



**Ministry of Environment,
Lands and Agricultural
Development
Bikenibeu, Tarawa
Republic of Kiribati**



SAY NO TO PLASTICS
*They are threatening
our marine life*



Press Release

The deployment of Clam and Sandfish farming Program in Maiana to enhance the Marine Food Sources for Maiana Island Communities.

Fisheries officials visited Maiana in May to carry out the deployment of the clam, collect the matured maxima and Hippopus (*hippopus*) for broodstock and to identify potential sites for sandfish farming.

The program is in response to concerns raised during the Community Based Fisheries Management (CBFM) consultation in May 2019 about the decline in the abundance of these fisheries' marine resources and the threat to their livelihood, in particular the depletion in the number of clams as one of their marine food sources.

One of the local divers on the island assisted in guiding the Fisheries team to sites where clams can be collected, providing an insight on the decline in the stock of the hippopus clam (te neitoro).

Mr Tibwere Tawerio said, "We used to harvest hippopus clam in shallower waters whereas at present they can only be found at deeper waters within the minimum depth of 5 meters."

A total of 300 maxima clams (te were) had been deployed into two potential sites which for proposed marine protected areas (MPAs), adjacent to Bubutei and Tebikerai and five potential sites had been identified for sand fishing in Tematangtongo.

The officials indicated that a monitoring exercise will also be conducted in order to keep the program successful and to ensure the life of the clams are protected in their new habitat. These clams are expected to be matured in two to three years' time and the MPAs are envisaged to become a spawning ground for *maxima* clam in the future.

The target of this program is to maintain the long term social and economic benefits to communities from their marine resources by enhancing the stock in the MPAs.

There is a plan to engage communities to look after the MPA through the Community Based Fisheries Management Plan.

Kamaian te were ao te kereboki iaon Maiana ibukin kamaitan te tania ni maiu mai taari.

A tia n mananga ana tiim te Bootaki n Akawa nako Maiana ibukin te makuri iaon te were (maxima) ao te neitor (Hippopus) n taabo ake a tia n katuaki ao ibukin kamatebaian te kereboki ibukin kamaitan te mari mai taari.

E karaoaki te mananga aio ba buokan ana tabeianga te community ni kaineti ma aki taun te were are e tabekaki n tain te kaongora iaon te Community Based Fisheries Management (CBFM) n May 2019. Aio are e na ko na n roota mauraoin te bootanaomata iaon Maiana ngkai e ataaki bwa teuana mai ibuakon kanaia.

Iai temanna te tia tebo are e buokia kaain te tiim n karia nakon nnen te neitoro are ana kona n reke iai ao e kaota ana roroma iai. "Mai maiana ao ti ko na n karekea te neitoro n taabo aika a ora ao ngkai tia ti kona n karekea n te nano ae moan man 5 te miita" e taku Tibwere Tawerio.

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Iai 300 maitin te were are a tia n kateboaki n aia tabo ake tia n katauaki iai ke te oo ni kabwebwe i taari iaan te kawa ae Bubutei ao Tebikerai. Iai naba 5 taabo ake a tia n kamatebaiaki bwa a kona n maeu iai kereboki.

A taku naba Aobitia aikai bwa iai naba te waaki n tutuo are e na karaoaki nakon taabo aikai ibukin tararuan te were aikai bwa ena teimatoa n mau n tabo aikai. A kantaningaki bwa ana tau nakon te kanaki were aikai inanon 3 te ririki ao a na kona naba n reke taabo aikai ba te naan tabo ni kaabung ibukin kamataia nakon taai aika ana roko.

Teuana naba te kantaninga iaon te mananga aio bwa ena kateimatoa te maiuraoi nakoia aomata ao boutokaan naba aia waaki ni kareke tianti ngkana arona bwa a maiu tenaan were aikai. E iangoaki naba ba e na katabangakaki nakon te community aron tararuan te tabo aikai rinanon aia Community Based Fisheries Management Plan.

E boutokaki karaoan te kainibaire aio man ana karikirake te Tautaeka ae te LDCF (Least Developed Countries Fund) rinanon te GEF (Global Environment Facility) ao n tararuaki iroun Aobitin Enwaromenta are mena iaan, te Bootaki n Enwaromenta, Aaba ao karikirakean te Ununiki (MELAD).

**For further information Contact
Bweneata Kaoti (Ms)
Project Advocacy Officer - PAO; Project Management Unit - PMU
Environment and Conservation Division, MELAD, 75228211,75228000,
kaoti.bene@environment.gov.ki**

Photo

	
<p>Hippopus & Maxima collected</p>	<p>Maxima Clam deployed in MPAs</p>



Deployment of Maxima clams



Broodstock collection site