survey processes.
 - i. Develop and execute the [Product Stewardship Scheme](#) (PSS) solid waste management program to address waste streams not included in current [Container Deposit Legislation](#) (CDL).
 - ii. Develop and execute plan to address lagoon-side marine pollution from land-based sources in Majuro and Ebeye.
 - iii. Expand monitoring program for hazardous substances, and promote proper handling, storage, disposal, and/or recycling of liquid waste.
 - iv. Strengthen, in coordination with [RMIPA](#) and [Ministry of Health and Human Services](#) (MoHHS), national capacity at ports of entry for hazardous waste management, oil spill response, sanitation, and pollution prevention through training, operational procedures, and institutional coordination, consistent with national pollution control, environmental protection, and permitting systems.

- v. Maintain pesticide monitoring and environmental contaminant data, through improved laboratory capacity or external analysis, required to determine headline indicator [7.2 on ‘environmental pesticide concentration’](#) in the RMI, ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#).
 - f. Capable RMI EPA—build institutional capacity through staff training, stronger management systems, expert networks, and a strategic action plan aligned with national priorities and long-term funding frameworks.
 - g. Capable Communities—empower communities through targeted awareness campaigns, support for outer island resource management, and stronger government advocacy to elevate environmental issues and secure financial support.
34.  1.2/1.6/3.20-3.22 [MoNRC](#) to implement the [2021–2029 National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan](#) (NISSAP).
- a. National support for invasive species management—embed invasive species priorities across government planning, strengthen political and community awareness, and mobilize sustained financial and stakeholder commitment.
 - b. Capacity and infrastructure strengthened—build skilled human resources, maintain functional biosecurity and management facilities at ports and within islands, and support effective national and local invasive species teams.
 - c. Legislation, policy and protocols improved—update and harmonize laws, regulations, and standard operating procedures to enable effective prevention, detection, response, and management.
 - d. Baseline information improved—conduct systematic surveys, inventories, and monitoring, including of both native and alien invasive species, to better understand species distributions, pathways, and impacts across marine and terrestrial environments, and to support management and response actions.
 - i. Maintain invasive species monitoring and national watchlist data required to determine headline indicator [6.1 on ‘invasive alien species establishment’](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
 - e. National invasive species watchlist implementation strengthened—through maintenance, periodic updating, and operational use of a national invasive species watchlist and risk assessment system covering both native and alien invasive species, to support prevention, early detection, risk prioritization, and response actions through integration with national biodiversity monitoring, environmental permitting, and reporting systems.
 - f. Pathways prioritized—apply risk assessment tools and agreed criteria to identify high-risk species, sites, and pathways for targeted action and efficient resource allocation.
 - g. Information in decision-making improved—integrate research findings, monitoring data, and risk assessments into planning, policy development, and operational management.
 - h. Introductions prevented and early detection and rapid response enabled—strengthen border and internal biosecurity, implement surveillance systems, and maintain preparedness plans for high-risk incursions.
 - i. Control and eradication prioritized—coordinate site-based management actions such as pest and weed control, rodent eradications, and integrated pest management approaches.
 - j. Ecosystem recovery and restoration supported—promote natural regeneration and targeted restoration actions after control or eradication, particularly in priority conservation and food-production areas.
 - k. National biosecurity implementation capacity strengthened—at ports of entry and in coordination with [RMIPA](#) and [RMI EPA](#), to include training, operational procedures, and institutional coordination for inspection, monitoring, and prevention of invasive species introduction pathways, and integration with national biodiversity monitoring, environmental permitting, and reporting systems.

1. Local biosecurity implementation capacity strengthened—across outer islands, inter-island transport pathways, and community surveillance systems, to implement coordinated inspection, monitoring, outreach, and reporting mechanisms to prevent inter-atoll spread of invasive species within the RMI.
 - i. At outer islands and in coordination with local governments and traditional leaders, to implement routine biosecurity inspection, monitoring, and outreach programs, including coordinated inspection visits, invasive species surveillance, and strengthening local reporting and response mechanisms.
 - ii. Across inter-island vessel and cargo transport pathways and in coordination with [RMIPA](#), [MIMRA](#), relevant State-Owned Enterprises, and vessel operators, to implement biosecurity inspection protocols and operational procedures for inter-island vessels and cargo handling, including screening of high-risk materials and training for vessel crews and cargo handlers.
 - iii. Through community-based invasive species surveillance and reporting systems and in coordination with local governments, communities, and national partners, to strengthen early detection and reporting of invasive species, including training for local recognition and reporting, development of reporting protocols, and integration of community observations into national invasive species monitoring and response systems.
35. ▲ 3.20/3.21 [RMI EPA](#), in coordination with national executing and implementing agencies and external development partners, to develop, adopt, and implement an integrated environmental safeguards coordination framework that aligns RMI environmental assessment, permitting, and monitoring systems with international development partner safeguard requirements, including formal development consent procedures, coordinated project review processes, and strengthened institutional integration across national permitting, planning, and development approval systems.
 - a. Develop and operationalize a formal RMI EPA development consent process to provide early-stage environmental safeguards review and approval aligned with national permitting systems and development partner safeguard requirements.
 - b. Establish coordinated safeguards review and consultation procedures across implementing agencies and development partners to ensure consistent integration of environmental safeguards into project planning, design, approval, and implementation.
 - c. Strengthen national safeguards implementation capacity through training, mentoring, and institutional coordination to support effective environmental safeguards implementation across national and development partner projects.
36. ■●▲ 1.6/1.7/1.8/2.10/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) to update and implement the 2017–2022 [National Environment Management Strategy](#) (NEMS; 2017), and strengthen integration with NBSAP implementation.
37. ■●▲ 1.2/1.7/1.8/2.12/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) to update and operationalize its internal Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) tool and Environmental Assessment (EA) guidance to apply to both earthmoving and waste discharge permitting processes, and to confirm alignment with national targets and sub-targets.
38. ▲ 3.21 [RMI EPA](#) and [CCD](#) to update the [State of Environment](#) (SOE; 2016) Report, and use relevant data for national reporting in the [7th National Report](#) and [8th National Report](#) on [CBD](#) implementation.
 - a. [RMI EPA](#) to maintain and coordinate national biodiversity information systems and indicator datasets required to determine headline indicator [21.1 on ‘biodiversity information availability’](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#).
39. ■▲ 1.2/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) to contribute to, and coordinate reporting from [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#) required to approximate the total area of degraded marine and terrestrial ecosystems, so that headline indicator [2.1 on ‘area of restoration’](#) in the RMI can be determined (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of the preparation of the [8th National Report](#).

40.   1.1/1.4/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) to contribute to, and coordinate reporting from [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#) required to determine headline indicator [A.1 on the 'Red List of Ecosystems'](#) and [A.3 on the 'Red List Index'](#) and [A.4 on 'effective population size'](#) and [B.1 on 'ecosystem services'](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of the preparation of the 8th National Report.
 - a. [MIMRA](#) to compile marine ecosystem condition and risk assessment data for A.1, and marine species conservation status and population monitoring data for A.3, marine species population monitoring and genetic diversity data for A.4, and marine ecosystem service data for B.1.
 - b. [MoNRC](#) to compile terrestrial ecosystem condition and risk assessment data for A.1, and terrestrial species conservation status and population monitoring data for A.3, terrestrial species population monitoring and genetic diversity data for A.4, and terrestrial ecosystem service data for B.1.
41.   1.1/1.4/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) to coordinate national biodiversity spatial planning data required to determine headline indicator [1.1 on 'biodiversity spatial plans'](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of the preparation of the 8th National Report.
 - a. [MIMRA](#) to compile marine spatial planning and conservation management coverage data.
 - b. [MoNRC](#) to compile terrestrial conservation area and land management planning coverage data.
42.   1.3/1.4/1.7/3.21/3.22 [RMI EPA](#) to continue as the RMI consultation agency on the [US Army Kwajalein Atoll Environmental Standards](#) (USAKA-UES), and engage on the review of all proposed activities on or through the [US Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll](#) (USAG-KA) jurisdiction that may have an impact on listed consultation species.
 - a. Request USAG-KA to address Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS; synthetic organofluorine POPs, “forever chemicals”) through on- and off-base water testing and cleanup (e.g., firefighting foam) of these substances.
 - b. Review and provide input on biological assessments, environmental compliance, and the design and monitoring of mitigation measures for proposed projects.
 - c. Coordinate with USAG-KA and US-based UES consultation agencies on habitat restoration, conservation projects, and emerging threats to sensitive species or ecosystems.
 - d. Maintain and update a database of listed consultation species, including population trends, habitat status, and recovery actions, to support assessments, reporting, and USAKA-UES updates.
 - e. Provide periodic reporting to GoRMI on environmental monitoring, compliance, remediation progress (including PFAS), and alignment with biodiversity and ecosystem service priorities.
 - f. Engage stakeholders and communities to ensure FPIC considerations are met and to facilitate public education and awareness on USAG-KA environmental activities impacting local biodiversity or resources.
43.    1.5/1.8/2.9/2.10/2.11/3.16/3.20/3.21/3.22 [MoNRC](#) (National Convenor) to engage with the [UN Food Systems Coordination Hub](#) and organize national [Food Systems Summit Dialogues](#), and implement, with partners, the [Food Systems Pathway](#) to transform the Marshall Islands food system.
 - a. Diverse and sustainable blue food production and consumption developed—strengthen community-based fisheries and marine resource management, expand sustainable ocean food harvesting, and enhance value-added processing to support nutrition, livelihoods, and ecosystem resilience.
 - b. Sustainable green food production and consumption expanded—scale climate-adaptive atoll agriculture, support diverse local crop production (gardens, agroforestry, tree crops), and improve access to and demand for nutritious local foods.

- c. Lifelong nutrition and health education and awareness delivered—integrate culturally-relevant nutrition education into schools, health systems, and community programs to shift consumption patterns toward healthier, locally-sourced diets.
 - d. Food safety in a complex system ensured—strengthen food safety standards, monitoring, and compliance across imported and locally-produced foods to protect public health.
 - e. Whole of government and whole of society collaboration developed—align policies, institutions, data systems, and investments across government and stakeholders to coordinate resilient, equitable food system transformation.
44.    1.7/2.11/3.16/3.21/3.22 [MoHHS](#) and partners to establish a “[One Health](#)” technical working group to strengthen national food safety systems and facilitate information exchange and multisectoral coordination between human, animal, and environmental health.
45.    1.8/2.10/2.11/3.16/3.21/3.22 [Canvasback Missions](#) to engage with [MoHHS](#), [MoNRC](#), and [MoEST-PSS](#) to improve policies and programs for sustainable consumption.
- a. Promote healthy food choices for children and prevent the sale of unhealthy foods around school areas.
 - b. Demonstrate the benefits of nutritious diet and exercise in combating diabetes and other non-communicable diseases (i.e., Majuro and Ebeye Wellness Centers demonstration kitchens that serve healthy daily breakfast and lunch).
 - c. Establish and maintain vegetable gardens and greenhouses in urban centers and rural areas, teach K-8 children to grow, harvest, and cook produce, and hold community cooking classes on the availability and use of non-traditional native vegetation.
 - d. Maintain "New Kids" education and awareness program for new mothers on newborn nutrition and family planning, with cooking demonstrations and provision of recipes and takeaway ingredients.
46.    1.3/2.13/2/3.21-3.23 [CHPO](#), within the [Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs](#) (MoCIA), to implement its [2023–2027 National Historic Preservation Plan](#) (2023).
- a. Cultural and historic resources documented—survey atolls systematically, record tangible and intangible heritage, update national registers of historic places and traditional knowledge holders, and improve archival, mapping, and data management systems to safeguard information for future generations.
 - b. Historic properties and cultural heritage protected—strengthen permit review processes, integrate preservation requirements into development planning, enforce the Historic Preservation Act, and promote conservation measures for sites threatened by development, climate change, and natural disasters.
 - c. Public awareness and education on Marshallese heritage increased—conduct outreach programs, school engagement, interpretive materials, cultural events, and media that promote understanding of the value of historic sites, traditional practices, and ancestral knowledge.
 - d. National and community capacity for preservation developed—train [CHPO](#) staff, local governments, community members, supporting traditional knowledge holders, and encourage local stewardship and participation in preservation activities.
 - e. Institutional effectiveness and partnerships strengthened—improve governance, planning, and coordination with national agencies and international partners, secure sustainable funding, and align preservation actions with broader national development and climate resilience priorities.
 - f. Compile, with [EPPSO](#), national data on traditional occupations and customary resource use required to determine headline indicator [9.2. on ‘traditional occupations’](#) and national land tenure, land use, and customary land governance data required to determine headline indicator [22.1 on ‘land use and](#)

tenure’ in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the 8th National Report, and submit to RMI EPA for reporting.

47. ▲ 3.21-3.23 RMI EPA, with support from the Ministry of Finance, Banking, and Postal Services (MoFBPS) and CHPO, to implement national ABS coordination, monitoring, and reporting systems for genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, consistent with national legislation and international agreements.
- a. MoFBPS to compile national monetary benefit-sharing data associated with genetic resources required to determine headline indicator C.1 on ‘monetary benefits’ in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the 8th National Report, and submit to RMI EPA for reporting.
 - b. RMI EPA, with support from CHPO, to compile national data on non-monetary benefits arising from biodiversity-related research, technology transfer, and capacity-building activities required to determine headline indicator C.2 on ‘non-monetary benefits’ in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the 8th National Report.
48. ■●▲ 1.3//2.9/2.13/3.21/3.22 CMAC and whole-of-society, led by MIMRA, to update and implement the PAN Strategic Action Plan (2020), founded on *Reimaanlok*, and strengthen integration with NBSAP implementation.
- a. PAN Office to maintain and update national protected area and conservation area records required to determine headline indicator 3.1 on ‘protected areas and OECMs’ in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the 8th National Report.
49. ■●▲ 1.1/1.3-1.5/2.9/2.10/2.11/2.13/3.21/3.22 CMAC, in coordination with local governments, with administrative support provided through MoCIA, to facilitate implementation of the updated *Reimaanlok* National Conservation Area Plan (2008; 2025 update pending publication) and *Reimaanlok* Field Guide (2012; 2025 update pending publication), upon initiation by communities and/or local governments, in accordance with the 7-step (revised from 8-step) *Reimaanlok* Framework.
- a. All agencies, academia, and NGOs to promote and use the CMAC Secretariat or PAN Office as the facilitation/coordination hub for all biodiversity and resource management field research and/or community consultation that is proposed for the outer islands.
 - b. CMAC Secretariat or PAN Office to serve as the first point of inquiry and referral for all biodiversity and resource management field research and/or community consultation originating from outside the RMI, to ensure that both permitting processes are followed and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) is obtained.
 - c. CMAC Secretariat (MIMRA) to convene monthly meetings of the Board/Executive members, quarterly meetings of all member organizations, and quarterly meetings of each of the marine, terrestrial, socioeconomic, livelihoods, and communications technical working groups established to guide the *Reimaanlok* process.
 - d. CMAC Secretariat (MIMRA) to use the *Reimannlok* email list as the primary means of sharing information among member organizations.
50. ■▲ 1.1/1.3/3.21/3.22 Local communities and/or local government to initiate *Reimaanlok* processes for remaining atolls and islands, and establish their LRCs with the assistance of CMAC. Current efforts are prioritizing communities in Kwajalein Atoll based on the model for Majuro Atoll, *Irooj* Island in Majuro Atoll, and Kili Island in association with the Kili-Bikini-Ejit Local Government (KBE).
51. ■●▲ 1.2/1.3/1.6/3.22 Local Resource Committees (LRCs) and/or local government to implement actions identified in existing atoll and island management plans, and to work with MIMRA and MICS to update data collection and establish projects for alternative livelihoods. Review and update as necessary.

- a. LRCs and/or local government to engage with [CMAC](#) to further include ecological restoration activities/NbS/nature-positive approaches in [Reimaanlok](#) processes, especially for those atoll and island management plans undergoing updates.
 - b. LRCs and/or local government to engage with [CMAC](#) to further include native and alien invasive species management activities in [Reimaanlok](#) processes, especially for those atoll and island management plans undergoing updates.
52.  1.1/1.3/1.5/2.1-2.3/3.21/3.23 [Waan Aelōñ in Majel](#) (WAM; ‘Canoes of the Marshall Islands’ in Marshallese) and partners to support community-based biodiversity stewardship, biocultural knowledge transmission, and ecosystem conservation through traditional canoe construction and navigation training, youth education, and community outreach programs.
 53.  1.1/1.3/1.5/2.1-2.3/3.21/3.22 [Jo-Jikum](#) (*Jodrikdrik in Jipañ ene eo e Kutok Maroro*; ‘Your Home’ and ‘Youth for a Greener Environment’, respectively, in Marshallese) and partners to support community-based biodiversity stewardship, environmental protection, and climate resilience through youth leadership programs, participation in national and community environmental clean-up initiatives, environmental education, and community outreach programs.
 54.  1.5/1.8/2.9/2.11/3.21/3.22/3.23 [Women United Together Marshall Islands](#) (WUTMI) to support gender-responsive community engagement and capacity-building with local government and stakeholders, strengthening women’s meaningful and equitable participation in biodiversity decision-making, monitoring, and reporting, and strengthening inclusive governance for biodiversity outcomes.
 - a. Deliver community-level nature-positive livelihood and stewardship initiatives (e.g., women’s sustainable fisheries, household water stewardship, and renewable energy skills for outer islands), with technical support from relevant national and regional partners, that enhance women’s economic resilience and biodiversity stewardship.
 55.  1.1/1.2/1.4/1.5/2.1-2.3/2.6/3.21/3.22 [MICS](#) and partners to implement community-based biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, and environmental stewardship through the [Reimaanlok](#) process and related national conservation initiatives.
 - a. Support implementation of community-based conservation area planning and management through the [Reimaanlok](#) process and PAN, including technical and community engagement support for conservation area establishment, management effectiveness monitoring, and ecosystem-based management initiatives.
 - b. Conduct baseline marine and terrestrial biodiversity surveys as part of the 7-step [Reimaanlok](#) process.
 - c. MICS to implement its [RMI EPA](#)–funded biodiversity conservation project to strengthen community-based fisheries and conservation area management, including provision of monitoring kits to LRCs, support for delineation and monitoring of marine conservation areas, and coral and clam propagation and monitoring to support reef restoration and biodiversity conservation.
 - d. Deliver environmental education, outreach, and stewardship programs for communities and schools, in support of the activities of the [RMI EPA](#) Education and Awareness Division.
 - e. Support scientific and technical knowledge-sharing for restoration of priority ecosystems including coral reefs, seagrasses, mangroves, and forests, through hosting of biodiversity and resource management field research projects originating from outside the RMI.
 56.  1.1/1.4/1.5/2.1-2.3/3.20-3.22 [International Organization for Migration \(IOM; RMI Office\)](#) and partners to support community-based climate resilience and DRM, implementation support for [Reimaanlok](#) processes including [Local Early Action Planning](#) (LEAP), and delivery of community preparedness, [WASH](#) (water, sanitation, and hygiene) promotion, and capacity-building programs.

57.  1.1/1.2/1.4/1.5/2.1-2.3/2.6/3.21/3.22 [College of the Marshall Islands \(CMI\)](#), via its [Marine Science Certificate Program](#), and partners to support biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, and climate resilience through applied research, biodiversity surveys, technical extension, workforce training, and environmental education programs.
 - a. [CMI Land Grant Program](#) to deliver technical extension, applied research, and community education programs supporting sustainable agriculture, invasive species management, ecosystem stewardship, and biodiversity conservation.
58.  1.1/1.2/1.4/1.5/2.1-2.3/2.6/3.21/3.22 [University of the South Pacific \(USP; Majuro Campus\)](#) and partners to support biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, and climate resilience in the RMI through applied research, technical assistance, workforce training, and implementation of biodiversity-focused academic and scientific programs.
 - a. [USP](#) to implement its [RMI EPA](#)–funded marine aquaculture facility upgrade project in Majuro to support conservation and restoration of threatened marine species, including giant clams and corals, strengthen reef resilience, support biodiversity monitoring and research, and deliver biodiversity education and workforce training.
59.  1.1/1.2/1.4/1.8/2.11/3.20/3.21/3.22 [University of Hawai‘i](#) and the [University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program \(UHSG\)](#) to conduct scientific research, coastal management extension, biodiversity monitoring, ecosystem restoration support, and technical capacity development to strengthen national biodiversity knowledge systems, coastal resilience, and conservation implementation.
 - a. [UHSG](#) to deliver coastal management extension services, technical assistance, and applied training in shoreline change analysis.
 - b. [UH](#) and [UHSG](#) researchers to conduct collaborative marine and terrestrial biodiversity research, ecological monitoring, and restoration science in partnership with national agencies and local institutions.
 - c. [UHSG](#) to support national and community capacity development through education, outreach, technical guidance, and integration of scientific knowledge into participatory conservation and coastal management decision-making.
 - d. [UH](#) and [UHSG](#) to support development and application of geospatial analyses, hazard assessment, and environmental data systems for national biodiversity planning and reporting.
60.  1.3/2.11/3.20/3.21/3.22/3.23 [MoEST-PSS](#) to deliver formal environmental education, biodiversity knowledge integration, and student participation programs within national curricula and school activities to strengthen biodiversity awareness, stewardship, and institutional capacity.
61.  1.6/1.7/1.8/2.11/3.19-3.21 [Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme \(SPREP; Majuro\)](#) North Pacific Office to deliver in-country technical assistance, capacity development, biodiversity monitoring, invasive species and pollution management support, and implementation assistance for national biodiversity conservation and environmental management consistent with national priorities and regional frameworks.
62. 1.3/1.6/2.11/3.19-3.21 [Micronesia Conservation Trust \(MCT\)](#) and [The Nature Conservancy \(TNC\)](#) to support biodiversity conservation, protected area management, ecosystem restoration, invasive species management, and institutional capacity development through coordinated technical and financial assistance consistent with national conservation priorities and frameworks including [Reimaanlok](#) and PAN.
63.  1.1/1.3/1.5/2.9/3.18/3.21/3.22 [Office of Commerce, Investment, and Tourism \(OCIT\)](#) and partners to support sustainable tourism development aligned with biodiversity conservation and community-based

resource management through ecotourism promotion, tourism planning, visitor education, and coordination with national conservation and environmental management frameworks.

- a. Support development and promotion of ecotourism activities aligned with community-based conservation areas established under the *Reimaanlok* process and other national conservation initiatives.
 - b. Support development and promotion of ecotourism activities aligned with community-based conservation areas, protected area management, and biocultural heritage protection under the *Reimaanlok* process, including engagement with local governments and conservation stakeholders.
 - c. Deliver tourism-sector awareness and education programs for visitors, tourism operators, and communities to promote environmentally-responsible tourism practices and biodiversity stewardship.
 - d. Establish and promote biodiversity-aligned tourism standards, certification pathways, and business development support mechanisms that incentivize private-sector tourism operators to adopt environmentally responsible practices consistent with national conservation priorities.
64.  1.6/1.7/3.14/3.17/3.20/3.21 *RMIPA* and partners, with the support of *MoNRC* and *RMI EPA*, to implement port biosecurity, environmental management, and operational controls to prevent introduction and spread of invasive species, reduce pollution risks, and support national biosafety and environmental compliance consistent with national policies and regulations, regional initiatives, and international agreements.
65.  1.1/1.4/1.5/2.1-2.3/3.20-3.22 *Marshall Islands Red Cross Society (MIRCS; RMI Branches)* and partners to support community resilience and DRM through provision and training of community volunteers for disaster damage assessments and emergency response, support for development and implementation of community-based early warning systems, and delivery of community preparedness, first aid, public awareness, and capacity-building programs supporting national biodiversity, climate resilience, and community preparedness priorities in the RMI.
66.  1.7/2.12/3.21/3.22 *RMI EPA* and partners to conduct terrestrial, intertidal, and underwater cleanups of solid waste in public access areas on Majuro and Ebeye. The current one-day per week *Jimor Wodde Jippel* Cleanup Initiative, with sponsored support for community groups, will be expanded to the Outer Islands.
67.  1.2/1.8/2.12/3.21 *RMI EPA* and partners to coordinate with *CCD* (National Designated Authority) on the *Green Climate Fund (GCF) Addressing Climate Vulnerability in the Water Sector (ACWA)* project on groundwater protection, ecosystem restoration, and nature-based coastal resilience.
68.  1.7/2.12/3.21 *RMI EPA* and partners to implement the *Marshall Islands Water Security Project* for community rainwater harvesting, storage, and groundwater protection in a manner that reduces pressure on freshwater lenses and contamination pathways, thereby maintaining the natural hydrological functions that support native vegetation and associated ecosystem services.
69.  1.2/1.4/1.8/2.12/3.21 *RMI EPA* and partners to engage on the *Blue-Green Atolls: Addressing Land Degradation, Groundwater Salinization and Coastal Erosion via Climate-Resilient Strategies* project, in part to reinforce the role of ecosystems as frontline climate defenses via hybrid nature-based shoreline protection solutions.

Sectoral Plans

70.  3.21/3.22 All RMI agencies to implement actions identified in relevant national regulations, policies, and strategic and operational plans, and review and update as necessary to align with the NBSAP.
71.  1.2/1.3/1.6/1.8/2.10/2.12/3.21/3.22 *MoNRC* to implement their *2020–2030 Forest Action Plan* (2020).
- a. Biodiversity Conservation—protect and restore native forest species and habitats while controlling threats such as invasive species.

- b. Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods—promote sustainable use of forest resources, agroforestry, and community-based production systems for food and income.
 - i. Expand agroforestry/planting of salt-resistant, native terrestrial vegetation and crops that integrate food security with restored biodiversity, with the Taiwan Technical Mission and [Land Grant](#).
 - ii. Support transition from senile coconut monoculture to biodiversity-aligned agroforestry systems through national coconut inventory and survey programs, including engagement with the [Tobolar Copra Processing Authority](#) on replanting and rehabilitation, the [US Forest Service](#) Coconut Tree Census project, and implementation of coconut tree surveys through [MICS](#) across priority atolls.
 - c. Coastal Reinforcement and Climate Resilience—restore and manage coastal and mangrove forests to strengthen shoreline protection and resilience to climate impacts.
 - d. Urban Tree Management—maintain and expand urban green spaces to enhance shade, environmental quality, and community wellbeing.
 - e. Data Collection, Management, and Analysis—improve forest monitoring, inventories, and information systems to guide effective planning and management.
 - i. Compile forest management and sustainable use data required to determine headline indicator [9.1 on ‘sustainable use of wild species’](#) and forest extent, condition, and management data required to determine headline indicator [10.2 on ‘sustainable forestry’](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
 - ii. Compile land-based ecosystem information, so that headline indicator [A.2 on ‘extent of natural ecosystems’](#) in the RMI can be determined (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of the preparation of the [8th National Report](#).
72.  1.2/1.6/1.7/1.8/2.10-2.12/3.20-3.22 [MoNRC](#) to implement its [2021–2031 Agriculture Sector Plan](#) (2021).
- a. Environmental degradation minimized—implement sustainable land, soil, and water management practices, including erosion control, climate-smart farming, and conservation of natural resources.
 - i. Separate and remove small plastics from masses of dry, compostable seaweed along shorelines at low to mid-tide.
 - b. Sustainable small-livestock production systems developed and promoted—support livestock health, breeding, feeding, and husbandry practices while encouraging smallholder production and disease management.
 - c. Sustainable crop production systems developed and promoted—enhance crop productivity through improved varieties, agroforestry, integrated pest management, and soil fertility management.
 - i. Expand development and management of agricultural nurseries, with [Land Grant](#).
 - ii. Expand programs on composting and gardening for soil regeneration and efficient nutrient cycling.
 - d. Increased consumption of nutritious locally produced foods—promote community nutrition awareness, home gardening, and diversification of locally grown fruits, vegetables, and other nutritious foods.
 - e. Improved biosecurity and marketing—strengthen plant and animal biosecurity measures, post-harvest handling, value chains, and access to local and export markets.
 - f. Improved capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders—provide training, extension services, technical support, and knowledge-sharing to farmers, community groups, and sector personnel.
 - g. Developed enabling policies/legislation—establish and update regulations, policies, and institutional frameworks to support sustainable agriculture, resource management, and sector development.
 - h. Biosecurity implementation strengthened in agriculture, agroforestry, and nursery operations—through screening of planting materials, implementation of biosecurity protocols, and risk management measures to prevent introduction and spread of invasive species, including both native

and alien invasive species, through nursery production, agroforestry programs, coastal planting, and community plant distribution initiatives, and integration with national invasive species monitoring and reporting systems.

- i. Ensure that implementation and future updates of the [MoNRC Agriculture Sector Plan](#) continue to reflect and strengthen nature-positive terrestrial food production and livelihood systems, including agroforestry, sustainable crop and livestock production, restoration of native vegetation, and biodiversity-aligned agricultural practices that enhance food security and ecosystem function.
 - j. Compile agriculture management and sustainable use data required to determine headline indicator [9.1 on ‘sustainable use of wild species’](#) and agricultural sustainability monitoring data required to determine headline indicator [10.1 on ‘sustainable agriculture’](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
73.  [1.1/1.5/2.1-2.3/3.21/3.22 Taiwan Technical Mission](#) (TTM; RMI Farm) to support sustainable agriculture, agrobiodiversity, and ecosystem resilience through technical assistance, farmer training, crop diversification programs, and implementation of climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable agricultural practices.
74.  [1.2/1.5/2.10/2.11/3.21/3.22 Tobolar Copra Processing Authority](#) to support sustainable coconut resource management, agrobiodiversity conservation, and climate-resilient livelihoods through coconut seedling production and distribution, coconut replanting and rehabilitation programs, farmer support services, and promotion of sustainable coconut-based agroforestry and value-added production systems.
- a. Support regeneration and rehabilitation of senile coconut stands through biodiversity-aligned replanting programs that incorporate mixed-species agroforestry, native vegetation retention, and ecosystem resilience principles.
 - b. Coordinate with [MoNRC](#), [Land Grant](#), local governments, and community partners to integrate coconut agroforestry initiatives with national biodiversity conservation, invasive species management, and climate adaptation priorities.
 - c. Strengthen sustainable copra supply chains in ways that support outer island livelihoods while maintaining ecosystem function, soil stability, and agrobiodiversity.
75.  [1.1/1.5/2.1-2.3/3.21/3.22 Marshall Islands Organic Farmers Association](#) (MIOFA) to support sustainable agriculture, agrobiodiversity conservation, and ecosystem resilience through promotion of organic farming practices, farmer training, and capacity-building initiatives that strengthen environmentally sustainable food production systems.
76.  [1.2/1.3/1.5/1.6/2.9/2.9-2.11/3.20-3.22 MIMRA](#) to implement its [2024–2027 Strategic Plan](#) (2024).
- a. Long-term value of RMI’s fisheries maximized—strengthen access-fee negotiations and joint ventures, expand domestic fisheries participation (i.e., local governments and communities) and onshore added value (including tuna processing and small-scale fisheries), and improve data, license, and economic performance monitoring to ensure sustained national revenue and private-sector growth.
 - b. Aquatic resources conserved and sustainably managed—employ science-based and precautionary fisheries management, and strengthen monitoring, control, and surveillance (including observer coverage, vessel monitoring system, and regional cooperation) to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and implement clear, enforceable management frameworks aligned with regional and international obligations.
 - i. Expand aquaculture/planting of seagrass, mangrove, molluscs, and heat-tolerant coral that integrates food security with restored biodiversity, and minimizes the pressure on wild fisheries populations—with [MICS](#) and [Land Grant](#).

- c. Professional, transparent, and accountable authority operations—improve governance systems, policies, and internal controls; build staff, industry, and community capacity; ensure financial and organizational sustainability; and maintain open communication and stakeholder engagement to support effective service delivery and compliance.
 - d. Enabling policies/legislation developed—establish and update regulations, policies, and institutional frameworks to support sustainable agriculture, resource management, and sector development.
 - e. Ensure that implementation and future updates of the [MIMRA Strategic Plan](#) continue to reflect and strengthen nature-positive marine food production and livelihood systems, including sustainable fisheries management, biodiversity-aligned aquaculture development, and ecosystem restoration initiatives that enhance food security while reducing pressure on wild populations.
 - f. Maintain fisheries stock assessment and monitoring data required to determine headline indicator [5.1 on ‘sustainable fish stocks’](#) and compile fisheries management and sustainable use data required to determine headline indicator [9.1 on ‘sustainable use of wild species’](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
77.  [3.21/3.22 MIMRA](#) and partners to host the National Ocean Symposium (NOS) on climate change, sustainable fisheries, coral reefs, and marine resources.
78.   [1.3/1.4/3.21 MIMRA](#) and partners to survey nearshore and adjacent offshore ecosystems across remote RMI atolls aboard the M/V Argo with [National Geographic’s Pristine Seas](#), building on the [2023 expedition](#) to Bikar, Bokak, Bikini, and Rongerik, as part of the [five-year Pacific Global Expedition](#), to collect critical baseline geological, oceanographic, and ecological data to guide spatial planning and provide early support for eventual [Reimaanlok](#) processes.
79.   [1.3/1.4/3.20/3.21 MIMRA](#) and partners to map offshore ecosystems in the RMI aboard the E/V Nautilus with the [Ocean Exploration Trust \(OET\)](#) as part of the [Ocean Exploration Cooperative Institute \(OECI\)](#), building on the [2025 expedition](#) to Bikar, Bokak, and Bikini atolls, to collect critical baseline geological, oceanographic, and ecological data to guide spatial planning and to [characterize deep-sea biodiversity and fishery habitats](#).
- a. Use offshore mapping to complement nearshore ecosystem information, so that headline indicator [A.2 on ‘extent of natural ecosystems’](#) in the RMI can be determined (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of the preparation of the [8th National Report](#).
 - b. Strengthen national capacity for offshore and deep benthic biodiversity assessment, including sustained spatial data collection, long-term biodiversity monitoring, and integration of offshore ecosystem information and biodiversity indicators into national spatial planning, conservation management, and [CBD](#) reporting processes.
80.   [1.3/1.4/3.21/3.22 GoRMI](#) to maintain its call for a global moratorium or pause on deep-sea mining in international waters, and consider formalizing a ban in its national waters. The RMI is part of the [Deep-Sea Conservation Coalition \(DSCC\)](#) advocating for a halt to commercial mining until sufficient scientific understanding and environmental safeguards are in place.

Cross-Sectoral Delivery Mechanisms

81.   [1.1/1.3/1.4/3.18/3.20/3.21 Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure, and Utilities \(MoPWIU\)](#) and [RMI EPA](#) to develop and apply national policies aimed at more environmentally-responsible dredging and excavation, reclamation, and shoreline protection.
- a. SLASP—apply the recent Cabinet-approved policy for all proposed dredging in the lagoon waters of Majuro and Ebeye, steer dredging toward lower-risk deep-lagoon environments, phase out permitting for nearshore lagoon-side dredging, and phase in permitting for lagoon-basin dredging.

- b. Sustainable Lagoon Shoreline Development Policy (SLSDP)—use SLASP experience to develop and apply a second policy that identifies specific shoreline segments with distinct attributes aligned with permitting conditions and environmental safeguards, and supports shoreline planning, site identification, and feasibility assessment for land raising of existing areas and reclamation in suitable lagoon and shoreline environments, for improved mitigation of environmental impacts and climate-resilient shoreline protection in both rural and urban areas, with a focus on soft/hybrid and hard/fortified shoreline protection approaches.
 - c. Sustainable Ocean Reef Flat Aggregate Sourcing Policy—use SLASP experience to draft a third policy (in line with RMI EPA Oceanside Excavation Concept, updated 2022 from 2016 original) that focuses on both fine aggregate and larger revetment rock from largely dead, urban reef flats on the ocean side, phase out permitting for large oceanside borrow-pit excavation, and phase in permitting for mid-size oceanside borrow-pits connected by channels.
 - d. [RMI EPA](#) to ban beach mining in all urban areas, and in rural areas with localized shoreline erosion.
 - e. [MoPWIU](#) to develop program of re-building migratory shoreline berms (berm-top barriers) in rural areas.
 - f. [MoPWIU](#) in coordination with [CCD](#), TTEC (*Tile Til Eo* or National 2050 Climate Strategy Committee) and RMI EPA, to support the development and execution of feasibility studies for land raising of existing areas and reclamation in suitable lagoon and shoreline environments in the RMI, with Majuro Atoll as the primary focus, consistent with national shoreline development and aggregate sourcing policies, to inform shoreline protection planning, environmental safeguards, infrastructure development, and national investment prioritization.
 - g. [MoPWIU](#), [RMI EPA](#), and partners, with support from [WB](#)—funded [Pacific Resilience Program](#) and related technical assistance, to utilize the completed [Aggregate Study for Majuro and Ebeye](#) to guide identification, evaluation, and sustainable management of lagoon aggregate resources, including integration of aggregate resource mapping, environmental baseline characterization, and site screening into national development policies, safeguards frameworks, and infrastructure planning processes.
 - h. [MoPWIU](#) and [RMI EPA](#), with support from [WB](#) and technical consultants, to commission plume modeling, environmental baseline assessments, engineering, environmental, and economic feasibility analyses, and Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) for sustainable lagoon aggregate extraction at sites identified under the [Aggregate Study](#) and consistent with SLASP, to inform safeguards design, dredging methods, impact mitigation measures, environmental permitting, and national infrastructure investment planning, consistent with applicable national environmental regulations and the [Environmental and Social Framework](#) (ESF; 2018), and to support environmentally-responsible use of aggregate for land reclamation and shoreline protection in accordance with the future SLSDP and relevant reclamation feasibility studies.
 - i. [MoPWIU](#), supported by [RMI EPA](#), to apply shoreline development policies, environmental safeguards requirements, and environmental permitting conditions to dredging operators, aggregate extraction contractors, reclamation developers, and infrastructure project implementers to ensure compliance with national environmental regulations and integration of biodiversity protection measures into project planning and execution
82.   1.7/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) and [MoPWIU](#) to integrate sediment control standards into earthmoving permitting processes for intertidal and subtidal excavation, dredging, and reclamation, as a sectoral application of the updated PEA tool and EA guidance.
83.   1.7/1.8/3.18/3.20/3.21 [EPPSO](#), [MoPWIU](#), and partners to implement the [National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2023 Update](#) (NIIP; 2023), with support from [RMI EPA](#), in particular for the project prioritization process that includes impact criteria explicitly tied to environmental resilience and

biodiversity, and ensures that climate and disaster resilience outcomes are embedded throughout the investment portfolio and form part of the value proposition for projects.

- a. Integrate biodiversity risk screening, environmental safeguards criteria, and environmental permitting requirements into urban planning, shoreline development, and infrastructure project design, prioritization, approval, and investment processes under the [NIIP](#) and related national planning and permitting systems.
 - b. [Majuro Atoll Waste Company](#) (MAWC), [MoPWIU](#), and partners to secure confirmed funding and replace the Majuro sewage outfall under the NIIP, including through Compact and other national and development partner infrastructure funding programs.
 - c. Compile and maintain national urban spatial planning, land use, and urban green and blue space data across Majuro and Ebeye, with support from [MIMRA](#) on blue spaces, required to determine headline indicator [12.1 on 'urban green and blue spaces'](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
84.  3.15/3.18/3.19/3.21 [MoFBPS](#), [EPPSO](#), and the [Marshall Islands Chamber of Commerce](#) with support from [RMI EPA](#), to establish and maintain national biodiversity finance, incentive, subsidy, and private-sector disclosure tracking systems, to inform biodiversity-aligned economic policy, private-sector engagement, resource mobilization, and national and international reporting obligations.
- a. Compile private-sector biodiversity disclosure and environmental reporting data required to determine headline indicator [15.1 on 'private-sector biodiversity disclosure'](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
 - b. Compile national biodiversity-related incentive, subsidy, and economic instrument data required to determine headline indicator [18.1 on 'private-sector incentives'](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
 - c. Compile national subsidy and economic instrument data relevant to biodiversity impacts required to determine headline indicator [18.2 on 'harmful subsidies'](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
 - d. Compile international public funding and development assistance data related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use required to determine headline indicator [D.1 on 'international biodiversity finance'](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
 - e. Compile domestic public expenditure data related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use required to determine headline indicator [D.2 on 'domestic biodiversity finance'](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
 - f. Compile private-sector and non-public biodiversity finance data required to determine headline indicator [D.3 on 'private biodiversity finance'](#) in the RMI (subsection 2.4.2), ahead of preparation of the [8th National Report](#), and submit to [RMI EPA](#) for reporting.
85.    1.1/1.2/1.4/1.5/2.1/2.2/2.6/3.20-3.22 [National Disaster Management Office](#) (NDMO) and partners to implement national DRM systems integrating biodiversity, ecosystem-based adaptation, and ecosystem resilience.
- a. Update national DRM policies and standard operating procedures (SOPs), with [RMI EPA](#) and [EPPSO](#), to integrate biodiversity and pollution considerations into both disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster management (DM).

- b. Implement community-based DRR and early-stage disaster preparedness, with local governments and, where applicable, through the [Reimaanlok](#) process and LRCs, to support ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience.
 - i. Conduct national hazard, vulnerability, and risk assessments, with [MoPWIU](#), [National Weather Service Office](#) (WSO), and [RMI EPA](#), to inform biodiversity-integrated spatial planning and infrastructure siting by national and local planning authorities.
 - c. Maintain and implement national DM coordination systems, with disaster committees and clusters, to integrate ecosystem protection and pollution prevention.
 - i. Implement and maintain national multi-hazard early warning systems including hazard monitoring, forecasting, and alert dissemination, with [WSO](#), to support biodiversity-informed late-stage preparedness and early response.
 - ii. Assess ecosystem health status and adapt pollution mitigation efforts as part of disaster damage assessment, relief, and recovery operations, with [RMI EPA](#), [MoHHS](#), [MoNRC](#), and [MIMRA](#).
86.  1.3/1.7/1.8/2.10/2.12/3.18/3.20–3.22 [MoPWIU](#), [Majuro Water and Sewer Company](#) (MWSC), [Kwajalein Atoll Joint Utility Resources](#) (KAJUR), [Marshalls Energy Company](#) (MEC), and partners to deliver [WB](#)-supported infrastructure, coastal resilience, energy, water, and urban development projects, with [RMI EPA](#) providing environmental and social safeguards oversight, review of environmental and social safeguards instruments, and environmental permitting and regulatory approvals, integrating biodiversity considerations and environmental safeguards, as applicable, into project planning, design, implementation, and operation, consistent with the [ESF](#) (2018).
- a. [MoPWIU](#) and partners to deliver the [Urban Resilience Project](#) (URP) in Majuro, including shoreline protection and stabilization, drainage and flood risk reduction improvements, and strengthening of spatial planning, urban resilience planning, shoreline management planning, and climate-resilient infrastructure planning.
 - i. Develop and apply the Majuro Urban Master Plan, including establishment of updated land-use zoning and development control provisions, identification of priority shoreline protection and climate resilience investment areas, integration of coastal hazard and flood risk mapping into urban planning and infrastructure siting, designation of conservation and setback areas, and guidance for climate-resilient urban growth, infrastructure planning, and re-development.
 - i.a [RMI EPA](#) to conduct NBSAP-related urban and adjacent community consultations as part of Urban Master Plan consultation processes, to reinforce biodiversity conservation and urban green and blue spaces in urban planning and infrastructure decision-making.
 - b. [MoPWIU](#) and partners to carry out shoreline protection, hazard monitoring, early warning, and climate and disaster resilience infrastructure under the [Pacific Resilience Program](#) (PREP), including its subsequent phases and related projects.
 - c. [MoPWIU](#) and partners to operationalize sustainable lagoon aggregate sourcing and utilization initiatives in Majuro and Ebeye under [WB](#)-supported programs and national implementation, consistent with the SLASP and future SLSDP, to support climate adaptation, infrastructure development, and general construction.
 - d. [MEC](#), [KAJUR](#), and partners to advance renewable energy infrastructure and associated grid strengthening initiatives across the RMI.
 - e. [MWSC](#), [KAJUR](#), and partners to upgrade water supply and wastewater infrastructure improvements in Majuro and Ebeye, including rehabilitation and upgrading of water distribution and sewer systems.
 - f. All lead agencies, supported by [RMI EPA](#), to apply environmental safeguards, biodiversity protection requirements, and environmental permitting conditions to contractors, infrastructure operators, and

project partners to ensure compliance with national environmental regulations and integration of biodiversity considerations into infrastructure development and operation.

87.  1.3/1.7/1.8/2.10/2.12/3.18/3.20–3.22 MoPWIU, KAJUR, MEC, and partners to implement ADB-supported infrastructure, resilience, energy, and capacity development projects, with RMI EPA providing environmental and social safeguards oversight, review of environmental and social safeguards instruments, and environmental permitting and regulatory approvals, integrating biodiversity considerations and environmental safeguards, as applicable, into project planning, design, implementation, and operation, consistent with the [Safeguard Policy Statement \(SPS; 2009\)](#) and, for projects approved from January 2026 onward, the [Environmental and Social Framework \(ESF; 2024\)](#).
 - a. MoPWIU and partners to deliver the [Integrated Urban Services and Resilience Improvement Project \(IUSRIP\)](#) in Majuro and Ebeye, including sub-projects to improve climate-resilient urban water supply, including filtration and treatment systems, sanitation, drainage, solid waste management, road and drainage improvements, and a desalination system and associated outfall.
 - b. KAJUR and partners to implement the Ebeye Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Ebeye, including sub-projects to improve climate-resilient water supply through groundwater abstraction, desalination, filtration, and treatment systems, and to strengthen wastewater collection, treatment, and marine discharge infrastructure.
 - c. MoPWIU and partners to carry out the [Ebeye Solid Waste Management Project](#), including sub-projects to improve solid waste collection, segregation, recycling, and disposal systems, and to rehabilitate and strengthen landfill infrastructure and waste management facilities.
 - d. MEC and partners to advance the [Energy Transition Project](#) in Majuro, including sub-projects to expand renewable energy generation, improve energy storage systems, and strengthen electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure.
 - e. MEC and partners to implement the [Energy Security Project](#) in Majuro, including sub-projects to strengthen power generation reliability, upgrade electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, and improve power system efficiency and resilience.
 - f. EPPSO and partners to deliver the [Women and Youth Skills Empowerment Project](#), including programs to strengthen technical and vocational skills, employment readiness, entrepreneurship, and economic participation of women and youth, supporting inclusive participation in sustainable development, environmental management, and climate and biodiversity implementation.
 - g. All lead agencies, supported by RMI EPA, to apply environmental safeguards, biodiversity protection requirements, and environmental permitting conditions to contractors, infrastructure operators, and project partners to ensure compliance with national environmental regulations and integration of biodiversity considerations into infrastructure development and operation.
88.  1.3/1.7/1.8/2.10/2.12/3.18-3.22 MoPWIU, MAWC, MWSC, KAJUR, MEC, RMIPA, MoEST-PSS, and MoHHS to deliver Compact-funded infrastructure, utility, shoreline, and climate-resilience projects, with RMI EPA providing environmental safeguards oversight, environmental permitting, and regulatory approvals, and integrating biodiversity considerations, pollution control, and environmental safeguards into project planning, design, construction, and operation, consistent with nationally-implemented infrastructure plans, shoreline development policies, and environmental regulations.
 - a. MWSC and MoPWIU to upgrade and replace sewer outfall and associated wastewater discharge infrastructure in Majuro, subject to confirmed resource mobilization.
 - b. MoPWIU and RMIPA to construct shoreline protection and stabilization infrastructure at port, airport, and public infrastructure shoreline areas in Majuro and Ebeye, with works in Majuro subject to confirmed funding.

- c. [MWSC](#), [KAJUR](#), and [MoPWIU](#) to install and upgrade water treatment, storage, distribution, and associated water supply infrastructure in Majuro and Ebeye.
- d. [RMIPA](#) and [MoPWIU](#) to upgrade airport and associated transport infrastructure, including runways, terminals, drainage, and support facilities, in Majuro and Ebeye.
- e. [MoPWIU](#), [MoEST-PSS](#), and [MoHHS](#) to construct public facility infrastructure, including schools and health facilities, in Majuro and Ebeye.
- f. [MoPWIU](#), [MWSC](#), [KAJUR](#), and [MEC](#) to expand and upgrade utility and climate-resilience infrastructure, including power generation, distribution, drainage, and associated utility infrastructure, in Majuro and Ebeye, subject to confirmed resource mobilization.
- g. All lead agencies, supported by [RMI EPA](#), to apply environmental safeguards, biodiversity protection requirements, and environmental permitting conditions to contractors, infrastructure operators, and project partners to ensure compliance with national environmental regulations and integration of biodiversity considerations into infrastructure development and operation.

2.3.3 Actions on Regional Cooperation and Projects

These actions reflect nationally-relevant resource mobilization approaches and nationally-implemented projects that exist within broader regional or international initiatives. The numbered actions are grouped under two thematic, unnumbered subsection headings (Resource Mobilization, and Other) to distinguish sustainable-financing mechanisms from other forms of regional engagement. Actions are presented according to their national implementation relevance, with nationally-directed financing mechanisms and nationally-implemented projects presented first, followed by regionally-supported initiatives that contribute to national biodiversity implementation.

While GoRMI finances biodiversity domestically through the implementation of national policies and plans, and through the routine operational budgets of agencies, these mechanisms are not included here. Agencies also engage continuously in regional cooperation with external partners; only those engagements that have developed into defined projects are explicitly referenced, as these are directly relevant to the purpose and reporting framework of this NBSAP. These actions reflect nationally-defined priorities delivered through regional cooperation frameworks and external support mechanisms, while remaining under national institutional coordination and implementation authority.

Resource Mobilization

- 89.   1.8/3.19/3.21 [MoFBPS](#) to administer the [Marshall Islands Resilience and Adaptation Trust Fund](#) (MIRA) with the support of [CCD](#) to provide sustainable, nationally-managed financing for climate change resilience, adaptation, and mitigation.
- 90.   1.8/3.18-3.21 [MoFBPS](#) in coordination with [CMAC](#) and the PAN Office, to strengthen, coordinate, and expand national biodiversity financing mechanisms by building on existing sustainable finance arrangements, including the [Reimaanlok](#) Sustainable Finance Plan and PAN funding, improving finance coordination and tracking, and advancing long-term financing options such as endowment growth, blended climate–biodiversity finance, and other complementary resource mobilization streams to support implementation of national biodiversity priorities and [CBD](#) reporting.
 - a. Facilitate access to biodiversity-related financing mechanisms, including blended finance and partnership opportunities, that enable private-sector entities and community enterprises to participate in biodiversity conservation, restoration, and sustainable resource management activities aligned with national priorities.

91.   1.8/3.19/3.21 [CCD](#) (National Designated Authority) to pursue accreditation and project concept development with the [GCF](#) that leverages biodiversity-climate adaptation synergies in line with national priorities.
92.   1.8/3.21/3.22 [MoFBPS](#) to participate in the [WB](#)-hosted [Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action](#) on the [Helsinki Principles](#) to integrate climate considerations into economic policies and practices.
93.   2.13/3.18/3.19/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) (National FP) to pursue all relevant national and regional opportunities with [GEF](#) for biodiversity funding and associated financial support for bolstering the resilience of SIDS, and attend meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
 - a. Program and prioritize the national biodiversity allocation under the [GEF System for Transparent Allocation of Resources \(STAR\)](#) in direct alignment with NBSAP priorities during each replenishment cycle, including early concept development and implementing partner coordination.
 - i. [Pacific Biodiversity Finance](#) (BIOFIN) Umbrella Programme, a GEF-8 STAR-funded national initiative to strengthen biodiversity financing across the region.
 - b. Pursue competitive and supplemental funding windows under the [GEF Trust Fund](#) and associated mechanisms:
 - i. [Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#) (GBFF)
 - ii. [Kunming Biodiversity Fund](#) (KBF)
 - iii. [Special Climate Change Fund](#) (SCCF)
 - iv. [Blended finance](#) and regional project opportunities
 - c. Pursue dedicated ABS funding and technical support available under [Article 25](#) of the CBD/Nagoya Protocol [Financial Mechanism](#), implemented through the GEF, for ABS readiness, legal frameworks, and institutional capacity building.
 - d. Facilitate access to [GEF](#)-supported biodiversity financing and partnership opportunities by eligible national stakeholders, including private-sector entities, civil society organizations, and community-based organizations, to support implementation of biodiversity conservation, restoration, and sustainable resource management initiatives.
94.  3.14/3.19/3.20/3.21 [MIMRA](#) with the support of [RMI EPA](#) ([CBD](#) Operational FP), to participate in resource mobilization dialogues and coalition processes under the [CBD](#) and the [BBNJ Agreement](#) to advocate for Pacific SIDS access to emerging biodiversity financing arrangements and voluntary support mechanisms.
95.   2.13/3.19/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) (National FP) to access the [Cali Fund](#) for DSI to leverage equitable benefit flows for biodiversity and genetic resource use.
96.   1.8/3.19/3.21 [CCD](#) (National FP) and partners to access support from the [Pacific Resilience Facility](#) (PRF), a Pacific-led and Pacific-owned regional financing institution that provides predictable, grant-based support for climate adaptation and disaster preparedness/response, including NbS that enhance ecosystem and community resilience.
97.   1.8/3.19-3.21 [CCD](#) (National Focal Point for Loss and Damage), in coordination with TTEC, to engage with and access technical assistance and funding support through the [Santiago Network](#) for Loss and Damage under the [UNFCCC](#) to support the development and implementation of feasibility studies for land raising of existing areas and reclamation in suitable lagoon and shoreline environments in the RMI, with Majuro Atoll as the primary focus, consistent with national shoreline development and aggregate sourcing policies, including associated technical, environmental, and social assessment and institutional and technical capacity strengthening, to advance climate-resilience and adaptation planning for shoreline protection and climate-resilient infrastructure.

98.    1.3/1.5/2.9/2.10/3.19/3.21/3.22 [MIMRA](#) and partners to engage on the [Unlocking Blue Pacific Prosperity \(UBPP\)](#) initiative to unlock new and accessible investment for the sustainable management and conservation of the Blue Pacific Continent and for robust food systems, endorsed by Pacific Leaders at the [52nd Pacific Island Leaders Forum](#) (2023) and aligned with the Pacific Leaders' [2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent](#).
99.   1.2/1.3/3.19/3.21/3.22 [RMI EPA](#) to secure funding from [GIZ](#) (*Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit*) through the [International Climate Initiative](#) (IKI) to implement the Livable Atolls via Community Action on Biodiversity (LACAB) project to manage community subprojects for biodiversity conservation and mitigation in both urban and outer island communities.
100.   1.7/3.19/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) (national member representative) to secure support from the [NBSAP Accelerator Partnership](#) for funding to purchase a commercial-grade turbidity curtain for mitigation of sediment plumes associated with dredging and excavation projects.
101.  3.19/3.20/3.21 [RMI EPA](#) and [MoFAT](#) to pursue targeted bilateral biodiversity grant programs from partners with demonstrated support for Pacific SIDS biodiversity, including the [Darwin Initiative](#) and similar mechanisms, to complement multilateral biodiversity finance with project-level funding, capacity building, and technical support.
102.  3.19/3.21/3.22 [RMI EPA](#) and partners to explore access to the [Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund](#) to enable access for civil society and community organizations to small-grant biodiversity financing.

Other

103.   1.8/3.14/3.21/3.22 [GoRMI](#) as co-founder of a coalition of the world's most climate vulnerable countries working at the [International Maritime Organization](#) (IMO) to champion a [universal greenhouse gas levy](#) on all lifecycle emissions from international shipping.
104.   1.8/3.21/3.22 [MCST](#) to support RMI's co-Chair (RMI Ambassador to Fiji) on the regional [Pacific Blue Shipping Partnership](#).
105.  3.18/3.20-3.22 The [Marshall Islands Chamber of Commerce](#) and the [Marshall Islands Council of Non-Governmental Organizations](#) (MICNGOs) to engage with the [International Organization for Standardization](#) (ISO) on the [International Standard](#) dedicated to supporting organizations globally to take action on biodiversity.
 - a. Support awareness, adoption, and application of biodiversity-related [ISO](#) standards by private-sector entities and industry stakeholders in the RMI to strengthen biodiversity-positive business practices, environmental management, and compliance with national environmental regulations.
106.    1.3/1.5/2.9/3.21/3.22 [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#) and partners to engage on the regional [MC](#) to effectively manage 50% of marine and 30% of terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2030.
107.  3.20/3.21/3.22 [GoRMI](#) through relevant agencies, to actively engage with [Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific](#) (CROP) agencies — including [Pacific Aviation Safety Office](#) (PASO), [Pacific Community](#) (SPC), [Pacific Islands Development Program](#) (PIDP), [Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency](#) (FFA), [Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat](#) (PIFS), [Pacific Power Association](#) (PPA), [Pacific Tourism Organisation](#) (SPTO), [SPREP](#), and [USP](#) — to access coordinated regional technical assistance, policy support, science, and capacity building that strengthen national biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, climate resilience, sustainable resource use, and environmental governance.
108.  3.20/3.21/3.22 [MIMRA](#) (National Counterpart), [MoFAT](#) (National FP), Office of the Chief Secretary (OCS), and relevant agencies to engage with [SPC](#) to access technical assistance, scientific support, and capacity development for biodiversity conservation, marine resource management, climate resilience, environmental monitoring, and institutional strengthening.

109. ▲ 3.20/3.21/3.22 **RMI EPA** (National FP), OCS, and relevant agencies to engage with the **SPREP** to access regional technical assistance, capacity development, and implementation support for biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation, waste and pollution management, environmental governance, and reporting.
110. ▲ 3.21/3.22 **MIMRA** to represent the RMI (member country) at the **IUCN** and attend meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues and engage in meetings, trainings, workshops, and technical programs to access conservation science, Red List assessments, protected area standards, and institutional capacity development supporting national biodiversity conservation and reporting.
111. ■▲ 1.5/2.14/3.21/3.22 **MIMRA** (Commissioner and National FP) to represent the RMI (member country) at the **International Whaling Commission** (IWC) meetings, trainings, workshops, and dialogues.
112. ■●▲ 1.3/3.14/3.19-3.21 **CMAC**, in collaboration with regional partners and **MCT**, to implement the **Strengthening and Enabling the Micronesia Challenge 2030** project under GEF-7 International Waters, supporting institutional coordination, sustainable finance mechanisms, monitoring and reporting systems, and effective management toward achieving MC targets by 2030.
113. ■▲ 1.2/1.6/3.20/3.21/3.22 **MoNRC** to engage on **GEF Regional Invasives Projects** (RIPs) and the **Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Services** (PRISMSS) and its ongoing strategy refinement of governance structures, operational systems, and resource mobilization mechanisms.
 - a. Expand the recent introduction to Majuro Atoll of the leucaena psyllid (*Heteropsylla cubana*) to other affected atolls, a tiny but effective leaf-feeding insect that naturally only targets the highly alien invasive leucaena (*Leucaena leucocephala*) plant in the Pacific region.
 - b. Expand the recent eradication from Majuro Atoll of myna birds (*Acridotheres tristis* and *A. fuscus*) to other potentially-affected atolls, an alien invasive species in the Pacific region.
 - c. Expand the recent eradication from Bikar Atoll and Jemo Islet of rats (*Rattus exulans*, *R. rattus*, and *R. norvegicus*) to other affected atolls, which are alien invasives in the Pacific region.
114. ■●▲ 1.2/2.12/3.20/3.21/3.22 **RMI EPA** and partners to implement the **Managing Coastal Aquifers Project** (MCAP) under **SPC** to improve understanding, monitoring, and management of fragile freshwater lenses and coastal aquifers in atoll environments, recognizing that safeguarding groundwater quantity and quality maintains the natural hydrological functions that support native vegetation and associated ecosystem services.
115. ■▲ 1.3/1.4/3.20/3.21/3.22 **RMI EPA** and **MIMRA** to engage on the regional **Decision Ready Tools to Support Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (II)** project, in part to detect coastline changes and generate high-resolution marine ecosystem and habitat maps for national planning processes.
116. ■●▲ 1.2/1.5/2.9/3.20/3.21/3.22 **MIMRA** and partners to engage on the regional **Pacific Bioscapes Programme** to enhance management of coral reef fisheries and resilience of coral reef ecosystems.
 - a. **MIMRA** to develop robust evidence-based grouper harvesting strategies and hold a reef fisheries learning exchange to improve data management.
 - b. **MICS** and partners to implement the **TNC** and **SPREP** Coastal Restoration project on Bikirin Island, Majuro Atoll.
117. ■●▲ 1.2/1.3/1.5/2.9/2.10/3.20/3.21/3.22 **MIMRA** and partners to engage on the regional **Micronesian Community-based Fisheries Management as a Nature-based Solution for Coastal Resilience** (MiCOAST) project on networking for reforestation, small-scale aquaculture, income diversification, and habitat restoration.
 - a. **MICS** and partners to implement *Reimaanlok* projects on Mili, Maleolap, Lae, and Ujae Atolls, including the establishment of alternative livelihoods.

118.  **MICS** 1.2/1.3/1.5/2.9/2.10/3.20/3.21/3.22 and partners to implement the **ADB** projects for *Reimaanlok* processes on **Jaluit and Majuro Atolls, and Lib Island**, as part of the **Ireland Trust Fund for Building Climate Change and Disaster Resilience in SIDS**.
119.  1.3/1.5/2.9/2.10/3.20/3.21/3.22 **MIMRA** and partners to engage on the **WB Pacific Islands Regional Oceanscape Program for Economic Resilience (PROPER)** Phase II following the completion of **Phase I (PROP)**.
 - a. Establish the *Reimaanlok* process on five atolls per year, subject to LRC/local government initiation.
 - b. Establish training for monitoring on atolls that have completed the *Reimaanlok* process.
120.  1.2/1.3/1.4/3.20/3.21/3.22 **MICS** and partners to engage on the **Scaling-up Identification, Protection, and Local Management of Climate-resistant Coral Reefs** project to equip local teams with the tools, training, and knowledge to identify heat-tolerant corals and integrate them into marine restoration plans.
 - a. Implement **Coral Testing and Restoration** in Majuro Atoll.
 - b. Establish a **Laura Community ‘Super Reef’** Marine Protected Area in Majuro Atoll.
121.  2.13/3.20/3.21/3.22 **RMI EPA**, in coordination with **CHPO** and partners, to strengthen national awareness, cooperation, and preparedness regarding genetic research and DSI derived from RMI biodiversity, recognizing the positive role of academic research, the importance of safeguarding both biological resources and associated traditional knowledge, and the need for future policy readiness.
 - a. Engage with academic and research partners conducting genetic and genomic research on RMI flora and fauna to maintain communication and awareness of sequence data being submitted to international public databases under standard scientific publishing practices, such as recent coral host and symbiont genotyping associated with the **Super Reef** research in Majuro.
 - b. Encourage researchers working in the RMI to continue depositing genetic sequence data into publicly accessible databases managed under the **International Nucleotide Sequence Database Collaboration (INSDC)**, a system of three synchronized international database nodes where submissions to one are automatically shared across all, and to keep RMI EPA informed of ongoing and planned work.
 - c. Review publicly available **INSDC** database records **referencing the RMI** (e.g., from Genbank via the **National Center for Biotechnology Information; NCBI**) to improve national understanding of the extent and history of DSI derived from its biodiversity, noting that these records span reef invertebrates, reef fish, terrestrial reptiles, insects of public health concern, plants, microbes, and other taxa collected through decades of academic biodiversity research and museum collections.
 - d. Engage in regional dialogue with **PSIDS** on shared challenges and approaches related to DSI, benefit-sharing mechanisms, and representation of atoll-based biodiversity in allocation methodologies, including with Pacific representatives involved in the **Cali Fund** Steering Committee and **AHTEG**.
 - e. Develop, over time, national guidance or policy considerations on genetic resource research, DSI, and the equitable recognition of associated traditional knowledge, with progress and lessons learned to be reflected in the **8th National Report** to the **CBD** and the **2nd National Report** to the **Nagoya Protocol**.
122.  3.20/3.21/3.22 **RMI EPA** and relevant partners to compile, retain, and integrate data, tools, lessons learned, and governance outputs from completed and ongoing biodiversity-related projects (e.g., **Ridge-to-Reef** and prior *Reimaanlok* initiatives, and other externally-funded projects) into national biodiversity monitoring systems, indicators, and NBSAP reporting processes.
 - a. Establish and maintain a centralized national repository or coordinated system for biodiversity project data, geospatial outputs, monitoring results, and technical reports to support national planning, indicator tracking, and reporting.

2.3.4 Other National and Local Actions

These actions reflect input received from local communities during the whole-of-society NBSAP consultations. The numbered actions are grouped under a single subsection heading (local community-proposed actions not reflected in subsections 2.3.1–2.3.3). Additional actions are presented as bullet points (local community-proposed actions already reflected in subsections 2.3.1–2.3.3) to avoid repetition with the formal NBSAP actions.

Local Community-proposed Actions not Reflected in subsections 2.3.1–2.3.3

123.  1.7/2.12/3.21/3.22 **GoRMI** and local governments to develop and implement community-led solid waste segregation and collection systems, including regular community cleanup schedules and designated waste management responsibilities, particularly in outer island communities.
124.  1.2/1.7/2.12/3.21/3.22 **RMI EPA** and local governments to establish site-specific controls on livestock access (e.g., pigs, dogs) in sensitive coastal, agricultural, and freshwater areas to reduce land degradation, pollution, and ecosystem damage.
125.  1.2/1.3/2.12/3.21/3.22 **MoNRC** and local governments to support locally appropriate erosion control measures on degraded shorelines and inland areas, including vegetative stabilization and small-scale engineering solutions identified by communities.
126.  1.2/3.15/3.21/3.22 **LRCs** and local governments to integrate community-identified ecosystem restoration priorities into local development planning, environmental assessment, and permitting processes, including shoreline stabilization, revegetation, and restoration of degraded marine and terrestrial ecosystems.
127.  3.21/3.22 **RMI EPA** and partners to strengthen community environmental education and awareness, including waste management, ecosystem protection, and sustainable resource use, through schools, faith-based organizations, and local leadership structures.
128.  1.2/2.10/2.11/3.16/3.21/3.22 **MoNRC** and partners to support household- and community-scale food production systems (home gardens, small livestock, agroforestry) as a means to reduce pressure on marine and terrestrial ecosystems while improving food security.
129.  1.5/2.9/3.21/3.22 **MIMRA** and local governments to strengthen community-based nearshore fisheries management rules, including seasonal closures, size limits, and locally-enforced restrictions informed by traditional knowledge.
130.  2.13/3.20/3.21 **LRCs** and **CHPO**, with local governments and community partners, to document traditional knowledge applied in biodiversity conservation, fisheries management, agriculture, ecosystem restoration, and customary resource governance, and to ensure that this knowledge is appropriately safeguarded, retained, and integrated into conservation planning, environmental decision-making, and national biodiversity information and reporting systems, in accordance with national policy and applicable **ABS** frameworks.
131.  3.17/3.22/3.23 **GoRMI** to improve gender-responsive participation mechanisms in community-based resource management and decision-making processes, ensuring women's voices are meaningfully included in planning and implementation.

Most local community comments from the NBSAP consultations overlap with established MEA, national, and regional actions. They serve as affirmations of the synergies between whole-of-society and whole-of-government biodiversity planning direction in the RMI (per subsections 2.3.1–2.3.3). The detailed feedback is retained by the Education and Awareness Division at the RMI EPA, and provides essential local context for implementation. As such, they are only restated for context in this subsection, to avoid repetition with the formal NBSAP actions.

Of the approximately 800 comments received, half relate to Target 1 on reducing threats, while the remainder is almost evenly split between Target 2 and Target 3. The most frequently referenced sub-targets is sub-targets 1.2 on degradation and restoration (18%), followed by sub-targets 2.7 on reducing pollution and sub-targets 3.22 on gender equality and responsiveness (both at 15%). Figure 5 contains representative photos of the consultations, showing community members from Wotje, Jaluit, and Majuro (Ajeltake).



Figure 5: Community Consultations

Local Community-proposed Actions already Reflected in subsections 2.3.1–2.3.3

Sub-targets 1.2—reduce degradation and restore ecosystems

- Local governments and communities to restore degraded coastal, terrestrial, and marine ecosystems through replanting, erosion control, shoreline stabilization, and protection of sensitive habitats.
- GoRMI and partners to support community-led ecosystem restoration initiatives, including mangroves, coastal vegetation, coral reefs, and degraded land areas.

Sub-targets 1.4 & 1.5—reduce impacts from land- and sea-based activities

- RMI EPA and local governments to strengthen controls on pollution from solid waste, wastewater, livestock, and land-based runoff affecting marine and freshwater ecosystems.
- Communities to implement regular cleanup activities in coastal, lagoon, and village areas to reduce waste accumulation and ecosystem damage.

Sub-targets 2.1 & 2.2—sustainable use of biodiversity for livelihoods and food security

- MoNRC and partners to promote sustainable agriculture, agroforestry, and home gardening to improve food security and reduce reliance on imported foods.
- MIMRA and communities to strengthen sustainable fisheries practices, including protection of spawning areas, limits on overharvesting, and community-based management measures.
- Local governments to support alternative livelihoods that reduce pressure on marine and terrestrial resources.

Sub-targets 2.7—reduce pollution risks to biodiversity and human health

- RMI EPA and local governments to improve waste management systems, including solid waste disposal, recycling, and control of hazardous waste.
- Communities to reduce pollution through behavioral change, education, and locally appropriate waste handling practices.

Sub-targets 3.22—gender equality and responsiveness

- GoRMI and partners to ensure women are actively engaged in community decision-making related to natural resource management, food systems, and environmental protection.
- Agencies and NGOs to support capacity-building for women in leadership roles related to biodiversity, conservation, and sustainable livelihoods.

Sub-targets 3.15 & 3.21—knowledge, education, and participation

- RMI EPA, MoEST-PSS, and partners to expand environmental education and awareness programs focused on biodiversity conservation, pollution reduction, and sustainable resource use.

2.4 Indicators

The ongoing and proposed indicators to inform progress toward meeting national targets are presented in five subsections, with informative text added from [Indicators for the KMGBF](#) descriptions:

- National Indicators;
- Headline Indicators;
- Binary Indicators;
- Component Indicators; and
- Complementary Indicators;

Each of the ongoing and proposed indicators is preceded by symbols that indicate the target to which the indicator relates:

■ Target 1 Reducing Threats ● Target 2 Meeting People's Needs ▲ Target 3 Tools and Solutions

A significant number of indicators are pertinent to two targets, and others apply to all three, and are therefore preceded by a combination of symbols:

■●▲ Targets 1–3 ■● Targets 1&2 ■▲ Targets 1&3 ●▲ Targets 2&3

The selected colors of the national target symbols are consistent with those used to represent the groupings of the KMGBF targets illustrated in Figure 4 in Section 2.2:

Conserve and Avoid (■ GBF Targets 1-8), Safeguard (● GBF Targets 9-13), and Act (▲ GBF Targets 14-23)

Note that while the RMI strives to develop capacity to report on all the required KMGBF headline and binary indicators, as well as on some of the voluntary component and complementary indicators, current capacity is primarily focused on national and binary indicators for the 7NR. The intent to report on headline (and component and complementary) indicators more fully in the 8NR (2029) justifies their inclusion in this indicator subsection of the NBSAP, as well as the prior inclusion of indicator actions specific to national capacity development in subsection 2.3.

2.4.1 National Indicators

The RMI has Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that track the progress of NSP implementation across national sectors. A number of the Environment and Climate Change Pillar KPIs are directly applicable as NBSAP national indicators. KPIs are continually updated to adapt to the evolving policy and planning environment in the RMI, such as the *Reimaanlok* updates and this NBSAP. RMI data leads are specified, with reference to NBSAP sub-targets, and as relevant, KMGBF targets and indicators.

1. ■● PAN TYPES 1–5 (OECM-Inclusive) NEARSHORE MARINE Data Lead: [MIMRA](#)
Percent of nearshore waters in all Type 1–5 conservation areas, including OECMs. This spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.3, GBF target 3, and GBF spatial headline indicator 3.1.
2. ■● PAN TYPES 1–5 (OECM-Inclusive) TERRESTRIAL Data Lead: [MoNRC](#) and [MICS](#)
Percent of terrestrial areas in all Type 1–5 conservation areas, including OECMs. This spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.3, GBF target 3, and GBF spatial headline indicator 3.1.
3. ■● PAN TYPE 2–3 (High Protection) NEARSHORE MARINE Data Lead: [MIMRA](#)
Percent of nearshore waters in highly protected Type 2 and/or Type 3 conservation areas. This spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.3, GBF target 3, and GBF spatial headline indicator 3.1.
4. ■● PAN TYPE 2–3 (High Protection) TERRESTRIAL Data Lead: [MoNRC](#) and [MICS](#)
Percent of terrestrial areas in highly protected Type 2 and/or Type 3 conservation areas. This spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.3, GBF target 3, and GBF spatial headline indicator 3.1.

5.  REIMAANLOK MANAGEMENT PLAN Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) that are part of a management plan through the *Reimaanlok* process. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.1, GBF target 1, and GBF spatial headline indicator 1.1.
6.  INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT VIA REIMAANLOK Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) that have some invasive species management through the *Reimaanlok* process. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.6, GBF target 6, and GBF non-spatial headline indicator 6.1.
7.  INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT VIA QUARANTINE Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) that have some invasive species management through MoNRC Quarantine. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.6, GBF target 6, and GBF non-spatial headline indicator 6.1.
8.  INVASIVE SPECIES OUTREACH Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) that are informed on invasive species management via outreach activities and school visits (*Reimaanlok*, Quarantine, and/or RMI EPA). This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.6 and 3.21, GBF target 6 and 21, and GBF non-spatial headline indicator 6.1 and 21.1.
9.  NATURE-BASED PROTECTION Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) that have some nature-based (NbS or similar) and/or nature-positive outcomes for shoreline protection. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.8 and 2.9-2.12, GBF target 8 and 11, GBF non-spatial headline indicator B.1, and GBF binary indicator 8.B.
10.  NATURE-BASED PROTECTION OUTREACH Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) that are informed on nature-based (NbS or similar) and/or nature-positive outcomes for shoreline protection via outreach activities and school visits (*Reimaanlok* and/or RMI EPA). This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.8, 2.9-2.12, & 3.21, GBF target 8, 11, & 21, GBF non-spatial headline indicator B.1 and 21.1, and binary indicator 8.B.
11.  ENGINEERED PROTECTION Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) that have some engineered shoreline protection (e.g., seawalls, revetments, breakwaters, and jetties). It does not include soft/hard hybrid construction. A lower value for this indicator reflects healthier, more natural shoreline systems and reduced ecosystem pressure. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.8 and 2.9-2.12, GBF target 8 and 11, GBF non-spatial headline indicator B.1, and GBF binary indicator 8.B.
12.  LARGE-AGGREGATE SOURCING Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) with large-aggregate oceanside sites that are sustainably-sourced. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.8, 2.11, & 2.12, GBF target 8, and GBF binary indicator 8.B.
13.  FINE-AGGREGATE SOURCING Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) with access to fine aggregate that is sustainably-sourced. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.8, 2.11, & 2.12, GBF target 8, and GBF binary indicator 8.B.
14.  APPROVED WASTE MANAGEMENT Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) with access to approved waste management sites or facilities. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.7, 2.11, and 3.14, GBF target 7 and 16, GBF binary indicator 16.B, and various complementary indicators under GBF target 7.
15.  WASTE MANAGEMENT OUTREACH Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) that are informed on waste management via outreach activities and school visits (*Reimaanlok* and/or RMI EPA). This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.7, 2.11, 3.14, & 3.21, GBF target 7, 16, & 21, GBF binary indicator 16.B, and various complementary indicators under GBF target 7.

16. **UPGRADED SEWAGE OUTFALLS** Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) that are connected to upgraded sewage outfalls. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.7 and 2.11, GBF target 7, and a component indicator under GBF target 7.
17. **SAFE MARINE WATER QUALITY** Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) with safe marine water quality. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.7, 1.9, 2.11, & 2.12, GBF target 7, GBF non-spatial headline indicator 7.1, and various component and complementary indicators under GBF target 7.
18. **MARINE WATER QUALITY MONITORING** Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Percent of communities by type (rural, rural proximity to urban, and urban) with marine water quality monitoring (all communities have lagoon side and oceanside shorelines). This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.7, 1.9, 2.11, & 2.12, GBF target 7, GBF non-spatial headline indicator 7.1, and various component and complementary indicators under GBF target 7.
19. **RECYCLING UNDER THE CDL** Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Binary indicator on the sustainability (continuity) of the Container Deposit Legislation program. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.7, 2.11, 2.12, & 3.16, GBF target 7 & 16, and GBF binary indicator 16.B.
20. **RECYCLING UNDER THE PSS** Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Binary indicator on the sustainability (commencement) of the Product Stewardship Scheme. This non-spatial indicator is related to NBSAP sub-targets 1.7, 2.11, 2.12, & 3.16, GBF target 7 & 16, and GBF binary indicator 16.B.

2.4.2 Headline Indicators

Headline indicators (hyperlinked in [blue](#)) are required CBD indicators on the ORT for national reporting. The applicable KMGBF/NBSAP goal, KMGBF target, and NBSAP sub-target follow the indicator reference, with RMI data leads specified.

21. **A.1 RED LIST OF ECOSYSTEMS** (GBF A/T1, NBSAP ST1.1) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Index of the average risk of ecosystem collapse of a group of ecosystems, tracking genuine change over time in the risk category of each ecosystem, based on Red List of Ecosystems assessments (0 for collapse and 1 for listings of least concern).
22. **A.2 EXTENT OF NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS** (GBF A/T1, NBSAP ST1.1) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Percent of natural and semi-natural ecosystems as a proportion of total area of the country at a point in time. The total surface area includes land and territorial waters.
23. **1.1 BIODIVERSITY SPATIAL PLANS** (GBF T1, NBSAP ST1.1) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Percent of land and sea covered by biodiversity-inclusive spatial plans. 'Land and sea' covers the entire RMI, including the EEZ. This indicator includes all areas covered by *Reimaanlok* as well as offshore areas that may be managed for biodiversity.
24. **2.1 AREA UNDER RESTORATION** (GBF T2, NBSAP ST1.2) Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Restoration may include restoring converted areas back to natural states, improving the ecological integrity of degraded natural areas, and rehabilitating converted and degraded areas (e.g., degraded agricultural lands) to improve both productivity and integrity.
25. **3.1 PROTECTED AREA AND OECM** (GBF T3, NBSAP ST1.3) Data Lead: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Coverage of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures. An increase in the coverage of protected areas and OECMs indicates increased efforts by governments and civil society to protect land and sea areas to achieve the long-term conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.
26. **A.3 RED LIST INDEX** (GBF A/T4, NBSAP ST1.4) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Index of the average risk of ecosystem collapse of a group of ecosystems, tracking genuine change over time in the risk category of each ecosystem, based on Red List of Ecosystem assessments (0 for collapse and 1 for listings of least concern).
27. **A.4 EFFECTIVE POPULATION SIZE** (GBF A/T4, NBSAP ST1.4) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
The proportion of populations within species with an effective population size (N_e) > 500, or genetic diversity within populations. Effective population size (N_e) is a well-accepted metric for measuring the rate of loss of genetic diversity within populations of wild species, or within breeds of domesticated species.

28. **5.1 SUSTAINABLE FISH STOCKS** (GBF T5, NBSAP ST1.5) Data Lead: [MIMRA](#)
Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels. It measures the sustainability of the capture fisheries by the abundance of the exploited fish stocks with respect to Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) levels.
29. **6.1 INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES I** (GBF T6, NBSAP ST1.6) Data Lead: [MoNRC](#)
Rate of invasive alien species establishment. It links the management success of introduction pathways to the desired outcome to prevent new in-country establishments.
30. **7.1 INDEX OF COASTAL EUTROPHICATION** (GBF T7, NBSAP ST1.7) Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Index of coastal eutrophication potential. Primary sources derived from land-based nutrient input from agricultural runoff and domestic wastewater discharge, based on loads and ratios of nitrogen, phosphorus, and silica.
31. **7.2 ENVIRONMENT PESTICIDES** (GBF T7, NBSAP ST1.7) Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Pesticide environment concentration and/or aggregated total applied toxicity. It defines the risk to ecological communities based on the combined risks to key species groups from the annual outdoor use of total pesticides in active ingredients and normalized by the area of applied vector control.
32. **B.b SUSTAINABLE USE POLICY FRAMEWORK** (GBF B) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Presence of policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services.
33. **9.1 SUSTAINABLE WILD SPECIES** (GBF T9, NBSAP ST2.9) Data Lead: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Benefits from the sustainable use of wild species. Once the sustainable use of wild species is guaranteed it would be possible to assess the benefits provided, as well as the beneficiaries or users through ecosystem service accounts.
34. **9.2 TRADITIONAL OCCUPATIONS** (GBF T9, NBSAP ST2.9) Data Lead: [CHPO](#)
Percentage of the population in traditional occupations. The RMI considers the 'number of local communities with plans for customary sustainable use/support for traditional occupations', as the more effective descriptor.
35. **10.1 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE** (GBF T10, NBSAP ST2.10) Data Lead: [MoNRC](#)
Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture. It applies to agricultural land area of farms that satisfy sustainability criteria across 11 sub-indicators.
36. **10.2 SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY** (GBF T10, NBSAP ST2.10) Data Lead: [MoNRC](#)
Progress towards sustainable forest management. It is composed of five sub-indicators that measure progress towards all dimensions of sustainable forest management, including extension and biomass of forest area, protection and maintenance of biological diversity, natural and associated cultural resources, and sustainable management plans.
37. **B.1 ECOSYSTEM SERVICES** (GBF B/T11, NBSAP ST2.11) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Services provided by ecosystems. They are flows between ecosystem assets and economic units. This results in an alignment between supply and use, and that an ecosystem service is recorded only when it is used.
38. **12.1 URBAN PUBLIC SPACES I** (GBF T12, NBSAP ST2.12) Data Lead: [MoPWIU](#)
Average share of the built-up area of cities that is green/blue space for public use for all. Such green and blue space enhances native biodiversity, supports ecological connectivity, provides ecosystem services, and improves human health and well-being.
39. **C.1 MONETARY BENEFITS** (GBF C/T13, NBSAP ST2.13) Data Leads: [MoFBPS](#) and [RMI EPA](#)
Monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally-agreed ABS instruments. It measures receipts at the national level for benefit-sharing from the utilization of genetic resources and DSI on genetic resources, and of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, that results from tools that facilitate collection, compilation, and report of information in accordance with national legislation.
40. **C.2 NON-MONETARY BENEFITS** (GBF C/T13, NBSAP ST2.13) Data Leads: [RMI EPA](#) and [CHPO](#)
Non-monetary benefits arising from applicable internationally-agreed ABS instruments. It measures numbers of research and development results, joint scientific publications, technology transfers, sustainable development projects, and capacity-building efforts at the national level for benefit-sharing from the utilization of genetic resources and DSI on genetic resources, and of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources.
41. **15.1 PRIVATE SECTOR DISCLOSURE** (GBF T15, NBSAP ST3.15) Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Number of companies disclosing their biodiversity-related risks, dependencies, and impacts. Companies, under this indicator are understood as enterprises and financial institutions that are nationally-recognised as being "large".

42. ▲ **18.1 PRIVATE SECTOR INCENTIVES** (GBF T18, NBSAP ST3.18) Data Leads: [RMI EPA](#) and [MoFBPS](#)
Positive incentives in place to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. These may include biodiversity-relevant taxes, fees, charges, subsidies, tradable permits, offsets, and payments for ecosystem services.
43. ▲ **18.2 PRIVATE SECTOR SUBSIDIES** (GBF T18, NBSAP ST3.18) Data Leads: [MoFBPS](#) and [RMI EPA](#)
Value of subsidies and other (dis)incentives harmful to biodiversity. These may include agricultural subsidies and other disincentives potentially harmful to biodiversity/environment, capture fisheries with a risk of encouraging unsustainable fishing in the absence of effective fisheries management, fossil fuel subsidies on production and consumption, and subsidies and other disincentives harmful to biodiversity in other sectors (e.g., transportation).
44. ▲ **D.1 DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE** (GBF D/T19, NBSAP ST3.19) Data Leads: [MoFBPS](#) and [RMI EPA](#)
International public funding, including official development assistance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems. It measures all international public finance disbursements to developing countries in constant prices for conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems, in line with CBD.
45. ▲ **D.2 DOMESTIC PUBLIC FUNDING** (GBF D/T19, NBSAP ST3.19) Data Leads: [MoFBPS](#) and [RMI EPA](#)
Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems. It is the annual monetary value of all relevant domestic public expenditures.
46. ▲ **D.3 PRIVATE FUNDING** (GBF D/T19, NBSAP ST3.19) Data Leads: [MoFBPS](#) and [RMI EPA](#)
Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems. These may include domestic private donations, international philanthropy for development, private finance mobilized by official development finance for biodiversity, biodiversity offsets, payments for ecosystem services, private benefit-sharing schemes, and other instruments.
47. ▲ **21.1 BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION** (GBF T21, NBSAP ST3.21) Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Indicator on biodiversity information for monitoring the KMGBF. It ideally includes metrics on the availability, amount, coverage, and quality of information used to report on each biodiversity indicator in the NBSAP, an evaluation of how many targets take traditional knowledge into account in the assessment each target, and an enumeration of the number and coverage of biodiversity monitoring schemes currently active and providing data and knowledge on the basis of FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) and CARE (Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, Ethics) principles, needed to report trends in a headline indicator.
48. ▲ **22.1 LAND USE AND TENURE** (GBF T22, NBSAP ST3.22) Data Leads: [RMI EPA](#) and [CHPO](#)
Land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities. It measures the proportion of lands and territories held or used by IPLCs with legal recognition or perceived security of tenure, and lands and territories informally held or used by IPLCs. May be adapted for the RMI to reflect focus on local communities in contrast with IPLCs.

2.4.3 Binary Indicators

Binary indicators (hyperlinked in [blue](#)) are required CBD indicators on the ORT for national reporting. The applicable KMGBF/NBSAP goal, KMGBF target, and NBSAP sub-target follow the indicator reference, with RMI data leads specified. The detail of the binary content is provided to inform the reporting preparation necessary during NBSAP implementation.

49. ■ **1.B PLANNING/MNGT. PROCESS** (GBF T1, NBSAP ST1.1) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Using participatory, integrated and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change. Answers no, under development, partially, fully, or not applicable to three questions on areas under biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning or effective management processes that address: 1. Land-use (terrestrial) change, 2. Land-use (inland water) change, and 3. Sea-use (coastal and marine) change, and answers terrestrial spatial planning, inland water spatial planning, coastal and marine spatial planning, or none of the above is participatory to one question on: 4. Plans created using a participatory process, if under development, partially or fully.
50. ■ **5.B TRADE IN WILD SPECIES** (GBF T5, NBSAP ST1.5) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Legal instruments or other policy frameworks for regulating trade in wild species. The metadata sheet on this indicator is not fully developed.
51. ■ **6.B INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES II** (GBF T6, NBSAP ST1.6) Data Lead: [MoNRC](#)
Adopting relevant regulation, processes and measures, and allocating resources to reduce impact. It focuses on regulation and processes to empower institutions, and that measures are in place to prevent actual introduction and establishment. Answers no, under development, partially, fully, or not applicable to three questions on: 1. Regulations and processes empowering relevant institutions to implement the measures necessary for a reduction of

the introduction and impact of invasive alien species, 2. Measures in place for preventing the introduction and establishment of invasive alien species, and 3. Measures in place for eradicating or controlling invasive alien species.

52.  **8.B CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES** (GBF B/T8, NBSAP ST1.8) Data Lead: [CCD](#)
Agreed policies to minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity, and that minimize negative and foster positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity. Answers climate change, ocean acidification, or none of the above to one question on: 1. NBSAP actions to prevent or minimize impacts, and answers no, under development, partially, fully, or not applicable to eight questions on: 2. Climate change policies address the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, 3. Other policies address the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, 4. Other policies address the impacts of ocean acidification on biodiversity, 5. Impacts of climate change on biodiversity monitored and reported on, 6. Impacts of ocean acidification on biodiversity monitored and reported on, 7. Policies or action plans on the impact of climate change and ocean acidification contain actions designed to increase biodiversity resilience or reduce impacts, 8. Measures included in policies or actions plans to minimize the negative impacts of climate actions on biodiversity, and 9. Measures included in your country's policies or actions plans to foster positive impacts of climate actions on biodiversity.
53.  **9.B WILD SPECIES POLICIES** (GBF T9, NBSAP ST2.9) Data Leads: [MIMRA](#) and [MoNRC](#)
Policies to manage the use of wild species sustainably, providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, and to protect and encourage customary sustainable use by local communities. Answers no, under development, partially, fully, or not applicable to five questions on: 1. Legal instruments or other policy frameworks or administrative measures for the sustainable management and use of wild species, 2. Monitoring of the sustainable management and use of wild species, 3. Legal instruments or other policy frameworks to regulate trade in wild species, 4. Monitoring of the social, economic and environmental benefits derived from the use of wild species for people, in particular those in vulnerable situations and most dependent on biodiversity, and 5. Legal instruments or other policy frameworks to protect and encourage the customary sustainable use of biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, for example, the plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity or other relevant initiatives.
54.  **12.B URBAN PUBLIC SPACES II** (GBF T12, NBSAP ST2.12) Data Lead: [MoPWIU](#)
Biodiversity-inclusive urban planning referring to green or blue urban spaces. It is planning that creates new green and blue spaces, better manages existing areas for biodiversity and health outcomes, and ensures that such areas are accessible to people. Answers no, under development, partially, fully, or not applicable to two questions on biodiversity-inclusive urban planning: 1. Urban areas that incorporate the management of green or blue spaces for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and 2. Urban areas that incorporate the management of green or blue spaces for ecosystem services and nature's contributions to people.
55.  **13.B GENETIC RESOURCES** (GBF B/T13, NBSAP ST2.13) Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources. Answers no, under development, partially, fully, or not applicable to six questions on the benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources: 1. Effective legal, administrative, and policy measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing, 2. Capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing, 3. Measures mentioned above include the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, 4. Monitoring of the fair and equitable monetary sharing from the utilization of genetic resources and/or their associated traditional knowledge that were accessed, and 5. Monitoring of the fair and equitable non-monetary sharing from the utilization of genetic resources and/or their associated traditional knowledge that were accessed, and 6. Established measures to ensure compliance with domestic ABS legislation of the country of origin of imported genetic resources.
56.  **14.B VALUES INTEGRATION** (GBF T14, NBSAP ST3.14) Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)
Biodiversity and its multiple values integrated into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, poverty eradication strategies, and, as appropriate, national accounts, within and across all levels and across all sectors, and progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of the KMGBF. Answers no, under development, partially, or fully to five questions on: 1. Integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, and poverty eradication strategies at all levels of government, 2. Use of environmental economic accounting to quantify the monetary and non-monetary values of biodiversity, 3. Integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, plans, and strategies across all sectors in order to ensure their mainstreaming, 4. Policies, regulations, plans, or strategies in place to progressively align all relevant public and private activities with the goals and targets of the KMGBF, and 5. Policies, regulations, strategies, or plans in place to progressively align fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of the KMGBF.

57. ▲ **15.1 PRIVATE SECTOR CAPACITY** (GBF T15, NBSAP ST3.15) Data Lead: RMI EPA
 Legal, administrative, or policy measures aimed at encouraging and enabling business and financial institutions, and in particular for large and transnational companies and financial institutions, to progressively reduce their negative impacts on biodiversity, increase their positive impacts, reduce their biodiversity-related risks, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production. Answers no, under development, partially, or fully to five questions on: 1. Legal, administrative or policy measures to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions, monitor, assess and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, along their operations, supply and value chains and portfolios, 2. Measures to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions provide relevant information to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns, 3. Measures to ensure that that large and transnational companies and financial institutions report on compliance with ABS regulations, 4. Measures to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions progressively reduce their negative impacts on biodiversity and increase their positive impacts, and 5. monitoring whether negative impacts from business on biodiversity have progressively decreased.
58. ▲ **16.B SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION** (GBF T16, NBSAP ST3.16) Data Lead: RMI EPA
 Developing, adopting, or implementing policy instruments aimed at encouraging and enabling people to make sustainable consumption choices. Answers no, under development, partially, or fully to three questions on: 1. Established mechanisms, policy, or legislative or regulatory frameworks aimed at supporting sustainable consumption, 2. Adopted mechanisms to improve awareness or education with regard to the impacts of consumption on biodiversity and access to relevant and accurate information or alternatives supporting sustainable consumption, and 3. Adopted or implemented policy instruments aimed at encouraging and enabling people to reduce the impacts of consumption, including through reducing food waste, overconsumption, and waste generation, on biodiversity.
59. ▲ **17.B BIOSAFETY MEASURES** (GBF T17, NBSAP ST3.17) Data Lead: MoNRC
 Action to implement biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of CBD and measures for the handling of biotechnology and the distribution of its benefits as set out in Article 19. Answers no, under development, partially, or fully to six questions on: 1. Biosafety-related policy, legal, administrative and other measures, 2. Biosafety measures as set out in CBD, 3. Legislative, administrative or policy measures, as appropriate, to provide for effective participation in biotechnological research by those Parties that provide the genetic resources for such research, 4. Practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis by Parties, to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based on genetic resources provided, 5. Scientifically-sound risk assessments on the use and release of LMOs, and 6. Access to biosafety-related information for the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs.
60. ▲ **20.B RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY** (GBF T20, NBSAP ST3.20) Data Lead: RMI EPA
 Significant action to strengthen capacity-building and development and access to and transfer of technology, and to promote the development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation. Answers no, under development, partially, or fully to three questions on: 1. Plans, policies, or instruments for addressing capacity-building and development needs for biodiversity, 2. National capacity self-assessment or other processes for assessing the capacity needs for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and 3. Established partnerships to foster joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capabilities, including through south-south, north-south, and triangular cooperation, and answers women and girls, children and youth, people with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, or others to two questions on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity: 4. Measures to ensure their full and effective participation in capacity-building and development, and 5. National assessment of their capacity-building and development needs.
61. ▲ **22.B INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION** (GBF T22, NBSAP ST3.22) Data Lead: RMI EPA
 Action towards the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities, and the full protection of environmental human rights defenders. Answers across a range of categories to seven questions on policy, legislative and administrative frameworks at the national and subnational levels that: 1. Ensures the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in biodiversity decision-making, 2. Respects the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, 3. Ensures the full protection of environmental human rights defenders, 4. Ensures public access to information related to biodiversity, 5. Provides access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, 6. Operationalizes the frameworks through implementation mechanisms, and 7. Monitors implementation.

62. ▲ **23.B GENDER PLAN OF ACTION** (GBF T23, NBSAP ST3.23) Data Lead: [RMI EPA](#)

Legal, administrative or policy frameworks, inter alia, to implement the Gender Plan of Action (2023–2030), to ensure that all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by ensuring women’s equal rights and access to land and natural resources. Answers no, under development, partially, or fully to four questions on: 1. Mechanisms for facilitating the full, equitable, meaningful, and informed participation and leadership of all women and girls at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity, 2. Adopted legislation or policy measures that explicitly recognize and protect all women and girls rights and access to land and natural or biodiversity resources, 3. Applied gender-responsive approaches that recognize the contributions and roles of women and girls in their implementation of the KMGBF through its national biodiversity reporting, and 4. Sex-disaggregated data collection and analyses to assess the differential impacts of biodiversity policies and programmes.

2.4.4 Component Indicators

Component indicators are voluntary CBD indicators on the ORT for national reporting. There are [70 indicators](#) across KMGBF goals and targets that strengthen interpretation of headline indicators by providing missing biological detail. The three KMGBF targets most represented by component indicators are target 5 (sustainable use and trade of wild species), target 1 (land- and sea-use planning), and target 3 (effectively conserved and equitably-governed areas).

No component indicators are used in the 7NR because national and global datasets could not be confirmed as sufficiently current or accessible in time, since reporting focused on headline and binary indicators. However, they may be used in the 8NR in 2029 if subsection 2.3.2 actions on early data preparation are implemented. For readability and synthesis, the formal CBD indicator names below have been slightly shortened without changing meaning, and indicators have been grouped into thematic categories rather than listed individually as they appear in the ORT. Potentially relevant options for a 2026–2029 review, grouped by goals and targets, include:

KMGBF and NBSAP Goals: Ecosystem intactness index, Ecosystem integrity index, Species habitat index, Biodiversity habitat index, Protected connected index, Protected area connectedness index, Evolutionarily distinct and globally endangered species index, Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time, and Red List index.

NBSAP target 1 with sub-targets 1.1–1.8: Priority retention of intact wilderness areas, Proportion of degraded land, Red List of ecosystems, Protected area coverage of key biodiversity areas, Protected area management effectiveness, Connectivity indicator, Site-level governance and equity assessments (SAGE), Species protection index, Living planet index, Genetic resources secured in conservation facilities, Human-wildlife conflict management trends, Green status of species index, Conservation status of CITES-listed species, Sustainable use of wild species, Invasive alien species trends, Fertilizer use, Wastewater safely treated, Plastic debris density, Ecosystem climate regulation services, Biodiversity-relevant disaster risk reduction strategies, National greenhouse gas inventories from land-use change, and Bioclimatic ecosystem resilience index.

NBSAP target 2 with sub-targets 2.9–2.13: Use of wild resources for livelihoods, Red List index, Living planet index, Sustainable forest management certification, Income of small-scale food producers, Rate of disaster-affected persons, WASH-related mortality, Urban particulate matter levels, Ambient water quality, Water stress, Cultural ecosystem services, and Genetic resource permits.

NBSAP target 3 with sub-targets 3.14–3.23: System of environmental-economic accounting, Presence of task force on nature-related financial disclosures, Food waste index, Material footprint per capita, Ecological footprint, Harmful subsidy reform, Species status information index, Sustainability education mainstreaming, Secure land tenure by sex, Women’s representation in governance, and Gender Plan of Action implementation.

2.4.5 Complementary Indicators

Complementary indicators are voluntary CBD indicators on the ORT for national reporting. There are [252 indicators](#) across the goals and targets of the KMGBF that provide additional detail on both headline and binary indicators that enriches thematic or in-depth understanding. The three KMGBF targets most represented by complementary indicators are target 3 (effectively conserved and equitably-governed areas), target 1 (participatory and biodiversity-inclusive land- and sea-use planning), and target 10 (sustainable management of production landscapes such as agriculture and forestry).

No complementary indicators are used in the 7NR because national and global datasets could not be confirmed as sufficiently current or accessible in time, since reporting focused on headline and binary indicators. However, they may be used in the 8NR in 2029 if subsection 2.3.2 actions on early data preparation are implemented. For readability and synthesis, the formal CBD indicator names below have been slightly shortened without changing meaning, and indicators have been grouped into thematic categories rather than listed individually as they appear in the ORT. Potentially relevant options for a 2026–2029 review, grouped by goals and targets, include:

KMGBF and NBSAP Goals: Forest area and distribution, Tree cover loss, Forest fragmentation and landscape integrity, Biomass of natural ecosystems, Biodiversity habitat index, Ecosystem and biodiversity intactness indices, Bioclimatic ecosystem resilience index, Global vegetation health products, Wetland extent trends, Inland and coastal water ecosystem extent and quality change, Mangrove cover and fragmentation trends, Coral reef extent and cover, Seagrass / kelp / macroalgal canopy cover, Benthic group cover, Ocean health index, Physical damage to seafloor habitats, Plankton biomass trends, Fish abundance and biomass, Marine species richness, Water stress and ambient water quality, Level of erosion, Air quality and emissions account, Climatic impact index, Ocean acidification, Red List index, Species protection index and species status index, Mean species abundance, Genetic scorecard for wild species, Species richness trends, Expected loss of phylogenetic diversity, Population maintenance within species, Comprehensiveness of conservation of valuable species, Wild bird index, Green status index, Zoonotic disease in wildlife, Intact wilderness, Ecological footprint, Maximum fish catch potential, Biofuel production, Forestry production and wood fuel trade, Hunting and gathering participation, Food insecurity prevalence, Visitor management assessment, Trade in medicinal plants, Genetic resources secured in conservation facilities, Linguistic diversity index, Cultural vitality index, Education programmes in biosphere reserves, Mixed natural and cultural heritage sites, Monitoring of the right to a healthy environment, Environmental-economic accounting implementation, ABS clearing-house records, Finance mobilized for capacity building, Technology transfer finance, Research and marine research capacity, Development assistance for education, Information and communication technology trade flows, and Environmentally sound technology funding.

NBSAP target 1 with sub-targets 1.1–1.8: Natural capital and ocean accounts in planning, Spatial plans using key biodiversity area data, Habitat patches within protected or coastal management areas, Other spatial management plans, Extent of natural ecosystems, Land under cultivation, Transboundary cooperation arrangements, Free prior informed consent measures for conservation, Ecosystem integrity index and ecosystem restoration index, Key biodiversity area condition and status indicators, Protected area management effectiveness and network metrics, Coverage of key biodiversity areas by protected and conserved areas, Community land recognition, Protected area downgrading downsizing and degazettement, Species protection and threat abatement metrics, Red List of ecosystems, Red List index, Local breeds at risk of extinction, Fisheries sustainability measures, Wildlife trade controls, Invasive alien species trends, Nitrogen loss and deposition trends, Waste management and marine litter, Coastal eutrophication, Hazardous pesticide use, Above-ground biomass stock, Greenhouse gas inventories from land-use change, Carbon stocks by land-use category, Disaster risk reduction strategies, and Implementation of NDCs and NAPs.

NBSAP target 2 with sub-targets 2.9–2.13: Fish stocks within sustainable levels, Illegal / unreported / unregulated fishing controls, Spawning stock biomass, Agricultural productivity by enterprise size, Agrobiodiversity index, Soil organic carbon changes, Land degradation proportion, Pollinator and wild relative Red List indices, Genetic resources secured for food and agriculture, Air emission accounts, Air pollution mortality, Participation of local communities in water and sanitation management, Safely managed drinking water services, Crop material transfers under the international treaty, Genetic resource access permits, ABS compliance records, Legislative and policy measures for fair and equitable benefit-sharing, and Benefits directed to conservation and sustainable use.

NBSAP target 3 with sub-targets 3.14–3.23: Human appropriation of net primary production, Carbon emissions per unit of value added, Water-use efficiency change, Recycling rate, Life cycle impact assessment, Poverty in developing communities, Sustainability education mainstreaming, Companies publishing sustainability reports, Biosafety legal and administrative measures, Biosafety risk assessment and management, Implementation of biosafety protocols, Restoration and compensation measures, Biodiversity-relevant taxes and subsidy reform, Fossil fuel support trends, Biodiversity finance through international mechanisms, Development assistance and cooperation finance, Philanthropic biodiversity funding, Payments for ecosystem services programmes, National biodiversity finance needs assessment and planning, Species data growth in global databases, Proportion of species assessed on the Red List, Species status information index, Gender equality in institutions, Public allocations for gender equality, Women's land rights and tenure security, Governance and equity assessments in protected areas, and Perception of inclusive decision-making.

2.5 NBSAP Alignment with KMGBF

It is important to re-visit NBSAP alignment with the KMGBF to contextualize actions and indicators within the direction set by global goals, targets, and national sub-targets. This subsection summarizes the alignment synthesis, highlighting both substantive alignment and pragmatic adaptations to RMI's capacity, data availability, and implementation realities. A synthesis of institutional lessons from the preparation of the 7NR is provided in Appendix C, which outlines enabling measures to strengthen national monitoring and reporting systems in support of NBSAP implementation and preparation for the 8NR (2029).

Goal-level Synthesis: Comparison of NBSAP Targets 1–3 with KMGBF Goals A–D

NBSAP Targets 1–3 broadly map to KMGBF Goals A–D, translating global ambitions into a national strategy that reflects the country's scale, capacity, and governance context. Target 1 focuses on reducing threats, aligning with Goal A, but implementation is primarily through project-based, governance-focused, and qualitative actions rather than fully quantified national-scale commitments. Target 2 addresses sustainable use and the safeguarding of biodiversity benefits, corresponding to Goal B, while Target 3 emphasizes tools, knowledge, and enabling frameworks, linking to Goal D. Elements of Goal C, particularly equitable benefit-sharing and the use of traditional knowledge, are integrated across Targets 2 and 3. Collectively, the NBSAP demonstrates intentional alignment with KMGBF goals while reflecting pragmatic choices to sequence implementation and reporting in line with RMI capacity.

Conserve and Avoid: Comparison of NBSAP Sub-targets 1.1–1.8 and KMGBF Targets 1–8

Sub-targets 1.1–1.8 translate KMGBF Targets 1–8 into participatory spatial planning, ecosystem restoration, protected area management, species conservation, invasive species control, pollution mitigation, and climate resilience. While ambitious in intent, national-scale, fully quantified targets are limited by data availability and institutional capacity. Indicators tied to these sub-targets — covering both spatial and non-spatial elements — are established, demonstrating that the NBSAP is not merely qualitative. However, most reporting relies on community- and project-level monitoring, with more formal coverage and condition-based measures expected in later reporting cycles.

Safeguard: Comparison of NBSAP Sub-targets 2.9–2.13 and KMGBF Targets 9–13

Sub-targets 2.9–2.13 align with KMGBF Targets 9–13, focusing on sustainable use of wild species, productive landscapes, ecosystem services, urban green–blue spaces, and equitable benefit-sharing. Implementation emphasizes nature-positive approaches and community-level outcomes. The framework of national, headline, and binary indicators signals deliberate alignment with KMGBF metrics, but the RMI is still developing the capacity to report on them comprehensively, let alone relevant component and complementary indicators. Progress is therefore incremental: benefits are tracked where possible, but comprehensive national-level quantification will require continued investment and monitoring capacity.

Act: Comparison of NBSAP Sub-targets 3.14–3.23 and KMGBF Targets 14–23

Sub-targets 3.14–3.23 correspond to KMGBF Targets 14–23, focusing on governance, finance, private-sector engagement, biosafety, research and technology, monitoring, and inclusive decision-making. The NBSAP incorporates qualitative, capacity-building, and governance-oriented measures, reflecting a phased approach to implementation. National indicators already cover key elements such as inclusive participation, gender responsiveness, private-sector incentives, and funding flows, illustrating that the RMI is actively aligning with global reporting expectations, even as full quantitative measurement remains a work in progress toward the 8NR.

Appendix D provides contextual analysis of customary matrilineal land tenure, gender relations, and diverse value systems in the RMI, and should be read in conjunction with the implementation of KMGBF Targets 22 and 23 and NBSAP sub-targets 3.22 and 3.23.

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4 Appendices

4.1 Appendix A: NBSAP Mapping Matrix

GBF Columns (Target, Goal, Target Intent) anchor each row to the KMGBF. “Target” and “Goal” correspond directly to the KMGBF structure, while “Target Intent” provides a brief plain-language summary of what each GBF target seeks to achieve. These columns allow readers to quickly identify how each GBF target is addressed within the RMI context without reproducing formal CBD text.

NBSAP Columns (Target, Sub-target, Sub-target Intent) show how national targets translate into the structure of the NBSAP. “Target” and “Sub-target” correspond to the three national targets and their associated sub-targets described in Section 2.2, while “Sub-target Intent” distills each into the condition or outcome it describes, reflecting the Pressure–State–Response framing used throughout the NBSAP. Together, these columns demonstrate how nationally-defined biodiversity priorities align with global objectives.

Primary Mechanism and Action Pathway explain how each sub-target is delivered in practice. Primary mechanisms listed refer to the national systems, processes, and frameworks through which biodiversity management is carried out in RMI. In particular, references to *Reimaanlok* correspond to specific steps of the nationally-applied community-based process: Step 1 Initiate Engagement to Gain Insights; Step 2 Analyze Data and Report Back Prep; Step 3 Planning with the Community; Step 4 Drafting the Plan; Step 5 Finalize Plan and Sign Off; Step 6 Implement; and Step 7 Monitor and Adapt. References to PAN indicate the spatial conservation framework and associated data systems. These mechanisms are not individual projects or agencies, but the structured processes through which actions, data collection, and management occur across multiple institutions and communities. “Action Pathway” indicates where the corresponding actions are primarily located within Section 2.3 (MEA, National, Regional, or Local).

Reporting Sources identify where evidence for reporting is primarily drawn from. These sources represent the systems, datasets, or records that EPA relies upon when compiling national indicators and preparing CBD reports. In many cases this is *Reimaanlok* and PAN, which generate much of the field-based evidence for biodiversity management across communities, while in other cases it is sectoral datasets, national plans, or regulatory records maintained by specific agencies.

Indicator Approach describes how RMI demonstrates progress for each sub-target, reflecting the framework in Section 2.4 and the different types of information used to track progress. In this context, Headline indicators measure the condition of biodiversity, ecosystems, and species; National indicators demonstrate the geographic and community coverage of the management systems—such as *Reimaanlok*, PAN, and national environmental programs—that produce those outcomes over time; and Binary indicators reflect the existence of policies, legal frameworks, or institutional arrangements necessary to enable implementation. Component and Complementary indicators are not emphasized here, as they are primarily used to provide supporting or contextual information rather than core evidence of progress, but they may still be drawn upon in national reporting as capacity allows. These classifications do not represent a commitment regarding which indicators are reported in the 7NR and 8NR, as selection will depend on national data availability and capacity at the time of reporting.

Global Biodiversity Framework			RMI National Biodiversity and Strategic Action Plan						
Target	Goal	Target Intent	Target	Sub-target	Sub-target Intent	Primary Mechanism	Action Pathway	Reporting Sources	Indicator Approach
1	A	Spatial planning	1	1.1	Physical spatial planning of atoll, island, lagoon, reef, or EEZ areas to control habitat alteration	PAN, EEZ spatial data, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 1-3	National / Local	<i>Reimaanlok</i> <i>PAN</i>	Headline and National
2	A	Ecosystem restoration	1	1.2	Active ecological restoration of degraded ecosystems	<i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 3-6	National	<i>Reimaanlok</i>	Headline
3	A	30×30 conservation	1	1.3	Application of formal spatial conservation designations, zoning, or protected area management	EEZ biodiversity mapping, PAN, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 3-5	National / Local	MIMRA PAN	Headline and National
4	A	Species recovery	1	1.4	Use of field-derived biophysical evidence to guide species or ecosystem management decisions	EEZ biodiversity research, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 1-3, 5, 7	National / Local	MIMRA <i>Reimaanlok</i>	Headline
5	B	Sustainable harvesting	1	1.5	Regulation, control, or enforcement of wild species harvesting and trade	national regs, resource inventories, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 3-5, 7	National / Local	MIMRA MoNRC	Headline
6	A	Invasive species	1	1.6	Prevention, control, or eradication of invasive species	NISSAP, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 3 & 6	National	MoNRC	Headline and National
7	A	Pollution reduction	1	1.7	Management or reduction of pollution, waste, chemicals, sewage, sediment, or radiation	EPA regs & permits, MEAs, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Step 6	National	EPA	National and Binary
8	A	Climate impacts	1	1.8	Use of ecosystems to build climate resilience or reduce climate impacts	National policy, NDC, NAP, SLASP, EPA regs & permits, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Step 6	National	EPA CCD NEO	Headline and National
9	B	Sustainable use of wild species for people	2	2.9	Regulation or management of wild species use for local benefit	<i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 3-6	Local	<i>Reimaanlok</i>	National
10	B	Sustainable biodiversity management in resource sectors	2	2.10	Biodiversity management within food production, agroforestry, fisheries, or livelihood systems	EPA permits, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 3, 5-7	Local	<i>Reimaanlok</i>	Headline and National
11	B	Ecosystem functions and services for people	2	2.11	Management of ecosystem services as functional systems for people	EEZ biodiversity research, EPA permits, KPIs, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 3-7	Local	<i>Reimaanlok</i>	National
12	B	Access to green and blue spaces in urban areas	2	2.12	Planning or management of urban green or blue spaces	Master planning, EPA permits, KPIs	National	EPA	National
13	C	ABS & traditional knowledge	2	2.13	Governance of genetic resources, DSI, or traditional knowledge	Nagoya framework, CHPO guidance	MEA	CHPO EPA	Binary

Global Biodiversity Framework			RMI National Biodiversity and Strategic Action Plan						
Target	Goal	Target Intent	Target	Sub-target	Sub-target Intent	Primary Mechanism	Action Pathway	Reporting Sources	Indicator Approach
14	C	Mainstreaming biodiversity	3	3.14	Participation in, or implementation of, formal environmental agreement frameworks	National plans, MEA coordination	MEA	EPA	Binary
15	C	Business compliance	3	3.15	Enforcement of private sector compliance with biodiversity-related regulation	EPA regs & permits, SLASP	National	EPA	Binary and National
16	C	Consumption choices	3	3.16	Enabling sustainable consumption or production behavior change	EPA outreach, national KPIs	National	EPA MoNRC MoHHS	National
17	C	Biosafety	3	3.17	Building national biosafety implementation capacity	Cartagena framework	MEA	MoNRC	Binary
18	C	Incentives	3	3.18	Establishing positive incentives for biodiversity in economic sectors	National policy, EPA programs	National	EPA	Binary
19	D	Financial resources	3	3.19	Mobilization or tracking of financial resources for biodiversity	GEF tracking, finance systems	MEA	EPA	Binary
20	D	Research & technology	3	3.20	Building scientific, technical, or research capacity and systems	SOE, research partnerships	National	EPA MIMRA MICS	Headline and Complementary
21	D	Information access	3	3.21	Providing biodiversity information for reporting or decision-making	SOE, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Step 7	National / Local	EPA <i>Reimaanlok</i>	National
22	D	Participation	3	3.22	Establishing or using participation structures for biodiversity governance	<i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 1-5	Local	<i>Reimaanlok</i>	National
23	D	Gender responsiveness	3	3.23	Ensuring gender-responsive biodiversity governance	National policy, <i>Reimaanlok</i> Steps 1-5	Local	<i>Reimaanlok</i>	National

4.2 Appendix B: Distribution of NBSAP Actions

The distribution of NBSAP actions presented in Section 2.3 is shown in five tables (pathway, lead, design type, target relevance, and sub-target operationalization), with accompanied interpretation as necessary.

Percentages are based on the primary numbered actions and are intended to illustrate the relative emphasis of the NBSAP rather than provide quantitative weighting. Individual actions vary considerably in scope, complexity, and institutional involvement; therefore, these proportions should be interpreted as indicative of thematic focus rather than as exact measures of effort or resource allocation.

4.2.1 By Action Pathway

Action Pathway	Share of NBSAP Actions
MEA Participation and Compliance	16%
National Strategies, Plans, and Associated Projects	48%
Regional Cooperation and Projects	24%
Other National and Local Actions	12%

This distribution demonstrates that the NBSAP is primarily grounded in nationally-implemented strategies, plans, and operational programs, which account for half of all actions and form the core delivery mechanism for biodiversity conservation. Regional cooperation and externally-supported initiatives represent a substantial secondary pathway, including dedicated sustainable finance mechanisms such as the MIRA Trust Fund, GEF, GCF, and other regional and global funding sources, alongside coordinated technical assistance and regionally-implemented projects that support nationally defined priorities. Engagement in MEAs comprises a focused but essential component, ensuring compliance with international obligations and supporting national reporting, resource mobilization, and institutional capacity. Other national and local actions, including community-identified priorities, complement these pathways by reinforcing locally driven stewardship and implementation through established governance mechanisms.

4.2.2 By Primary Lead

Primary Lead Responsibility	Share of NBSAP Actions
RMI Environmental Protection Authority (RMI EPA)	29%
Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MoNRC)	9%
Coastal Management Advisory Council (CMAC) Protected Areas Network (PAN) Office <i>Reimaanlok</i> Local Resource Committees (LRCs)	6%
Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA)	11%
Climate Change Directorate (CCD)	5%
Other agencies and implementation partners, including NGOs (e.g., MICS), local governments, and sectoral partners	40%

This distribution demonstrates that implementation of the NBSAP is whole-of-government and whole-of-society, with leadership distributed across statutory authorities, national coordination mechanisms, and implementation partners. RMI EPA serves as the central environmental coordination authority, reflecting its regulatory mandate, national focal point roles under multiple MEAs, and responsibility for national environmental planning, safeguards, and reporting. MIMRA and MoNRC play major roles in marine and

terrestrial resource management respectively, while CMAC, the PAN Office, and LRCs provide essential coordination and delivery through community-based conservation mechanisms. CCD leads climate-related adaptation and resilience actions that intersect with biodiversity objectives. The large share of actions led by other agencies and implementation partners reflects the integrated nature of biodiversity implementation across infrastructure, education, finance, utilities, civil society, and regional and international partners, highlighting the broad institutional foundation supporting delivery of the NBSAP.

4.2.3 By Design Type

Design Type	Share of NBSAP Actions
Governance-only (Target 3): MEA engagement, coordination, reporting, policy, finance, and participation	30%
Pressure/State pathway only (Target 1 or 2): Direct ecosystem, species, pollution, or food system management	17%
Hybrid (Targets 1, 2, or 3): Governance mechanisms operating biodiversity pressure/state pathways	53%

This distribution demonstrates that most NBSAP actions are intentionally designed as hybrid actions, in which governance, coordination, finance, and participation mechanisms are used to enable and operate direct biodiversity pressure and state pathways through national institutions and delivery systems. These hybrid actions include implementation through *Reimaanlok*, PAN, environmental permitting systems, multisectoral strategies, sectoral strategic resource management plans, and cross-cutting nationally-implemented infrastructure and resilience programs. Governance only actions are primarily associated with MEA participation, national coordination, reporting, and biodiversity finance mechanisms. Pressure or state only pathway actions are fewer and tend to be operational actions implemented directly through ecosystem restoration, invasive species management, spatial protection, pollution control, or community and sectoral management activities. Overall, this structure reflects an implementation model in which governance systems are explicitly designed to deliver measurable biodiversity outcomes through national institutions rather than operating as standalone administrative processes.

4.2.4 By Target Relevance

National Target	Share of NBSAP Actions
Target 1 — Reducing Threats	59%
Target 2 — Meeting People's Needs	46%
Target 3 — Tools and Solutions	92%

Because many actions contribute to more than one national target, the percentages in this table exceed 100 percent. The high proportion of actions linked to Target 3 reflects the central role of governance systems, institutional coordination, finance mechanisms, monitoring systems, education, and MEA engagement in enabling biodiversity implementation in the RMI. Targets 1 and 2 are primarily delivered through nationally-implemented sectoral plans, conservation programs, sustainable resource management, and community-based management frameworks. As a result, these targets combine governance functions with direct ecosystem management, rather than through standalone operational actions alone.

4.2.5 By Sub-target Operationalization

NBSAP Sub-target	Share of NBSAP Actions
1.1 All atolls and islands engaged in <i>Reimaanlok</i> processes to conserve biodiversity and manage nearshore marine and land resources, with most offshore waters and deep benthic environments of high biodiversity importance under spatial planning to reduce biodiversity loss.	15%
1.2 At least 30% of degraded nearshore waters and land areas are under effective ecological restoration or have been restored.	12%
1.3 Effective management of marine waters that includes at least 30% of nearshore waters in Type 2 and/or Type 3 conservation areas, with fisheries management also between and around areas; AND effective management of 30% of land areas that includes at least 20% in Type 2 and/or Type 3 conservation areas.	21%
1.4 Biophysical research, proposed or carried out, supports management actions to halt human-induced extinction of known threatened species and for the recovery and conservation of species.	16%
1.5 Compliance with all national regulations and local government ordinances pertaining to the sustainable harvesting and trade of wild species.	15%
1.6 Effective management of native and alien invasive species on biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation in line with existing national plans.	24%
1.7 Effective management of waste, chemicals, pollutants, and nuclear radiation in line with existing national plans.	21%
1.8 Mitigation and adaptation of the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, including ocean acidification and warming, through nature-positive approaches.	27%

The distribution across Target 1 sub-targets (exceeding 100 percent due to most actions contributing to multiple sub-targets) reflects the integrated, systems-based design of the NBSAP, in which biodiversity pressures are addressed through coordinated national frameworks rather than isolated interventions. Together, these mechanisms enable spatial planning, restoration, sustainable use, invasive species control, pollution management, and climate adaptation through existing institutional mandates and community governance structures, ensuring systematic and sustained biodiversity threat reduction across marine and terrestrial environments while strengthening long-term institutional capacity and stewardship.

NBSAP Sub-target	Share of NBSAP Actions
2.9 Effective management and use of wild species for the benefit of local communities through nature-positive approaches.	29%
2.10 Effective management of areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry through nature-positive approaches.	32%
2.11 Ecosystem services restored, maintained, and enhanced through nature-positive approaches for the benefit of local communities.	28%
2.12 Urban green and blue spaces enhanced for human well-being and biodiversity.	18%
2.13 Established national capacity to manage traditional knowledge and genetic resources, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.	15%

The distribution across Target 2 sub-targets (also exceeding 100 percent) reflects the integrated design of the NBSAP, in which biodiversity conservation is directly linked with sustainable food systems, ecosystem services, and community well-being. These sub-targets are operationalized through sectoral resource management plans, community-based conservation mechanisms, environmental safeguards and permitting systems, and ecosystem restoration and resilience programs. Together, these mechanisms ensure that biodiversity is sustainably managed to support livelihoods, maintain ecosystem services, and strengthen long-term socio-ecological resilience.

NBSAP Sub-target	Share of NBSAP Actions
3.15 Private sector compliance with national regulations and local government ordinances that affect biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.	9%
3.16 Relevant and accessible information for people to make consumption choices based on nutrition and biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.	13%
3.17 National capacity enhanced to implement biosafety measures.	9%
3.18 Private sector incentives across economic sectors that contribute to biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.	15%
3.19 Financial resources from all sources that contribute to biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.	21%
3.20 National capacity for regional and international research and technology-sharing enhanced for biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.	36%
3.21 Biodiversity information available and accessible to stakeholders and decision makers to guide relevant action.	83%
3.22 Equitable, accessible, and all-inclusive representation and participation in decision-making for biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.	67%
3.23 Gender equality and responsiveness in implementation for biodiversity conservation and/or mitigation.	17%

The distribution across Target 3 sub-targets (also exceeding 100 percent) reflects the institutional and governance foundation of biodiversity implementation in the RMI. The strongest operationalization is associated with biodiversity information systems and inclusive participation, which underpin MEA engagement, national planning, conservation delivery, environmental permitting, reporting, and community-based management. Sub-targets are further supported through financing mechanisms, research partnerships, biosafety systems, and environmental safeguards frameworks, enabling coordinated implementation across sectors and ensuring that biodiversity considerations are integrated into national decision-making processes. These governance mechanisms also strengthen institutional capacity and support long-term implementation continuity across national agencies, local governments, and community-based resource management systems.

The operationalization of private-sector incentive mechanisms (3.18; 7%) reflects the role of environmental safeguards, biodiversity financing, sustainable tourism frameworks, infrastructure permitting systems, and voluntary business standards in aligning economic activity with national biodiversity objectives. These mechanisms influence private-sector behavior by establishing compliance requirements, investment conditions, and operational standards within nationally implemented regulatory, financing, and development planning systems. Through these frameworks, biodiversity considerations are incorporated into infrastructure development, shoreline management, tourism operations, and resource-use activities, ensuring that economic development proceeds in a manner consistent with national conservation priorities and supporting long-term alignment between private-sector activity and biodiversity conservation goals.

4.2.6 By Implementation Architecture

The tables in Appendix B illustrate how NBSAP actions operationalize national biodiversity targets and sub-targets through defined institutional and implementation mechanisms. Percentages shown in subsections 4.2.1 through 4.2.5 reflect the proportion of primary numbered actions that activate each implementation pathway, target, and sub-target. These values indicate the structural emphasis of the NBSAP and identify the institutional systems through which biodiversity outcomes are delivered, rather than representing effort, resource mobilization, or implementation scale.

Sub-target assignments follow the intent statements defined in Appendix A and are applied using consistent mechanism-based principles. Sub-targets reflect how an action creates change, rather than the full range of downstream environmental or social outcomes it may influence. Target 1 and Target 2 sub-targets are applied only where actions directly operate biodiversity pressure or state pathways, such as spatial planning, ecosystem restoration, sustainable resource management, invasive species control, pollution management, and climate adaptation. Actions related to MEAs appropriately carry the biodiversity pathways governed by those agreements, alongside governance, reporting, and coordination functions. National implementation frameworks—including *Reimaanlok*, PAN, sectoral resource management plans, environmental permitting and safeguards systems, and climate resilience and infrastructure programs—are mapped according to the biodiversity functions they operationalize.

The analysis in Appendix B confirms that biodiversity implementation in the RMI is primarily delivered through nationally-implemented plans, sectoral management systems, and community-based governance mechanisms. Hybrid actions, which combine governance mechanisms with direct biodiversity pressure and state pathways, represent the majority of the portfolio, demonstrating that institutional coordination, finance mechanisms, information systems, and inclusive participation structures are designed to enable measurable biodiversity outcomes. Strong operationalization of biodiversity information systems, inclusive participation, financing mechanisms, research partnerships, and environmental safeguards reflects the importance of governance systems in enabling effective conservation delivery, national planning, environmental permitting, and reporting.

Sub-target operationalization patterns further confirm that biodiversity threat reduction, sustainable use, and governance capacity are implemented through coordinated national institutions rather than standalone interventions. Target 1 and Target 2 sub-targets are delivered primarily through spatial planning, ecosystem restoration, invasive species management, pollution control, sustainable resource management, and climate resilience programs embedded within national and community governance systems. Target 3 sub-targets provide the enabling foundation for implementation, including biodiversity information availability, inclusive participation, finance mechanisms, research and technical capacity, private-sector engagement, and gender-responsive governance. Together, these mechanisms ensure that biodiversity considerations are integrated into national development planning, infrastructure delivery, sectoral management, and community-based conservation.

This mechanism-based structure confirms that the NBSAP is fully operationalized through existing institutional mandates, regulatory systems, and implementation frameworks. It demonstrates alignment between actions, targets, and sub-targets as defined in Appendix A, and provides a clear and auditable framework for monitoring, reporting, and adaptive management. The analysis also confirms that national biodiversity implementation is supported by coordinated action across government agencies, community governance systems, civil society organizations, and regional and international partners, ensuring sustained institutional capacity and long-term biodiversity conservation outcomes in the RMI.

4.3 Appendix C: Reporting Capacity and Readiness for the 8th National Report

The preparation of the 7NR to the CBD provided important insights into national monitoring systems, data availability, institutional coordination, and technical capacity for reporting under the KMGBF. While the NBSAP sets out biodiversity actions and outcomes, the 7NR process revealed practical constraints and structural gaps affecting the ability to generate indicator-ready datasets and demonstrate measurable progress. This appendix synthesizes those lessons and outlines enabling measures to strengthen national monitoring and reporting systems in preparation for the 8NR (2029). It does not introduce new biodiversity actions; rather, it supports effective implementation and credible, transparent reporting of the NBSAP in alignment with KMGBF requirements.

4.3.1 Institutional Lessons from the 7th National Report

The preparation of the 7NR demonstrated that RMI possesses substantial biodiversity knowledge, spatial conservation data, and active community-based management systems, particularly through *Reimaanlok* and PAN processes. However, the reporting exercise also revealed a structural distinction between biodiversity implementation and biodiversity reporting.

At the institutional level, biodiversity-relevant information is distributed across agencies and sectoral programmes. While this reflects broad engagement in biodiversity management, it also means that data are not consistently consolidated into unified national reporting frameworks. Coordination during the 7NR was largely event-driven and aligned to reporting timelines rather than embedded within routine interagency data-exchange mechanisms. The 7NR further highlighted reliance on global datasets for certain KMGBF headline indicators where national datasets are not yet structured in accordance with CBD reporting methodologies. Although global sources provide standardized and internationally comparable values, they do not always capture national context, recent policy developments, or localized conservation responsibility. In addition, biodiversity-relevant financial flows, research activities, and traditional knowledge-related processes occur across multiple sectors. However, there is no consolidated national mechanism for systematically tagging biodiversity expenditures or tracking ABS-related outputs for reporting purposes. Institutional knowledge exists, but it is not yet organized into coordinated, repeatable reporting systems.

Taken together, the 7NR demonstrated that the principal reporting challenge for RMI is not the absence of biodiversity action, but the absence of structured institutional systems that translate ongoing implementation into standardized, reportable outputs under the KMGBF.

4.3.2 Monitoring and Technical Capacity Gaps

Beyond institutional coordination, the 7NR identified several monitoring and technical limitations affecting the ability to generate nationally-derived datasets aligned with KMGBF indicators.

Ecosystem extent and condition are not yet tracked through consolidated spatial time series, and no national Red List of Ecosystems assessment has been undertaken. Ecosystem services are recognized in national planning and community practice but are not compiled into formal ecosystem-accounting frameworks capable of generating trend data. Similarly, genetic diversity monitoring and invasive species trend reporting remain limited in scope and are not yet structured for standardized CBD indicator reporting. Water-quality monitoring illustrates current technical constraints. National monitoring systems focus primarily on microbial contamination, including *E. coli*, in drinking water and selected nearshore areas. While this supports public-health and environmental-management objectives, broader contaminant monitoring relevant to KMGBF indicators, such as pesticide residues, nutrient concentrations, and other chemical parameters, is not yet institutionalized as a sustained national dataset. Addressing these gaps will require laboratory upgrades, sustained operational funding, technical training, and structured external analytical partnerships.

More broadly, several KMGBF indicators require analytical capacity, data continuity, and methodological standardization that exceed current routine monitoring scope. Strengthening these systems will require incremental investment in equipment, human resources, technical standards, and data-management systems to ensure that datasets are comparable across reporting cycles and suitable for CBD submission.

These monitoring and technical gaps are practical and capacity-based rather than policy-based. Addressing them is essential to ensuring that the 8NR reflects measurable national progress supported by nationally generated data.

4.3.3 Strategic Preparation Framework for the 8th National Report

To ensure a robust and timely 8NR, preparation should be structured across three phases aligned with NBSAP implementation. Phase I (2026) establishes institutional foundations and defines realistic national reporting priorities; Phase II (2027–mid-2028) focuses on dataset development and sustained capacity-building; and Phase III (mid-2028–February 2029) concentrates on structured report preparation to reduce reporting risk and avoid compressed, last-minute compilation.

Phase I (2026): Institutional framing and baseline alignment

- Establish an interagency biodiversity-indicator coordination mechanism.
- Map existing national datasets against KMGBF headline indicators.
- Define a practical national ecosystem classification framework to support ecosystem-extent tracking.
- Identify priority laboratory upgrades and potential external analytical partnerships.
- Develop a simple biodiversity-expenditure tagging approach within national budgeting systems.
- Clarify institutional responsibility for tracking research outputs and ABS-related activities.

Phase II (2027–mid-2028): Dataset development and capacity strengthening

- Develop spatial layers for ecosystem extent and change detection.
- Pilot ecosystem-service accounting for selected services.
- Strengthen invasive-species documentation to enable trend reporting.
- Expand analytical capacity beyond microbial parameters where feasible.
- Introduce biodiversity-relevant expenditure tagging within public-finance systems.
- Establish a basic national mechanism to document research activities and ABS-relevant outputs.

Phase III (mid-2028–February 2029): Structured report preparation

- Pre-draft indicator narratives based on available datasets.
- Validate national datasets internally prior to ORT entry.
- Align national datasets with CBD reporting templates.
- Populate the ORT incrementally rather than near submission deadlines.
- Conduct an internal technical review before final validation and submission.

4.3.4 Relationship to NBSAP Implementation

The measures outlined in this appendix are enabling measures and do not constitute additional biodiversity policy commitments. They are designed to ensure that progress under the NBSAP can be measured, verified, and credibly reported under the KMGBF.

The NBSAP focuses on biodiversity outcomes, including conservation, sustainable use, pollution reduction, ecosystem restoration, and governance strengthening. This appendix focuses on the institutional and technical systems required to document those outcomes through CBD reporting processes. Implementation of the NBSAP and strengthening of reporting capacity should proceed concurrently. By integrating reporting readiness into implementation planning during 2026–2028, RMI can reduce future reporting burdens, improve data coherence, enhance institutional coordination, and demonstrate measurable progress toward KMGBF commitments.

In this way, the 7NR serves not only as a reporting obligation under the CBD, but also as a foundation for long-term monitoring-system development and institutional strengthening in advance of the 8NR.

4.4 Appendix D: Customary Tenure, Gender, and Value Systems

This appendix provides structural context for the implementation of KMGBF Targets 22 and 23 and corresponding NBSAP sub-targets 3.22 and 3.23. It outlines how customary matrilineal land tenure, governance authority, and diverse value systems shape participation, access, and decision-making in biodiversity management. The discussion illustrates both the opportunities and governance complexities involved in reconciling customary systems with modern statutory frameworks.

Customary Tenure and Governance Structure

Gender equality remains a significant and ongoing challenge for the RMI across economic sectors in contemporary society. However, the RMI also recognizes that its strong customary practices rooted in matrilineal succession and land ownership form the foundation upon which women and girls can attain equal status, supported by national laws and regulations.

In the RMI, land ownership is deeply rooted in traditional practices, with property rights based primarily on matrilineal land tenure, meaning land ownership is passed down through the female line and governed by customary law. There is no public land in the RMI. As a result, people, plans, and projects must comply not only with national laws and regulations but also with the customs, traditions, and social hierarchies of the atoll or island where activities take place. These are expressed through customary ownership and organization of land parcels (*wetos*), which collectively comprise all land in the RMI, including land below the water. Local communities represent the modern institutional expression of this sense of place, but *wetos*—typically running from ocean to lagoon—remain the primary identifiers of land in both common and legal discourse.

The Local Atoll Government and the Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs (through the Cultural and Historic Preservation Office—CHPO) ensure that government policy and practice, including land leases, reflect and protect cultural norms in the modern context. Traditional and legal systems coexist and are recognized by local authorities and communities alike, although customary systems often take precedence in rural areas. Land access requires permission from traditional leaders, provided in practice by landowners or their representatives to ensure cultural norms are upheld. Areas commonly described as “public” are routinely accessed because permissions granted historically are understood to extend to present and future use; however, this does not universally apply across all shorelines.

The interplay between customary practices and statutory laws can be complex and requires culturally-sensitive engagement to resolve potential conflicts. Projects must therefore undertake meaningful consultation with landowners, traditional leaders, and affected communities to build trust and obtain social license to operate. The Constitution of the RMI recognizes customary land law and embeds its role in governance within a cohesive legal framework that integrates traditional practices into modern statutory and constitutional systems. Land titles and rights fall into two traditional categories: *iroij* (royal lineage) and *kajur* (commoner lineage). The *bwij*, or matrilineal clan, determines and transfers permanent authority over land through the *jowi* (clan name). Every child born to a Marshallese mother inherits a *jowi* from her, thereby guaranteeing land rights through the maternal line.

Clans and families control land collectively to ensure it remains within the lineage. Authority over land rights, passed through the *bwij*, transfers to the rightful successor unless interrupted by serious offense, in which case succession proceeds to the next eligible individual. This rule affects only the second generation and does not displace immediate siblings of the head of the *bwij*, thereby ensuring continuity of authority. Leadership authority is traditionally held by the *iroij lablab* and the *alab* (landowner) within a hierarchical structure placing *iroij* at the apex, followed by *alab* and *rijerbal* (worker). Customary authority is exercised by elders and chiefs who administer land laws, mediate disputes, and govern community affairs, with knowledge transmitted orally across generations.

Marine Areas and Customary Authority

In the RMI, land below the high-water mark—including coastal areas, reefs, and tidal zones—is also influenced by customary systems, though distinctions between terrestrial and marine domains can create complexity. Under customary practice, reefs, lagoons, and shorelines are generally regarded as part of the clan’s collective holdings. Coastal resources are integral to livelihoods and cultural identity, and access rights are typically held by specific clans or families with long-established usage rights.

Customary governance extends to marine resources, and rights to fish, harvest seaweed, or gather shellfish are governed through the same matrilineal and clan-based structures as terrestrial land. The right to extend land below the high-water mark is considered a right of the landowner; consequently, reclaimed land is understood to belong to the adjacent landward landowner.

For activities in intertidal and subtidal zones, non-clan members or external parties must seek permission from appropriate traditional authorities. Such permissions are granted following consultation within the relevant lineage or community structure. Traditional leaders play a critical role in ensuring that resource rights are respected and sustainable practices maintained, recognizing these ecosystems as vital to long-term community well-being. Access to land below the high-water mark is therefore governed through customary norms that recognize the cultural and economic importance of these areas, and external initiatives must navigate these systems carefully to ensure both legal and cultural legitimacy.

Value Systems and Biodiversity Governance

Nature embodies different meanings for different peoples, including biodiversity, ecosystems, Mother Earth, and systems of life. Nature’s contributions to people similarly encompass diverse concepts, such as ecosystem goods and services and nature’s gifts. These understandings underpin human well-being, intergenerational responsibility, and living in harmony with nature.

The KMGBF recognizes these diverse value systems, including—where nationally recognized—rights of nature and rights of Mother Earth, as integral to successful implementation. In the RMI, these value systems are operationalized through Reimaanlok, which integrates customary stewardship, collective decision-making, and ecological responsibility. While this value framework remains strong in rural communities, its expression is more variable in urban contexts, where statutory systems and socioeconomic change exert greater influence.

Although diverse value systems are not framed as standalone KMGBF targets, they underpin the implementation of KMGBF Targets 22 and 23 and NBSAP sub-targets 3.22 and 3.23. Continued attention to this dimension should complement—rather than displace—efforts to strengthen monitoring, evaluation, and measurable progress toward KMGBF-aligned targets.

The RMI recommends that the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES; 2022) *Summary for Policymakers of the Methodological Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature* serve as a guiding framework for countries seeking to integrate multiple worldviews and valuation approaches into biodiversity decision-making. The assessment provides guidance on understanding relationships among worldviews and values, developing typologies of values, designing valuation processes, and embedding diverse values of nature into policy and governance. Such approaches contribute to the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the broader post-2020 global biodiversity framework.