

MTCIC strengthens income-generation for food security through LDCF1-project

MTCIC PRESS RELEASE

On September 24th, a team from the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives' known as MTCIC departed Tarawa for Abemama. The mission lasted for 21 days with the purpose to undertake training, consultation, and awareness to strengthen business initiatives through increasing trade from local products and value-added products from in-land and marine resources to enhance food security under the impacts of Climate change.

While also following up on activities carried out on Abemama in previous trips funded by GEF-LDCF1, the main purpose of the trip would focus on expanding the talent of women and men to generate income from the following activities:

- Empowering women in business to generate income from producing local products and value-added products, selling handicrafts, and producing local foods to improve their livelihood and enhance food security through the impacts of climate change.
- Delivery of Financial Literacy and how to use budgeting in their day to day lives to ensure they can spend money wisely, save and invest to become more resilient in the future.
- To provide awareness to women, youth groups and church groups on MTCIC' initiatives such as formulation of cooperatives and business registration, promotion of quality and standards to encourage the production of quality products, building adaptive capacity and knowledge on the use of e-commerce and domestic trade to enhance food security.

The team also visited villages on Abemama to conduct consultation and awareness from 29th September to the 11th of October 2022. The awareness was carried out at Abatiku islet and was extended from Kabangaki to Tabiang. The training on the production of value-added product took place at Riite's Maneaba for 10 days with participants of women from every village.

The closing ceremony was held at the Council Maneaba on the 12th of October 2022 to showcase the output of women's training. 26 women participated in the training, and they all had the opportunity to sell their products during the ceremony.

Women in Abemama were very interested and willing to start their small business as a community and have established a newly garment cooperative society as a result of the training. This was very important for them to maintain the knowledge and skills they have learned from the training and make use of it to generate income and help them become more resilient against climate change impacts.

The mission to Abemama was successful and was possible through the support of the LDCF project Enhancing food security in the context of Global climate change, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).



