



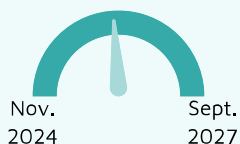
EMPOWER

Engaging Mobilisation for
Positive Outcome in Water,
Ecosystem and Resilience



Project Lead: Live & Learn Fiji

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

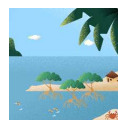


AMOUNT OF FUNDING



€ 3,050,000

Theme



Coastal
Ecosystem
Management
and Restoration

Main co-benefits, in addition to climate change adaptation



Food
security



Socio-economic
resilience



Water
resource
availability
and quality



Gender Equality,
Disability and
Social Inclusion

Pacific rural areas that rely heavily on farming and fishing are especially vulnerable to climate change and natural disasters. In some regions, resources are being overused, threatening the food and water supplies that people in remote communities rely on.

The Kiwa EMPOWER project helps 24 communities in Fiji, Tuvalu, and the Solomon Islands adapt to climate change by **restoring natural ecosystems, improving access to food and clean water, and supporting sustainable livelihoods**. The project works closely with local leaders and community members, combining traditional knowledge with inclusive, participatory planning to ensure that everyone - especially women, youth, and people with disabilities - is involved in shaping solutions that meet their needs.

Specific Objectives:

- **Nature-Based Solutions Actions:** work with communities to manage forests, coastlines, and water sources, restore mangroves, and promote climate-resilient agriculture such as agroforestry and organic gardening to improve food and water security.
- **Empower Pacific Islands Communities:** train communities to manage natural resources, including sustainable farming techniques. Involve women, youth, and people with disabilities in leading local initiatives.
- **Strengthen Communication and Regional Collaboration:** facilitate learning between countries through exchanges, site visits, and storytelling to spread practical, locally led climate solutions.



During a Kiwa EMPOWER meeting with communities in the Naivaka village, Fiji – N.JOB © Kiwa Initiative - Nov 2025

Subregion:

■ Melanesia/Timor-Leste

□ Micronesia

■ Polynesia



Fiji

- 3,842 direct beneficiaries



Solomon Islands (remote Islands)

- 480 direct beneficiaries



Tuvalu

- 952 direct beneficiaries



Fiji

- Locations: Cakaudrove Province (14 villages), Macuata Province (3 villages), Bua Province (3 villages)

Solomon Islands

- Locations: Sikaiana Village (Malaita Province), Nifiloli Village (Temotu Province)
- Partner: Live & Learn Solomon Islands

Tuvalu

- Locations: Nanumea Island , Niutao Island
- Partner: Live & Learn Tuvalu

Key results to date:**Implement Nature-based Solutions**

- Before any physical restoration work begins, EMPOWER invested its first year in building the evidence base that will drive those interventions. **Baseline assessments were completed across all 24 target communities** in Fiji, Tuvalu, and Solomon Islands, covering ecosystem conditions, climate risks, water security, livelihoods, and social inclusion. The data tells a stark story: **in Fiji, 86% of households experienced climate-related hazards in the past five years and 79% consume untreated drinking water. In the Solomon Islands, 96% face food insecurity during climate shocks. In Tuvalu, 77% rely on rainwater and 76% identify environmental degradation as a major concern.**
- These findings directly shaped the **Integrated Implementation Plans** now in place for all **24 communities**. Physical restoration, including riparian and coastal rehabilitation, native planting, climate-smart agriculture, and pulaka pit restoration in Tuvalu, is set to begin by mid-2026.

Empower Pacific Island Communities

- The GEDSI dimension is being built from the ground up. A regional consultant completed **gender analysis and child protection risk assessments** across all three countries. In Fiji, **38 staff completed a GEDSI Training of Trainers in December 2025**, with a majority of women, to cascade principles at community level. The same training is planned for Solomon Islands and Tuvalu in 2026. SauVaka Consultancy will lead **Indigenous Knowledge training across 20 Fiji communities** from May 2026.

Strengthen Communication and Regional Collaboration

- **National launches** were held in all three countries within year one: Fiji (98 participants), Solomon Islands (43 participants plus 500 via SIBC livestream), and Tuvalu (29 participants). The project reached over **10,000 people through digital channels** in year one alone, against a multi-year target, driven by active presence across social media and the **knowledge portal livelearnfiji.org**. Two newsletters achieved open rates above 45%. Nine media articles published across regional outlets.

"The two sites chosen through this Project are one of the remotest islands in Tuvalu and I thank you for working closely with the Tuvalu Government and our communities in need, I am pleased to say that this Project has my backing. This Project aligns closely with the Government's vision of ensuring sustainable livelihoods, community well-being and sustainable development of Tuvalu and its people through the protection of cultural heritage and values."

Honourable Sa'aga Talu Teafa,
Tuvalu Minister of Natural Resources Development



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