



REPORT OF THE COOK ISLANDS TRUSTEES

MARCH 2018 – REPORT

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COMMUNITY GRANTS*

1. TURANGI COMMUNITY – ACCESS TO CLEAN DRINKING WATER

Turangi is a district or tapere in the Village of Ngatangia. Turangi is located at the heart of Ngatangia, and is home to majority of the local residents of Ngatangia.



Ngatangia is one of the five districts that make up the island of Rarotonga in the Cook Islands. It is located in the east of the island, to the south of the districts of Matavera and Avarua, and northeast of the district of Titikaveka. Ngatangia is one of the highest populated areas for tourism on the island, and is home to the popular Muri Beach.

The new UV filtered water station, recently opened in Turangi is located in a handy location by the side of the main road, easily accessible to the community as a place to get clean filtered drinking water.

The water station is located on land donated by Tereapii and Maria Crummer, and was made possible with the Cooks Foundation grant of \$2,000, donations from the village MP Tamaiva Tuavera, and generous donations of time and labour from the people of Ngatangia.

The availability of clean drinking water that is free and easily accessible is a big step towards improving the life and health of the people of Turangi and Ngatangia. The Turangi water station is a short distance away from Te Uki Ou Primary School, The Church of Latter Day Saints Church of Jesus Christ Church, as well as the Cook Islands Christian Church, making this a prime location for a water station.

The amount requested by the Hon. Tamaiva Tuavera, for the purchase and installation of the UV filtered system, was \$2000.



Photo Credit: CI News

2. ATIU COOK ISLANDS CHRISTIAN CHURCH – WATER COOLERS

The first organised religion established on Atiu, in 1823, was that of the London Missionary Society. In later years, its name changed to Cook Islands Christian Church. Early missionaries and other visitors to Atiu commented on the prominence of Atiu's first church building, erected soon after embracing Christianity, which could be seen from the sea when approaching the island



Atiu, also known as Enea Manu (land of the birds due to the many species of birds found here) or Atiu Enea lies North-East of the Cook Island's capital, Rarotonga. The islands population is approximately 571 residents. It is a raised volcanic island and is surrounded by a reef which rise six metre high cliffs

The availability of clean drinking water is necessary to healthy living. Access to clean drinking water in the outer islands of the Cook Islands is a luxury that the people of the islands do not take for granted. Accessibility to clean drinking water means better health for the Atiuan people. With the high rate of NCD's in the Cook Islands, there is an increased effort by community leaders to promote healthy living and look to organisations like the Cook Foundations to assist. Every effort is being made by the Community leaders to make fresh clean drinking water available in as many public venues as possible. Fresh water coolers have been made available in the schools, and the people of Atiu are already seeing the benefits of this with children drinking more water. This project application involved the purchase and placement of water coolers in the CICC church hall and various other community halls where there are frequent public gatherings.

3. MATAVERA DISTRICT COMMITTEE – WATER STATION MATERIALS

Matavera (traditionally known as Rangiatea) is the smallest of the five districts that make up the island of Rarotonga in the Cook Islands. Matavera is located in the northeast of the island, to the east of the district of Avarua, and north of the district of Ngatangia. Matavera is subdivided into 5 tapere (out of 54 for Rarotonga), listed from west to east: Tupapa (Avarua District also has a Tapere named Tupapa), Titama, Matavera, Vaenga, Pouara. The literal translation of Matavera in english is, “hot eyes”, “mata” meaning eyes or face and “vera” meaning hot.



The Matavera Water Station was opened on 9 Sept 2015 by the Hon. Kiriau Turepu, Member of Parliament for the village of Matavera, with the generous support of the Cook Foundation. The water station holds ultraviolet (UV) treated water safe for Matavera Village locals to drink. UV water systems use ultraviolet light, just like sunlight, to kill micro-organisms that may be contaminating the water. Turepu said the idea to build the water station came from an elderly woman in Matavera who asked him for a water station so she could add clean water to her traditional medicine.

The water station was due for maintenance, and an application was received from the Matavera district committee for assistance in purchasing materials to conduct maintenance of the stations. Total request was for \$795 to cover materials to service all three water stations in the village of Matavera.



The Honourable Kiriau Turepu and his wife enjoying a clean glass of water from Matavera's Water Station.

4. RAKAHANGA ISLAND COUNCIL – MAINTAIN WATER CATCHMENTS IN FAKAAVA PURAPOTO COMMUNITY

Rakahanga is a very small, remote island, part of the Northern Group islands of the Cook Islands. Rakahanga is located north-north east of Rarotonga. The island doesn't have an airport and is not accessible by air. The only access to the island is by boat, and currently supplies are delivered to the island by barge from the island of Manihiki. Rakahanga's closest island neighbour. The current population is sitting at approximately 127 residents.



Tuteru Taripo, (village leader) applied for a grant to buy supplies to maintain water catchments for 5 families, in 5 different households living in the Fakaava district on the island of Rakahanga

The problem experienced by the people of this community was during low water periods, when the catchment was down to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the tank, the flow of water from the catchment to the homes stopped which caused difficulties for the families, who would resort to carrying the water to their houses for their basic needs.

The request made of the Cook Foundation involved the purchase of tools that would assist to strengthen the flow of water from the catchment to the homes involved, even during low water periods to service their homes.

MP GRANTS*

1. MP MONA IOANE: TAUTU CONSTITUENCY – TAUTU OIRE VAINETINE PROMOTION OF LOCAL CRAFTS

Aitutaki, also traditionally known as Araura or Utataki, is located north-west of the Capital of the Cook Islands, Rarotonga. Aitutaki is a popular tourist destination in the Cook Islands, where tourists visit to cruise or fish on its large turquoise lagoon. Aitutaki is made up of three volcanic and 12 coral islets. The Vaepae- Tautu constituency has a voter population of approximately 300 voters.



Mona Ioane is a Cook Islands politician and member of the Cook Islands Parliament. He is a member of the Cook Islands Party. Ioane is a former Crown Law counsel. He was elected to the seat of Vaipae-Tautu in the 2010 election. His election was the subject of an electoral petition from losing Democratic Party candidate Kete Ioane.

The proposal received by the Cook Foundation sought financial assistance for the purchase of equipment and material to support a project by the Tautu Oire Vainetini to:

1. Promote local women's crafts
2. Teach and train young girls of the Aitutaki craft for enterprising purposes
3. Generate income for the organisation.
4. Provide young girls with craft skills in order to generate income for their families.

The Tautu oire vainetini organisation consists of more than 40 women including young girls. The interest amongst the women in craft is strong. The organisation participates in the Aitutaki Womens Federation annual craft exhibition every year.

A quote for equipment and materials was received to the value of \$2083.60. A grant of \$2,000 was approved towards their community effort.



2. HON NANDI GLASSIE: TENGATANGI, AREORA & NGATIARUA GROWERS ASSOCIATION – NURSERY SHELTER

The villages of Tengtangi, Areora and Ngatirua (TAN) are found on the island of Atiu. The island of Atiu, also known as Enea Manu (land of the birds due to the many species of birds found here) or Atiu Enea lies North-East of the Cook Island's capital, Rarotonga. The islands population is approximately 571 residents. It is a raised volcanic island and is surrounded by a reef which rises six metre high cliffs.



The Honourable Nandi Glassie is the Member of Parliament for Tengtangi/Areora/Ngatirua, and a member of the Cook Islands Party. The honourable Nandi Glassie was appointed to Cabinet in December 2010, after the Cook Islands party won the 2010 election he currently serves as Minister of Health and Agriculture.

The Tengtangi, Areora and Ngatirua (TAV) villages combined to form a growers association in 2014, following the donation of agriculture machinery and equipment. This was done to mechanise the agriculture sector of the island, and to ensure sustainable agriculture production was maintained to meet food security in the homes and to also to adapt to climate changes. The machinery also helped replace the loss of labour due to outward migration.

Financial assistance was requested from the Cook Foundation to assist in the construction of the community nursery house, for the purpose of raising vegetable and fruit seedlings for home gardens.

The funds went towards the purchase of materials such as timber, shade cloths, vegetable seeds, soil, growing trays and bags.

The nursey is connected to the growers machinery shelter which houses the village agriculture machinery. The overall cost of the nursery building was around \$7,000. Grant from the Cook Foundation was \$2,000.



3. MP TOA ISAMAELA: AMURI/UREIA – WATER DISPENSERS

Amuri-Ureia is a Cook Islands electoral division returning one member to the Cook Islands Parliament. The constituencies are located on the island of Aitutaki.

Its current representative is Toanui Isamaela, who has held the seat since 2010.



Photo: www.cookislands.travel

Toanui Isamaela he Member of Parliament for Amuri and Ureia contitutencies, was a police officer for almost 40 years, finishing in the position of Superintendent.

Aitutaki enjoys warm humid weather for most of the year. It is considerably warmer than its southern neighbours, Rarotonga and Mangaia. Although the weather is great for tourism, people are prone to dehydration from the heat. Drinking water is not readily available on the island.

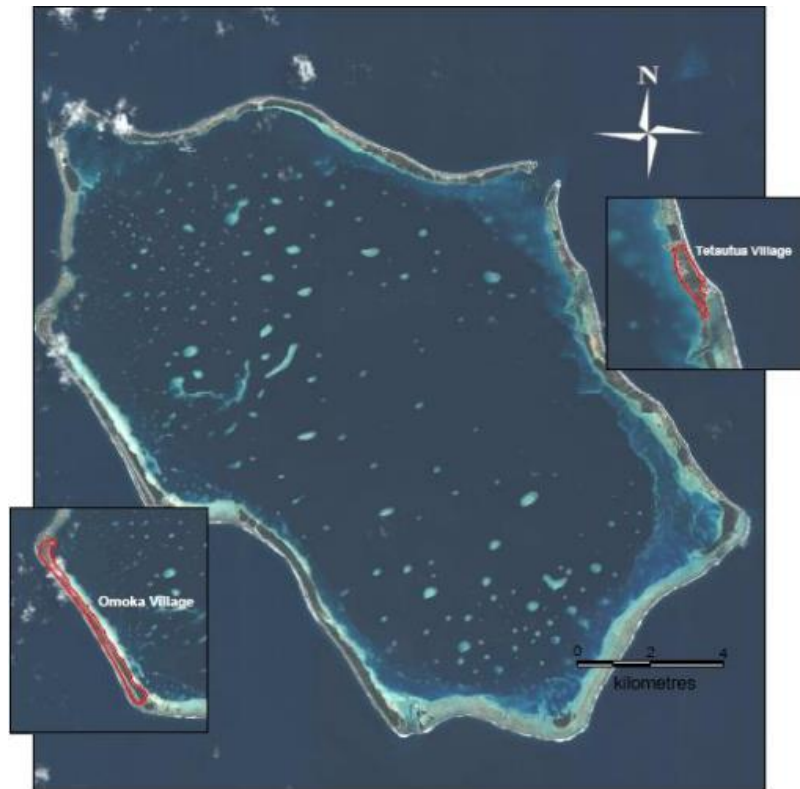
MP Toanui Isamaela requested a grant from The Cook Foundation, to buy 3x water dispensers for 3 churches in Amuri and Ureia. These churches include a Seventh Day Adventist church, a Cook Islands Christian Church and a Free Church.

A quote received for the water dispensers was received from Pacific Spring Ltd, a beverages manufacturer and distributor in Rarotonga for 3x water coolers and bottles for a total cost of \$1740

4. MP WILLIE JOHN: PENRYHN - ROPES FOR CYCLONE PREPAREDNESS



The village of Omoka located on a narrow low lying strip of land.



The island of Penryhn with main villages located on islets on either side of the lagoon

Penryhn Island or Tongareva as it's traditionally known, is an island in the Northern Cook Islands. Penryhn is the most remote outer island and the largest atoll in the Cook Islands group. It is a low lying, pure coral atoll with a land area of 9.8km². Penryhn consists of two villages, Omoka and Te Tautua each located on either side of a very large lagoon. Penryhn has approximately 180 km² of lagoon and is known for its different species of sharks.

The annual average temperature at Penryhn is 28 degrees Celsius compared to Rarotonga in the Southern Group is 24.5 degrees Celsius. Tropical cyclones traditionally affect the Cook Islands between November and April. The number of cyclones varies widely from year to year, with none in some seasons, but up to six in others. On a global scale, the projections indicate that there is likely to be a decrease in the number of tropical cyclones by the end of the 21st century. But there is likely to be a shift to more intense categories. Sea levels are expected to continue to rise in the Cook Islands, which is projected to increase the impact of storm surges and coastal flooding.

Due to its geographic structure, Penryhn is especially vulnerable to the impact of cyclones and climate change. It is imperative that the people are aware and prepared for cyclones and possible impact of climate change. This request received from the MP of Penryhn supports their community efforts in preparing for Cyclones.