



## UN Food Systems Summit Republic of the Marshall Islands

### *DRAFT Food Systems Pathway:* **Transforming the Marshall Islands Food System by 2030**

*September 2021*

#### **Acknowledgements**

The Republic of the Marshall Islands DRAFT Food Systems Pathway is the culmination of the commitment of the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) to the United Nations Food System Summit 2021 and is the product of a combination of research, RMI strategy and policy review and the RMI UN Food Systems Summit National Dialogues that were held during July and August 2021.

The Dialogues were organized and developed by the RMI Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce in collaboration with the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority, the RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services and the Island Sustainability Unit of Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan with the support and guidance of the UN Resident Coordinators Office.

This process would not have been possible without the insight, expertise, and commitment of all those who participated in the Dialogues from all sectors of Marshallese society and beyond.

---

#### **Contents**

Overview	2
A vision for sustainable food systems for RMI by 2030	5
Structuring the DRAFT RMI Food Systems Pathway	5
Priority Theme 1: Developing diverse and sustainable blue food production and consumption	6
Priority Theme 2: Expanding sustainable green food production and consumption	8
Priority Theme 3: Delivering lifelong nutrition and health education and awareness raising	11
Priority Theme 4: Ensuring food safety in a complex system	13
Priority Theme 5: Building inter-ministerial/cross-sectoral collaboration	14
Implementing the Critical Pathways	16
Appendix: Correlating Existing Policies with the Priority Themes	17

---



## Overview

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) is a unique country. Comprising 34 coral atolls that combine to a landmass of 180 km<sup>2</sup> it is recognized as a small island developing state (SIDS). However, it is by any reckoning a large ocean state, with an Extended Economic Zone (EEZ) that covers 2.1 million km<sup>2</sup> of the Pacific Ocean. The 54,705-strong population of the RMI lives across 24 of the country's atolls but with a clear trend of urban migration to Majuro and Kwajalein atolls. The RMI supports biodiversity of global significance, lying within the Polynesia-Micronesia biodiversity hotspot. The food systems of the RMI today reflect and must respond to these and many other factors, including its geographical position, the geology of its islands, the scale and richness of its waters, the culture of the RMI people and its modern history. Importantly, it cannot be ignored that the RMI is a country truly on the front lines of climate change. Adaptation to climate change is essential to secure the future of the RMI, and this adaptation must include the national food system.

As with many SIDS, the RMI faces a number of challenges that makes the country vulnerable to food insecurity. These include its limited land mass and lack of arable land, fragile natural environments, a narrow resource base and reliance on its ocean resources. It also demonstrates a high level of dependence on food imports, particularly processed food, which make up more than 80% of food imports. The RMI is highly vulnerable to climate change, external economic shocks and natural disasters. The remoteness of the country and its distance from global markets results in high costs for energy, transportation and communication.

RMI also lives with the legacy of nuclear testing. This negatively influences the RMI food system and national food security in a number of ways. It is one reason for in-country migration, adding to the growth of urban areas and the pressures on limited available urban lands. In addition, it has directly removed some areas of the RMI's land and seas from the food system altogether owing to high radiation levels. There is also the potential that impacts on the health of ocean ecosystems have reduced productivity, though this is not clear.

The RMI therefore faces numerous challenges related to the natural environment, climate change and their nuclear legacy. Together, these highlight the need for the transformation of the RMI food system to one that is more sustainable and resilient to external factors.

Overall, 90% of the RMI food supply chain is made up of imported goods. This, alongside low production and consumption of traditional and local healthy and nutritious foods, has resulted in a national diet that is driving a number of major health issues such as malnutrition, child hunger, stunting, obesity, and various non-communicable diseases (NCDs). According to the Community Survey conducted in 2006, 35% of RMI households did not always have sufficient food for all family members. Although the majority of RMI households appeared to be food secure (59.8%), 7% were mildly food insecure, 13.4% moderately food insecure and 19.7% severely food insecure.

In order to address food and nutrition challenges in SIDS, and to help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the SAMOA (SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action) Pathway call for strengthened international cooperation and partnerships. Under this framework, the RMI National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020–2030 sets out a roadmap for progress around five Pillars, comprised of 24 Strategic Areas that include land, agriculture, marine resources, health and cross-cutting issues such as climate change and resilience. The NSP Vision Statement focuses on continuing to build a resilient, productive and self-supportive RMI: *"Kallib Bwe Kwon AKEO; In our own hands is our future."* To successfully meet national and regional targets, food systems in the RMI need to be at the center of development discussions and decision making. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MNRC) is integral to this, and already has a range of activities planned and in place to support sustainable food systems in the RMI. The RMI National Food System Summit Dialogues were organized as a recognized route to achieving the NSP Vision Statement and to further supporting the ongoing efforts already in place.

## Blue foods

Around the globe, approximately 800 million people make their living in blue food systems, mostly in small-scale fisheries and aquaculture. Blue foods are essential to supporting healthy diets, are culturally and economically critical, and are central to resilience in the face of climate change and market fluctuations. This is true not just for the RMI but for most Pacific SIDS, where blue foods are the mainstay of regional food security. Blue foods are also a priority for nutrition and food security and income opportunities in communities across the RMI, as well as having a high level of social and cultural importance. If undertaken sustainably, blue food production can support food and nutrition security in a way that has less of an environmental impact than other sources of animal-based food.

As a nation with a rich maritime history that includes the art and science of wave navigation and stick charts, it is perhaps unsurprising that the ocean is central to the country's economy and strategic development. As a Party to the Nauru Agreement, the RMI gains revenue under the Vessel Day Scheme through selling a pre-set number of days' access to fish the RMI EEZ. This scheme generates up to around \$30 million (but will fluctuate depending on market prices) for the RMI and does so in a manner that is designed to conserve tuna fish stocks. The RMI NSP 2020–2030 includes Marine Resources as a pillar of economic development, with a goal of "Sustainable and Responsible use of Marine Resources." Though the focus is on fisheries as a source of revenue (through the selling of fishing licenses to commercial fishing companies), the role and potentials of the blue foods system in ensuring future sustainability for the RMI along with the immense opportunities for economic and social development it brings is clear. This potential is encapsulated in the National Oceans Governance Vision of the National Guiding Principles to Sustain and be Sustained by Our Ocean and Coral Reefs: *"As a large ocean nation with a rich history in sustaining and*



*being sustained by the resources of the sea, we commit to ensuring that our resilience in the face of global oceans challenges endures for generations to come."*

The fisheries sector in the RMI comprises two main sub-sectors: coastal fisheries (inshore and near-shore) and oceanic fisheries (offshore, within the RMI EEZ). Coastal fisheries resources are typically utilized by individual households for subsistence, and to some extent for sale within urban areas. According to the Fishery Policy in the Marshall Islands (2005) approximately 1,500 to 1,700 metric tons of fish are harvested and consumed by households annually. Subsistence fishing is a significant household activity, with 66–85% households engaging in this type of fishing. Consumption of fishery products in the RMI has been calculated at 38.9–59.0 kg/year per capita. Oceanic fishing in the RMI EEZ has primarily concentrated on the harvest of wild tuna and billfish species, including skipjack, yellowfin, bigeye and blue marlin. Commercial tuna operations, mainly using longline, pole-and-line, and purse seine technologies, are primarily undertaken by fleets from Japan, Taiwan, China and the US. This has produced annual revenues from the sale of fishing rights of between US\$1.5 million and US\$3.5 million over the past few years.

Fisheries in the RMI are regulated, promoted and managed in terms of resource sustainability by the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA). The Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA) is responsible for policies, regulations and the monitoring of all types of coastal and oceanic fisheries, as well as aquaculture and mariculture activities that include supporting oyster and clam production. The Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA) acts as a business and broker for small fishers, as well as a regulator for larger private companies operating in domestic and international waters. The involvement of the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA) in the RMI food system extends to its transportation of artisanal fishers' catches from the Outer Islands to Majuro markets, and the promotion of consumption of domestic blue foods across the country.

There are, naturally, threats to fisheries in the RMI, and these vary from coastal to oceanic fisheries. Broadly speaking, however, these include climate change, overharvesting, pollution, water quality issues, poaching, unregulated fishing methods, land/sea rights, limited capacity and community awareness. That being said, the RMI's strategic location in the central Pacific, along with its large ocean area and natural resources, provides an excellent platform to build a sustainable economy and a healthy and prosperous society with blue foods at its heart.

The RMI Food Security Policy 2013 has as its goal *"To ensure access to nutritious, quality, safe and affordable food for all Marshallese people at all times."* Blue foods, which are rich in bioavailable nutrients, can play an essential role in this. The RMI Food Security Policy specifically identifies fish as being a very important component of the national diet, particularly in the outer islands. The security of community marine resources and the sustainable management of coastal and inshore fisheries and aquaculture are seen as being priorities for achieving food security, putting blue foods at the heart of the RMI national food system.

## Green foods

Agriculture was traditionally a key component of the Marshall Islands' economy, with an emphasis on permanent crops and plantations. Nearly all families were once involved in agriculture, however, the 2011 national census reported a small majority of 52% of households being engaged in raising crops. Among these households, 42.2% were growing crops for subsistence, 10.2% for both income and subsistence and just 0.2% for income alone. Although the census considered 64% of the total land area of the Marshall Islands to be arable, only 11% of the RMI was used for crop production at that time.

There is recognition that underutilized land with the potential for conversion to agriculture is limited in the RMI, soil conditions are generally poor, and few people are engaged in farming. Challenges also include limited water supply, loss of traditional knowledge and climate change. Furthermore, the production of copra is a significant industry across the RMI with the price of copra approximately tripling by unit weight in recent years. This has naturally encouraged an increase in household emphasis on the harvesting of coconuts and production of copra. One impact of this, however, is the disincentivization to grow diverse crops, grow a home garden or undertake artisanal fishing and to instead use the increased household income to purchase imported foodstuffs. There is, therefore, an impact on the overall food system and an associated food security risk attached to this otherwise successful aspect of the RMI economy.

Despite these challenges, agriculture forms one of the pillars for economic development within the RMI NSP 2020–2030. Alongside this plan, and a number of other policies including food security and trade policies, sits the RMI Agriculture Sector Plan 2021–2031. This Plan reports that in 2006 only 0.3% of the labor force were engaged in agriculture or forestry activities as their main economic activity. Agricultural production also represents a very small proportion of the RMI economy, contributing approximately 4% to GDP, with the principle commercial crops being coconut and breadfruit. In 2014, agriculture and forestry combined represented 1.2% of total export value.

The goal of the Agriculture Sector Plan is *"Resilient food, nutrition and livelihood security of Marshallese in the face of climate change"* with a number of outputs identified to support its achievement. These include minimizing environmental degradation, developing sustainable small livestock and crop production systems, increasing consumption of locally produced nutritious foods, improving biosecurity and marketing,



improving the capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders and developing enabling policies and legislation. The plan further aims to increase community level involvement in agriculture and increase national domestic food production.

The RMI Food Security Policy 2013 has as its goal *“To ensure access to nutritious, quality, safe and affordable food for all Marshallese people at all times.”* Five strategic action areas support this goal and broadly include stimulating sustainable local food production, strengthening access to nutritious food, education, facilitating efficient food distribution and building safety, quality and resilience food supply and production. Expanding the green foods system within the RMI is integral to achieving this goal and to supporting a diverse and resilient national food system.

### **Nutrition, health and food safety**

A rapid scan of the RMI agriculture/nutrition nexus conducted in 2018 reports that numerous diet-related health issues have become prevalent in the RMI, with up to 80% of the population being overweight, 27% having diabetes and 35% of children between 48 and 59 months of age having stunted growth. A 2018 Hybrid Survey examining non-communicable diseases identified that 6.5% of adults in RMI eat a diet consisting only or mainly of local foods, with 37.4% eating mainly imported foods and 37.4% eating a balance of imported and local foods. Almost all adults eat less than the recommended five servings of fruit and vegetables per day.

The rapid scan also recognises the urgent need for a comprehensive government, inter-ministerial, inter-agency, cross-sectoral response to reduce the level of both imported food consumption and nutrition-related non-communicable diseases, with fishers identified as key partners for achieving this.

In terms of food safety, an FAO Technical Cooperation Programme *Strengthened Food Control in the Republic of the Marshall Islands* was established in 2014. A 2017 mission under this program identified that, at that time, limited capacity and coordination between relevant agencies meant that the 2010 Food Act was not being effectively implemented. There were no food inspectors, and responsibilities were being shared across agencies.

The RMI national food system, and considerations of its transformation, cannot be considered without taking issues of nutrition, health and food safety into account. These factors underpin food production and consumption choices and guide decision making to support a healthy, prosperous, and sustainable food system.

### **Climate change**

One of only four atoll countries in the world, the RMI faces several climate-related threats, including sea level rise. The impact of rising seas, along with high tides and frequent storms, have reduced the amount of available land and water for food production. Due to the nature of the atolls in the RMI, a one-meter rise in sea level would be disastrous. As an example, 80% of Majuro Atoll would be lost under this scenario. Other climate-related impacts relate to increased temperature, which is likely to change the duration of crop growing seasons, increase the amount of water required to produce a unit yield, and be conducive to the spread of pests and diseases.

Extreme events related to climate change impact food security due to changes in agricultural productivity and food supply, exacerbating rural poverty, driving emigration and triggering the overexploitation of resources. Droughts are considered one of the most frequent impacts to the RMI, resulting in economic losses estimated at US\$ 4.9 million in 2015–2016 alone. It is clear, therefore, that the implications of climate change in the RMI will be wide-ranging and have the potential to significantly damage the nation’s food system as it currently stands.

In terms of blue foods, climate change will increasingly affect the health and productivity of fish stocks and aquatic ecosystems, with changing ocean temperatures likely to affect migratory patterns and spawning cycles. Such impacts would have major implications for food security, livelihoods and the national economy. Climate change will also present numerous threats to the green foods system, with SIDS such as the RMI likely to experience changing water regimes, increased storm and cyclone frequency and severity, drought and fire, crop inundation and soil salinization, as well as an increase in invasive species, pests and diseases.

Any impacts on food production systems will have inevitable consequences for nutrition, health and food safety. With current levels of nutrition-related health problems and non-communicable diseases, any loss to local food production could be disastrous, highlighting the need for a diverse and resilient food production sector.

In summary, there is a clear need for transformation of the RMI food system from its current status to one that is not reliant on imported, processed foods but has sustainable systems of green and blue production embedded in communities in a way that is resilient to natural disasters and the impacts of climate change and provides a nutritious diet that supports healthy and prosperous communities.



## A vision for sustainable food systems for RMI by 2030

The RMI UN Food Systems Summit National Dialogues brought together a multitude of stakeholders to consider the challenges and opportunities presented by the existing RMI food system, and to envisage how the RMI food system can be transformed. Three Dialogues examined the food system from three different perspectives: blue foods; green foods; and nutrition, health and food safety. These Dialogues identified a number of Priority Themes that, when acted upon, will forge a transformative path towards a sustainable, resilient and equitable food system. The Priority Themes that emerged from the RMI UN Food Summit National Dialogues that are addressed by this DRAFT Food Systems Pathway are as follows:

- Developing diverse and sustainable blue food production and consumption
- Expanding sustainable green food production and consumption
- Delivering lifelong nutrition and health education and awareness raising
- Ensuring food safety in a complex system
- Building inter-ministerial/cross-sectoral collaborations

These Priority Themes provide the framework around which this DRAFT RMI Food System Pathway has been developed. Critical Pathways have been designed to respond to each of these Priority Themes and to link to existing strategic plans and policies across a number of key sectors.

This DRAFT RMI Food Systems Pathway is the final step in preparing for the UN Food Systems Summit but is by no means the final step in the process of transforming the RMI food system. The real work will be undertaken in the coming years, not only to achieve the fundamental purpose of the UN Food Systems Summit: to develop a food system that contributes to the realization of the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, but to undertake tangible actions to transform the RMI food system and, in so doing, support progress towards the achievement of many of the RMI's strategic development plans and goals.

## Structuring the DRAFT RMI Food Systems Pathway

Each Priority Theme will be addressed in turn. Critical Pathways are provided that describe actions to be taken to address the Priority Theme. Critical Pathways are deemed essential to the progress required under each Priority Theme for transformation of the food system to take place.

Following the Critical Pathways, Supporting Pathways will be provided. These represent activities that, if enacted, would support the addressing of the Priority Theme but that are not as high a priority as the Critical Pathways. Acting on these pathways will be dependent upon available resources.

Under each theme Priority Theme are a number of Focus Points. These are elements highlighted during the Dialogues that require specific focus or offer particular opportunities, e.g. there is scope for greater gender integration into the blue foods system, therefore, 'Gender' would be a Focus Point under the Priority Theme *Developing diverse and sustainable blue food production and consumption*.

Finally, it is recognized that there are already in place a number of policies and plans that contain goals and targets directly to the RMI food system. The DRAFT RMI Food System Pathway has been designed to complement, and where possible integrate with, existing plans. In this way Detailed reference to where the Critical and Supporting Pathways identified under each Priority Theme help drive the implementation of existing policies is provided in the Appendix. Additional key policies not included in this assessment (but recognized as having broad relevance) include the Joint National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management and the 2050 Climate Strategy.





## Priority Theme 1: Developing diverse and sustainable blue food production and consumption

Priority Theme 1 is founded on the importance, value and potential of the RMI blue food sector for the provision of food and nutrition security in a way that supports ecosystem health and resilience. The primary aim of Priority Theme 1 is to ensure the growth of the blue foods sector through the generation of sustainable livelihoods for fisherfolk, aquaculture practitioners and other stakeholders involved in blue food system.

### **Critical Pathway 1.1:**

***Ensure an ecosystem-based management approach to blue food production is integrated into all expansion/development plans***

Blue food production is central to the economy, culture and environment of the RMI and offers great potential in terms of development. There is, however, a need to ensure that expansion and development plans are sustainable. Developing Incentives for Ecosystem Services (IES) schemes for the RMI blue foods system is critical way of ensuring sustainability while supporting alternative incomes for fisherfolk, contributing to greater gender inclusivity in the blue foods system and encouraging Corporate Social Responsibility.

Blue foods system-based IES schemes focus on the certification of production practices and products through internationally recognized standards, and can be an important tool for addressing specific issues such as illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. The incentive in these schemes is the higher value (either financial or customer-perceived) of the end product. Such schemes will require the engagement of multiple stakeholders including, government agencies, non-governmental organizations and importantly, the private sector.

Critical Pathway 1.1 can be achieved through the following specific activities:

#### ***Establishing near-shore fisheries IES schemes***

An IES scheme focusing on moi fish, seaweed (and other sea vegetables) and/or other aquaculture seafood products provides an opportunity to ensure this sector of the blue foods system in the RMI is sustainable. Sustainability standards can be assured through certification via the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) and the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). For example, the ASC-MSC Seaweed Standard contributes to the health of the world's aquatic ecosystems by promoting environmentally sustainable and socially responsible production and use of seaweed resources.

Such an IES scheme will engage multiple stakeholders, potentially including the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA), Aquaculture Technologies of the Marshall Islands, the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC), and the RMI food retail sector, with the latter actively promoting foods produced under this scheme.

#### ***Establishing off-shore fisheries IES schemes***

An IES scheme focusing on the ecolabelling/eco-certification of off-shore blue foods has the potential to enhance off-shore fisheries practices through the implementation of best-practice regulations for those engaged in the scheme. Foods produced under this scheme would be labelled as such.

Potential partners for this type of IES scheme would include domestically-based offshore foreign fleets, such as the Marshall Island Fishing Venture Ltd (a subsidiary of Luen Thai Fishing Venture), Pan Pacific Foods, Koo's Fishing Company Ltd, Ralik-Ratak Fishing Company and others, alongside the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA) and the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC).

#### ***Linking near-shore and off-shore fisheries through IES schemes***

Near-shore and off-shore fisheries are interrelated ecosystems, and this can be reflected through establishing an IES scheme whereby off-shore fisheries support near-shore fisheries ecosystem-based management. With high level of revenue generated via fishing access fees paid to access RMI waters, one option is to channel a small fraction of this income to pilot projects supporting near-shore ecosystem-based management and biodiversity conservation. For example, utilizing 3% of the revenue from 2017 access fees would deliver more than \$1 million for such projects. Another option for the provision of funding would be via income generated through fines associated with the enforcement of regulations regarding illegal, unreported and unregulated.



### Critical Pathway 1.2:

#### ***Support the expansion of diets to include greater variety of locally produced blue foods***

Blue foods offer significant potential to deliver nutrient-dense foods to the population of the RMI. To achieve this, however, there is a need for dietary diversification and a shift in consumption away from imported, processed foods to locally produced foods. By engaging consumers in the origins and processes behind foodstuffs, and encouraging more informed purchasing and consumption decisions, not only can individual nutrition be improved but can drive improvements in production that reduce waste and unnecessary impacts on biodiversity.

Critical Pathway 1.2 can be achieved through the following specific activity:

#### ***An integrated ocean-to-plate strategy***

An integrated Ocean to Plate strategy provides information to consumers about the food they are purchasing. Utilizing Front-Of-Pack (FOP) information and Food Information to Consumers (FIC) approaches, consumers can identify the origins of their food and the practices involved in its production.

The expansion of ecologically viable and sustainable aquaculture and mariculture activities will help provide a consistent supply of products that consumers can readily access, while the generation of consumer desire for a diverse range of sustainable blue foods will positively reinforce this expansion.

Communications supporting this approach will also be linked to tourism, with an opportunity to engage visitors to the RMI and particularly those travelling for eco-tourism.

The Ocean to Plate strategy also provides a forum for discussions and advocacy around climate adaptation and resilience in food production, as locally produced foods must respond to the ongoing challenge of climate change, and food sovereignty, as responsibilities around food and nutrition become more localized.

Key stakeholders in this approach include the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA), the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and the food retail sector. This latter group are critical to communicating key information about foods to potential consumers and helping drive consumer demand for sustainable ecologically viable and sustainable blue foods.

In line with the RMI National Health Policy, Critical Pathway 1.2 supports the objective to promote healthy, nutritious and sustainable foods. Furthermore, it supports Priority Theme 3 *Delivering lifelong nutrition and health education and awareness raising*.

## Supporting pathways

Implementation of the following Supporting Pathways will be considered based upon available resources. The implementation of these Supporting Pathways will add robustness to the transformation of this RMI Food System Priority Theme but are of secondary importance to the Critical Pathways detailed above.

### ***1.1. Revitalization of traditional resource management practices***

- Expansion of current activities facilitating outer atoll community resource management plans and management ordinances through the “Reimaanlok” process.
- Expansion of work being undertaken by the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA), the RMI Historic Preservation Office and non-governmental organizations with outer atoll communities to revitalize fisher ecological knowledge. This includes the re-institution of traditional fishing activities such as fishing weirs, which are a low-tech, low-cost, low-impact approach to passive capture fisheries.

### ***1.2. Specific support for women-led initiatives***

- All activities to be gender-responsive, recognizing the central role of women in household nutrition
- with financial provision made through budget allocations to support women-led blue food initiatives and enterprises, and those that specifically target women

## Focus points

1. Gender: increased gender inclusivity in blue foods production through the expansion of aquaculture and mariculture activities
2. Enforcement: Addressing illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
3. Climate: Incorporate known climate impacts and conditions into fisheries management planning.

## Existing policy implementation



ISLAND  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNIT



UNITED NATIONS  
FOOD SYSTEMS  
SUMMIT 2021



The pathways under this Priority Theme either respond to or support the implementation of existing strategic and sector development plans and policies. Please refer to the Appendix for detailed information.





## Priority Theme 2: Expanding sustainable green food production and consumption

Priority Theme 2 reflects the importance and potential of a diverse and sustainable green food sector that contributes to individual and community healthy, well-being and prosperity. The aims of Priority Theme 2 are to accelerate the transition to a sustainable food system that has a neutral or positive environmental impact, helps to mitigate climate change and support climate adaptation, and ensures access to nutritious, affordable foods. It should also ensure sustainable livelihoods and contributes to food and nutrition security. In doing so, it helps reduce the food miles associated with the national diet, encourages sustainable agricultural methods and supports the revitalization of agriculture on abandoned arable land.

### Critical Pathway 2.1:

***Ensure an ecosystem-based management approach to green food production is integrated into all expansion/development plans***

There is a general lack of agricultural activity in the RMI, including small-scale cultivation through home gardening, resulting in a limited supply of fresh, nutrient-dense produce to households and markets. Increasing engagement in agriculture, particularly in a sustainable manner, is therefore critical to the future development of this sector.

Critical Pathway 2.1 can be achieved through the following specific activities:

#### ***Linking industry with agriculture through IES schemes***

Copra production has grown in the RMI as global prices have risen. This has been at the expense of agricultural activity at the household level. Establishing an IES scheme that supports the rehabilitation of ecosystem-based agricultural diversification can help reverse this. Such a scheme could, for example, deliver a premium price for copra purchased from households and farmers that have established and maintained home gardens or put a portion of their land under sustainable agriculture.

Such a scheme integrates corporate social responsibility into a key RMI industry, supports alternative incomes for households and farmers, contributes to the revitalization of home gardens, supports increased agrobiodiversity and enhances gender inclusiveness and alternative incomes for women.

Potential stakeholders for this approach include government ministries (specifically the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MNRC), the Ministry of Health and Human Services (MOHHS), and the Ministry of Education (MOE)), State Owned Enterprises (in this case the Tobolar Copra Processing Plant) and the private sector, particularly the RMI food retail sector.

#### ***Encouraging agricultural entrepreneurialism***

Exploring the potentials of, and encouraging, agriculture entrepreneurialism may include the identification of novel and sustainable land use approaches and models that boost agricultural diversification and support different scale of land management. For example, land-leasing schemes may enable entrepreneurs to expand activities in a way that increases income potential but also supports continuity of supply of local produce to markets.

Financial incentive schemes, insurance schemes and other safety nets will be developed to support the expansion of agricultural activities, making agriculture a viable livelihood for an increased proportion of RMI society.

This activity could also include the implementation of guidelines supporting incremental adjustments to agricultural practices to drive sustainability. Making such adjustments would be associated with financial incentives.

## Critical Pathway 2.2:

### *Support the expansion of diets to include greater variety of locally produced green foods*

Green foods are essential to the nutrition and food security of the RMI. In addition to the need for expanding agricultural activity, there is an associated need for dietary diversification and a reduced dependence on non-essential, non-nutritious imported, processed foods.

By engaging consumers in the origins and processes behind foodstuffs, and encouraging more considered purchasing and consumption decisions, not only can individual nutrition be improved but can support the growth of sustainable agriculture.

Critical Pathway 2.2 can be achieved through the following specific activity:

#### *An integrated farm-to-fork strategy*

An integrated Farm to Fork strategy, provides nutritional information to consumers about the food they are purchasing. Utilizing Front-Of-Pack (FOP) information and Food Information to Consumers (FIC) approaches, to support informed and health-conscious purchasing and reduce food miles.

The expansion of sustainable agriculture will help provide a consistent supply of products that consumers can readily access, while the generation of consumer desire for a diverse range of nutritious, locally-produced foods will positively reinforce this expansion.

Communications supporting this approach will also be linked to tourism, with an opportunity to engage visitors to the RMI and particularly those travelling for eco-tourism.

The Farm to Fork strategy also provides a forum for discussions and advocacy around climate adaptation and resilience in food production, as locally produced foods must respond to the ongoing challenge of climate change, and food sovereignty, as responsibilities around food and nutrition become more localized.

Key stakeholders in this approach include the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MNRC), the Ministry of Health and Human Services (MOHHS) and the food retail sector. This latter group are critical to communicating key information about foods to potential consumers and helping drive consumer demand for sustainable, locally-grown foods.

In line with the RMI National Health Policy, Critical Pathway 2.2 supports the objective to promote healthy, nutritious and sustainable foods. Furthermore, it supports Priority Theme 3 *Delivering lifelong nutrition and health education and awareness raising*.

## Supporting pathways

Implementation of the following Supporting Pathways will be considered based upon available resources. The implementation of these Supporting Pathways will add robustness to the transformation of this RMI Food System Priority Theme but are of secondary importance to the Critical Pathways detailed above.

### *2.1 Revitalization of traditional resource management practices*

- Identify and encourage the uptake of traditional practices that support agrobiodiversity conservation, climate change resilience and pest management. Traditional seed varieties should be explored in relation to developing drought-resistant crops.
- Traditional knowledge sets should be combined with scientific knowledge sets, to support the production of diverse foods in sustainable agricultural systems that addresses the challenges of climate change.

### *2.2 Expanding agricultural activity through a variety of methods to increase national green food production year-round*

- Exploration of agrobiodiversity and specific agricultural practices to better secure year-round supply of green foods. The focus may, but not, be on cultivars or varieties of existing seasonal crops, but will also consider diversifying cultivation to secure adequate year-round food production.

### *2.3 Specific support for women-led initiatives*

- All activities to be gender-responsive, recognizing the central role of women in household nutrition.
- with financial provision made through budget allocations to support women-led green food initiatives and enterprises, and those that specifically target women.

## Focus points

1. Data: Undertaking a comprehensive census of agricultural production and consumption



ISLAND  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNIT



UNITED NATIONS  
FOOD SYSTEMS  
SUMMIT 2021



2. Gender: Enhanced gender inclusiveness, including sex-disaggregation of data and specific attention on women and women-led initiatives.
3. Climate: Incorporate known climate impacts and conditions into agriculture management planning to ensure climate 'smart' farming systems.

### **Existing policy implementation**

The pathways under this Priority Theme either respond to or support the implementation of existing strategic and sector development plans and policies. Please refer to the Appendix for detailed information.



### Priority Theme 3: Delivering lifelong nutrition and health education and awareness raising

Priority Theme 3 recognizes the essential nature of education and awareness in building a healthy society supported by a sustainable food system. Nutrition and health education and awareness is a society-wide issue that touches all ages, genders and social groups and is central to shifting perspectives and behaviors related to food consumption patterns. The aims of Priority Theme 3 are for all members of RMI society to have a good awareness and understanding of diverse food production practices, the importance of consumption decisions on individual health and the role their involvement in the national food system (be it as consumer or producer) can play in building a sustainable society that is resilient to the impacts of climate change.

#### Critical Pathway 3.1:

##### *Nutrition and health education and awareness are made national priorities*

A national-level assessment of the potential health benefits of a transformed national diet will be undertaken, including an examination of potential associated healthcare cost reductions, with all information made publicly available. This will be used to drive forward the communication of food, nutrition and related healthcare messages.

Linking directly to the Critical Pathways under Priority Themes 1 and 2, Front-Of-Pack (FOP) information and Food Information to Consumers (FIC) approaches will be used to inform consumers about the nutritional content of foods.

In addition, FOP and FIC routes will be used to provide information regarding the carbon footprints of both local and imported foods, as well as the water footprints of these. These messages are essential in extending food-related messaging beyond individual health and nutrition to the national-level impact of food choices.

Potential stakeholders engaged in these activities include the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MNRC), the Ministry of Health and Human Services (MOHHS), the Ministry of Education (MOE), non-governmental organizations engaged in health and nutrition initiatives and the private food retail sector.

#### Critical Pathway 3.2:

##### *Food production, nutrition and food safety are incorporated into formalized education curricula from kindergarten to grade 12 and beyond*

Educational curricula will be developed for all ages, incorporating messages around the environmental impacts of different types of food production, health and nutrition. These will support the growth in interest in, for example agriculture, as a potential routes for employment. These curricula will draw on existing and freely available resources to reduce the capacity and resource burdens.

The College of the Marshall Islands currently offers an academic agricultural curriculum, yet there remains a need for vocational training programs in agriculture, health and nutrition, and blue and green foods. These programs, developed in partnership with existing educational institutions, should be run over an extended period, e.g. 12 months, and should be accessible across the country, with the possibility of developing satellite campuses in outer atolls to be explored. There may be a possibility to link these programs to the current Outer Island Extension Agent Program, with Extension Agents supporting these campuses and providing instruction.

A strategic plan for utilizing additional education opportunities, such as international scholarships, should be created with a particular focus on mid-career education for government officials. This will enable strategic capacity building and formalize support for these opportunities.

These activities will engage the Ministry of Education (MOE), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MNRC) and the Ministry of Health and Human Services (MOHHS) as key government stakeholders, along with relevant non-governmental organizations.

### Supporting pathway

Implementation of the following Supporting Pathway will be considered based upon available resources. The implementation of this Supporting Pathway will add robustness to the transformation of this RMI Food System Priority Theme but are of secondary importance to the Critical Pathways detailed above.

#### 3.1 New and existing educational initiatives will be linked

- Integration of national educational goals will provide for a unified and holistic approach to lifelong education.



ISLAND  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNIT



UNITED NATIONS  
FOOD SYSTEMS  
SUMMIT 2021



- Food systems education programs should, for example, be linked with the Community Adaption, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Education (CADRE+) program that aims to train and provide activities to 4,500 school-aged children, 300 educators, and 7,500 community members to improve resilience to natural and climate-induced hazards.

### **3.2 Building awareness on the global stage**

- Awareness of the climate adaptive and resilient food production that is a recognized need for the RMI should be communicated on the global stage at every opportunity.
- Advocacy for such approaches to food production globally is need to support similar efforts elsewhere in the push for climate equity.

### **Focus points**

1. Gender: Educational opportunities engage boy and girls, men and women equally, supporting gender inclusiveness
2. Climate: Education will link food systems with climate change, approaches to mitigation and adaptation, and building climate resilience
3. Collaboration: Food systems-related education is a national priority that spans sectors, engaging all aspects of society.

### **Existing policy implementation**

The pathways under this Priority Theme either respond to or support the implementation of existing strategic and sector development plans and policies. Please refer to the Appendix for detailed information.





## Priority Theme 4: Ensuring food safety in a complex system

Priority Theme 4 recognizes that a transformed food system with local production at its center can only succeed if food safety issues are minimized; public trust in locally produced foods and food products must be consistently high and innovative production must meet appropriate standards for export. Food safety regulations must be robust and enforced. The aims of Priority Theme 4 are to ensure the regulatory framework around food safety is robust and holistic, and to prioritize food safety in the development of new products for local consumption and export.

### Critical Pathway 4.1:

#### *Bolster the RMI food system with a cross-sectoral approach to food safety*

Food safety is impacted by many factors beyond the direct production of foods and their handling. For example, development practices that increase urban sprawl, and agricultural run-off where chemical inputs are high, impact coast ecosystems and can result in the presence of harmful toxins or pathogens in otherwise edible seafoods. Therefore, the approach taken to ensuring food production systems result in foods and food products that are safe for local human consumption and export must also be cross-sectoral in nature.

Building a coalition of stakeholders will help to take lessen the burden of ensuring food safety in a complex food system on any one party, and encourage a system of shared responsibility.

The Ministry of Health and Human Services (MOHHS) will be central to this approach, with other key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MNRC), the Ministry of Education (MOE), the waste management sector, appropriate technical expertise and the food retail sector.

### Critical Pathway 4.2:

#### *Integrate modern approaches to traditional food preservation to enable the production of safe, desirable food products for local consumption and export*

A small number of initiatives working to develop food products for export have responded to the need for modern approaches to food processing and preservation to ensure access to overseas markets. This type of approach should now be broadened to also include the processing of foods for the domestic market, both for local consumption and for the tourist market.

Such integration is a route to preserving traditional foods and food culture, and to expanding the roles of certain traditional foods, through the development of desirable products that also have longer shelf lives. These innovative products will also provide an opportunity to focus on raw materials produced in a sustainable way.

Diversification of food production approaches also provides an opportunity for greater gender inclusion in the RMI food system, as new employment opportunities are created.

Stakeholders for this activity will include the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MNRC), the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA), the food retail sector, entrepreneurs and individuals with relevant technical expertise.

## Supporting pathway

Implementation of the following Supporting Pathway will be considered based upon available resources. The implementation of this Supporting Pathway will add robustness to the transformation of this RMI Food System Priority Theme but are of secondary importance to the Critical Pathways detailed above.

### 4.1 Food safety measures and approaches respond to climate adaptation needs

- Ensure strong links between food safety and security throughout the value chain.
- Link food safety with Ocean to Plate and Farm to Fork strategies to ensure food safety and security are integral to climate-adapted food production.

## Focus points

1. Health: Human health is paramount in a transforming food system
2. Gender: Increased gender inclusivity in new food product development
3. Collaboration: Ensuring food safety in an diversifying food system requires consistent cross-sectoral collaboration.



ISLAND  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNIT



UNITED NATIONS  
FOOD SYSTEMS  
SUMMIT 2021



### Existing policy implementation

The pathways under this Priority Theme either respond to or support the implementation of existing strategic and sector development plans and policies. Please refer to the Appendix for detailed information.



## Priority Theme 5: Building inter-ministerial/cross-sectoral collaboration

Priority Theme 5 identifies the transformation of the RMI food system as being a national issue that spans government departments, non-governmental organizations, communities, and the private sector. This has been borne out by the RMI Dialogues, which actively engaged multiple stakeholders from across these sectors. In addition, it is readily apparent that this Food Systems Pathway can itself contribute to the implementation of many other national strategies and policies, further highlighting the value in committing to this transformation. The primary aim of Priority Theme 5 is to ensure that the momentum for, and implementation of, cross-sectoral collaborations towards the transformation of the RMI food system continues long after the UN Food Systems Summit 2021. This collaboration should also extend beyond the RMI to include international partners and organizations, whose support will be critical to successfully transforming the RMI food system.

### Critical Pathway 5.1:

***Ensure ongoing cross-sectoral collaboration to maximize progress towards shared goals and to enable project synergies to be capitalized on***

Transformation of the RMI food system is complex and requires a consistent, cross-sectoral commitment and action. To be successful, this commitment must come from across all sectors and all levels of RMI society, as well as from the partner organizations at the international level. This itself requires extensive coordination and oversight to maintain momentum, ensure monitoring, identify synergies between existing policies, strategies and projects, and facilitate ongoing stakeholder engagement.

To achieve this, an external, independent and impartial RMI Food System Transformation Clearinghouse will be established. This Clearinghouse will support the logistical aspects of following through on the Transformation Pathway, thus removing the potentially extensive capacity burden from government. It will facilitate ongoing Dialogues to ensure the development of a clear inter-ministerial strategy and national plan, with measurable targets, and will ensure that relevant data is accessible to all parties.

Critical Pathway 5.1 is fundamental to successful implementation of the RMI Food Systems Pathway.

### Critical Pathway 5.2:

***Incentivize the private sector to realign its resources to sustainably deliver healthier diets***

The public sector cannot reform the RMI food system alone. There is a vital role for the private sector, and it is recognized that government must work in partnership with those businesses operating within the food system to help bring about the required food system transformation.

Encouraging Corporate Social Responsibility within businesses domestic to, and operating within, the RMI has an important role to play in encouraging consumption patterns that support sustainable, local food production and drive improved nutrition and health outcomes. Highlighting meals and products made with locally produced products is one way of doing this.

The potential role of tax incentives and disincentives will be explored. For example, restaurants incorporating a specific proportion of local foods in their menus, or those partnering with local suppliers, may qualify for specific tax concessions. In addition, there is role for taxes to be placed on highly processed goods and those containing high levels of fats, salt and sugar.

Key stakeholders are the Ministry of Finance (MOF), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MNRC) and the private sector (both food retail and hospitality, amongst others).

## Supporting pathway

Implementation of the following Supporting Pathway will be considered based upon available resources. The implementation of this Supporting Pathway will add robustness to the transformation of this RMI Food System Priority Theme but are of secondary importance to the Critical Pathways detailed above.

### 5.1 Promotion of the consumption of sustainable, healthy foods in all public buildings and facilities

- Public settings, such as schools and hospitals, will be used as forums for communicating local food production and nutrition and health messages, and will be a focus for ensuring the provision of nutritious meals that optimize the utilization of sustainably produced local ingredients.



ISLAND  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNIT



UNITED NATIONS  
FOOD SYSTEMS  
SUMMIT 2021



### Focus point

1. Collaboration: Food systems transformation requires coordinated and consistent cross-sectoral and international commitments.

### Existing policy implementation

The pathways under this Priority Theme either respond to or support the implementation of existing strategic and sector development plans and policies. Please refer to the Appendix for detailed information.



ISLAND  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNIT



UNITED NATIONS  
FOOD SYSTEMS  
SUMMIT 2021



## Implementing the Critical Pathways

Implementation of the Critical Pathways, and Supporting Solutions, that comprise the DRAFT RMI Food Systems Pathway requires careful planning and structured roll-out and monitoring to ensure their achievement and support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is considered that all initiatives herein will follow a similar approach, whereby a Horizon-based approach is adopted. This will allow adequate time for planning, securing funding etc. and will ensure timely evaluation points allowing all activities to be managed adaptively. The diagram below outlines this process.

Critical Pathways		
Implementation of each Critical Pathway should be designed and planned around a series of progressive Horizons.		
	2021	Quarterly inter-ministerial meetings and bi-annual Dialogues to be conducted throughout.
Pre-Horizon Sep '21 –Sep '22	2022	Initiate project planning, feasibility testing, identify and secure funding, scheduling, team building, identifying logistical needs Outcome: Project concept agreed and funding in place
Horizon 1 Oct '22 –Dec '23	2023	In-depth project/initiative design, identification of additional collaboration opportunities and partner engagement, consultations and subsequent project adaptations Outcome: reconfirmed Pathway and detailed project plan
Horizon 2 Jan '24 –Dec '25	2024	Initial launch/roll-out of project/initiative, monitoring and assessment begins, specific issues or challenges are recognized and solutions identified Outcome: initial project phase completed, and any necessary adaptations identified and implemented
	2025	
Horizon 3 Jan '26 –Dec '29	2026	Project/initiative incorporated refinements and adjustments for full roll-out and implementation. Monitoring and assessment continues throughout, with any further issues addressed on an ongoing basis. Long-term maintenance of activity considered, enabling conditions identified and necessary steps taken to support continuation. Outcome: comprehensive roll-out meets target for 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Plans in place for long-term implementation
	2027	
	2028	
	2029	
Post-Horizon Jan '30 –Sep '30	2030	Post-completion evaluation period and planning next steps



## Appendix: Correlating Existing Policies with the Priority Themes

The tables below present specific detail of those national policies and strategies that have been identified in the main document as being supported by the Critical and Supporting Pathways.

### Priority Theme 1: Developing diverse and sustainable blue food production and consumption

Critical Pathway 1.1: Ensure an ecosystem-based management approach to blue food production is integrated into all expansion/development plans	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	<p>NSP 1. Social and Culture Pillar; Strategic Area 1.1 Health; Policy Objective 3. <i>Policy objective 3: Strengthened response and resilience to communicable disease, environmental health, and health emergency preparedness.</i></p> <p>NSP 2. Environment Climate Change and Resiliency Pillar; Strategy Area 2.3 Disaster Risk Management (DRM); Policy Objective 1. <i>Policy Objective 1: Enhanced resilience to disasters and risks.</i></p> <p>NSP 3. Infrastructure Pillar; Strategy Area 3.2 Energy; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Increased energy efficiency in households, businesses, government, transport and other sectors.</i></p> <p>NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.3 Marine Resources; Policy Objective 1, 4. <i>Policy Objective 1: Maximize the long-term value from its fisheries for the benefit of the economy and people of RMI.</i> <i>Policy Objective 4: Maximise income and livelihood opportunities through sustainable coastal fisheries.</i></p> <p>NSP 5. Good Governance Pillar; Strategic Area 5.5 International Relations and Security; Policy Objective 1, 2, 4. <i>Policy Objective 1: Enhance diplomacy and international relations.</i> <i>Policy Objective 2: Catalyze external support for development from traditional and new partners.</i> <i>Policy Objective 4: Ensure safe, secure and resilient physical borders.</i></p>
<b>Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Strategic Plan 2019-2023</b>	<p>Strategic Goal 1. MIMRA will maximize the long-term value from its fisheries for the benefit of the people of RMI; Strategic Action 1, 2, 3. <i>Strategic Action 1: Promote strong and profitable partnerships to grow RMI economy.</i> <i>Strategic Action 2: Maintain, secure and enhance revenue from RMI fisheries.</i> <i>Strategic Action 3: Enable and promote a strong private fisheries industry in RMI.</i></p> <p>Strategic Goal 2. MIMRA will conserve and manage the aquatic resources for current and future generations in RMI; Strategic Action 1, 2, 3. <i>Strategic Action 1: Utilize robust science and the precautionary approach to sustainably manage RMI fisheries.</i> <i>Strategic Action 2: Implement state of the art MCS to detect, deter and eliminate IUU in RMI.</i> <i>Strategic Action 3: Enact clear and helpful management systems that are well understood and followed.</i></p> <p>Strategic Goal 3. MIMRA will be professional, transparent, and accountable in the way it manages fisheries resources in RMI; Strategic Action 2. <i>Strategic Action 2: Develop the capacity of MIMRA managers/staff, industry, and the community so they are all able to productively contribute to growing and managing RMI's fisheries.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	<p>Priority Areas 1. Local food production and linking producers to consumers; Strategies 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 1.10. <i>Strategy 1.4: Develop and sustainably manage coastal/inshore fisheries and aquaculture to support food security and livelihoods.</i> <i>Strategy 1.5: Adopt a supply chain approach to facilitate and support the establishment of viable production and marketing chains from input supplies, through farm (and fisheries) production to end markets.</i> <i>Strategy 1.7: Improve market structures for transport and sale of fish, and fresh produce, and promote the introduction of market centers.</i> <i>Strategy 1.10: Promote and facilitate the formation and strengthening of producer organizations (farmers and fishers).</i></p> <p>Priority Areas 5. Safety, quality and resilience in food supply and production; Strategy 5.6. <i>Strategy 5.6: Support community based integrated management of coastal and inshore marine resources, both empowering and assisting communities to develop and enforce appropriate conservation measures.</i></p>
<b>The Republic of the Marshall Islands National</b>	<p>Environmental Theme 3. Marine; Strategic Focus Area 1, 2. <i>Strategic Focus Area 1 Control the offshore marine resources exploitation.</i> <i>Strategic Focus Area 2 Proper management of inshore marine environment.</i></p>



ISLAND  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNIT



UNITED NATIONS  
FOOD SYSTEMS  
SUMMIT 2021



<b>Environment Management Strategy 2017–2022</b>	Environmental Theme 4. Biodiversity; Strategic Focus Area 2. <i>Strategic Focus Area 2 Foster long term protection and maintenance of biodiversity within RMI.</i>
	Environmental Theme 6. Built Environment; Strategic Focus Area 4. <i>Strategic Focus Area 4 Maintain and provide proper water resources.</i>
<b>Critical Pathway 1.2:</b> <i>Support the expansion of diets to include greater variety of locally produced blue foods</i>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	NSP 2. Environment Climate Change and Resiliency Pillar; Strategic Area 2.1 Atoll Environment; Policy Objective 1. <i>Policy Objective 1: Improved protection, conservation and sustainability of atoll environment and natural resources.</i>
	NSP 3. Infrastructure Pillar; Strategic Area 3.1 Transport; Policy Objective 1, 3. <i>Policy Objective 1: Efficient and reliable air and sea connectivity to the outer islands and the world.</i> <i>Policy Objective 3: Reliable roads for efficient movement of people and goods and services.</i>
	NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.3 Marine Resources; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Conserve and manage the aquatic resources for current and future generations.</i>
	NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.4 Trade, Investment and Tourism; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Establish more sustainable and eco-friendly tourism.</i>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	Priority Areas 1. Local food production and linking producers to consumers; Strategy 1.7. <i>Strategy 1.7: Improve market structures for transport and sale of fish, and fresh produce, and promote the introduction of market centers.</i>
	Priority Area 3. Education on food security and nutrition and home gardening; Strategy 3.5. <i>Strategy 3.5: Participatory and community-based approaches will be adopted to promote local food production, healthy lifestyles and sustainable diets.</i>
<b>Supporting Pathway 1.1:</b> <i>Revitalization of traditional resource management practices</i>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	NSP 1. Social and Culture Pillar; Strategic Area 1.4 Culture and Traditional Knowledge; Policy Objective 1, 4. <i>Policy Objective 1. Undertake preservation of traditional knowledge-natural resources and historical sites (men ko bwinnir).</i> <i>Policy Objective 4. Maintain traditional consumption and production of food and medicine.</i>
<b>The Republic of the Marshall Islands National Environment Management Strategy 2017–2022</b>	Environmental Theme 4. Biodiversity; Strategic Focus Area 1. <i>Strategic Focus Area 1 Protect special ecosystems, sites, tradition, language and species.</i>
	Environmental Theme 5. Culture and Heritage; Strategic Focus Area 3. <i>Strategic Focus Area 3 Maintain traditional consumption and production of food and medicine.</i>
<b>Supporting Pathway 1.2:</b> <i>Specific support for women-led initiatives</i>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	NSP 1. Social and Culture Pillar; Strategic Area 1.3 Social Justice and Inclusion; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Ensure provisions and opportunities for equitable participation of all persons in society.</i>
	NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.4 Trade, Investment and Tourism; Policy Objective 4. <i>Policy Objective 4: Promote MSMEs and women entrepreneurs.</i>

## Priority Theme 2: Expanding sustainable green food production and consumption

<b>Critical Pathway 2.1:</b> <i>Ensure an ecosystem-based management approach to green food production is integrated into all expansion/development plans</i>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	NSP 2. Environment Climate Change and Resiliency Pillar; Strategic Area 2.3 Disaster Risk Management (DRM); Policy Objective 1. <i>Policy Objective 1: Enhanced resilience to disasters and risks.</i>
	NSP 3. Infrastructure Pillar; Strategic Area 3.2 Energy; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Increased energy efficiency in households, businesses, government, transport and other sectors.</i>
	NSP 3. Infrastructure Pillar; Strategic Area 3.3 Water and Sanitation; Policy Objective 1. <i>Policy Objective 1: Effective management of freshwater resources.</i>
	NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.2 Agriculture; Policy Objective 1, 2, 3. <i>Policy Objective 1: Improve production, supply and distribution of nutritious food.</i> <i>Policy Objective 2: Promote environmental sustainability.</i> <i>Policy Objective 3: Enhance capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders.</i>

	NSP 5. Good Governance Pillar; Strategic Area 5.5 International Relations and Security; Policy Objective 1, 2. <i>Policy Objective 1: Enhance diplomacy and international relations.</i> <i>Policy Objective 2: Catalyze external support for development from traditional and new partners.</i>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Agriculture Sector Plan 2021-2031</b>	Output 1. Environmental Degradation Minimised; 1.1, 1.3, 1.4. <i>1.1 Coastal tree planting.</i> <i>1.3 Promotion and preservation of the diversity of traditional and cultural plants.</i> <i>1.4 Support development of appropriate agroforestry systems.</i> Output 2. Sustainable small-livestock production systems developed and promoted; 2.2. <i>2.2 Improve feeds with local ingredients.</i> Output 3. Sustainable crop production systems developed and promoted; 3.1, 3.5. <i>3.1 Improve soil conditions.</i> <i>3.5 Develop appropriate agroforestry systems.</i> Output 4. Increased consumption of nutritious locally-produced foods; 4.1. <i>4.1 Promote home gardens.</i> Output 5. Improved biosecurity and marketing; 5.1, 5.2. <i>5.1 Develop local and export markets.</i> <i>5.2 Develop value chains including organics.</i>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Forest Sector Plan 2020-2030</b>	Priority issue A. Conservation of Biodiversity; Strategy 1, 4. <i>Strategy 1: Develop management plans through Reimaanlok process (include planting, growing, maintaining and sustainably harvesting food crops, medicinal plants, trees and target species).</i> <i>Strategy 4: Develop and institutionalize RMI terrestrial data collection and analysis (baseline data, data collection methods and training on methods, monitoring).</i> Priority issue B. Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods; Strategy 1. <i>Strategy 1: Promote and increase production of agroforestry including high value market crops; community extension and education.</i> Priority issue C. Coastal Reinforcement; Strategy 1, 2. <i>Strategy 1: Data collection, monitoring and analysis.</i> <i>Strategy 2: Protection of Coastal Areas.</i>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	Priority Area 1. Local food production and linking producers to consumers; Strategy 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5. <i>Strategy 1.1: Support local food crop production through extending knowledge and skills in better husbandry practices and farming systems.</i> <i>Strategy 1.2: Increase the focus of government extension support provided for growing traditional staple crops.</i> <i>Strategy 1.3: Conserve traditional crop biodiversity, and cautiously introduce new crop varieties which can extend the tolerance range of crop growing conditions (e.g. to drought and salinity) and where possible extend fruiting seasons.</i> <i>Strategy 1.5: Adopt a supply chain approach to facilitate and support the establishment of viable production and marketing chains from input supplies, through farm (and fisheries) production to end markets.</i> Priority Area 5. Safety, quality and resilience in food supply and production; Strategy 5.10. <i>Strategy 5.10: Promote climate 'smart' farming systems and evaluate new crop cultivars to identify those which are more tolerant of drought and saline soil and water conditions.</i>
<b>The Republic of the Marshall Islands National Environment Management Strategy 2017–2022</b>	Environmental Theme 1. Atmosphere and Climate; Strategic Focus Area 3. <i>Strategic Focus Area 3. Provide enabling environment for the protection and management of the physical environment.</i> Environmental Theme 2. Land; Strategic Focus Area 1, 2. <i>Strategic Focus Area 1 Ensure protection of existing vegetation, coconuts, breadfruit and pandanus.</i> <i>Strategic Focus Area 2 Promote sustainable agricultural practices on cultivated land, with more focus on traditional practices.</i> Environmental Theme 4. Biodiversity; Strategic Focus Area 2. <i>Strategic Focus Area 2 Foster long term protection and maintenance of biodiversity within RMI.</i> Environmental Theme 6. Built Environment; Strategic Focus Area 4. <i>Strategic Focus Area 4 Maintain and provide proper water resources.</i>
<b>Critical Pathway 2.2:</b> <i>Support the expansion of diets to include greater variety of locally produced green foods</i>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	NSP 1. Social and Culture Pillar; Strategic Area 1.4 Culture and Traditional Knowledge; Policy Objective 1, 4. <i>Policy Objective 1. Undertake preservation of traditional knowledge-natural resources and historical sites (men ko bwinnir).</i>



ISLAND  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNIT



UNITED NATIONS  
FOOD SYSTEMS  
SUMMIT 2021



	<p><i>Policy Objective 4. Maintain traditional consumption and production of food and medicine.</i></p> <p>NSP 2. Environment Climate Change and Resiliency Pillar; Strategic Area 2.1 Atoll Environment; Policy Objective 1.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 1: Improved protection, conservation and sustainability of atoll environment and natural resources.</i></p> <p>NSP 3. Infrastructure Pillar; Strategic Area 3.1 Transportation; Policy Objective 1, 3.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 1: Efficient and reliable air and sea connectivity to the outer islands and the world.</i></p> <p><i>Policy Objective 3: Reliable roads for efficient movement of people and goods and services.</i></p> <p>NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.4 Trade, Investment and Tourism; Policy Objective 2.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 2: Establish more sustainable and eco-friendly tourism.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	<p>Priority Area 3. Education on food security and nutrition and home gardening; Strategy 3.5.</p> <p><i>Strategy 3.5: Participatory and community-based approaches will be adopted to promote local food production, healthy lifestyles and sustainable diets.</i></p>
<p><b>Supporting Pathway 2.1:</b></p> <p><i>Revitalization of traditional resource management practices</i></p>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Agriculture Sector Plan 2021-2031</b>	<p>Output 1. Environmental Degradation Minimised; 1.3.</p> <p><i>1.3 Promotion and preservation of the diversity of traditional and cultural plants.</i></p> <p>Output 2. Sustainable small-livestock production systems developed and promoted; 2.1.</p> <p><i>2.1 Improve local breeds.</i></p> <p>Output 3. Sustainable crop production systems developed and promoted; 3.2, 3.3, 3.4.</p> <p><i>3.2 Improve water use.</i></p> <p><i>3.3 Develop pests and diseases control methods.</i></p> <p><i>3.4 Crop diversity improved, conserved, and utilized.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Forest Sector Plan 2020-2030</b>	<p>Priority issue B. Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods; Strategy 2.</p> <p>Strategy 2: Rejuvenate Traditional Crops.</p>
<b>The Republic of the Marshall Islands National Environment Management Strategy 2017-2022</b>	<p>Environmental Theme 4 Biodiversity; Strategic Focus Area 1.</p> <p><i>Strategic Focus Area 1. Protect special ecosystems, sites, tradition, language and species.</i></p> <p>Environmental Theme 5. Culture and Heritage; Strategic Focus Area 3.</p> <p><i>Strategic Focus Area 3. Maintain traditional consumption and production of food and medicine.</i></p>
<p><b>Supporting Pathway 2.2:</b></p> <p><i>Expanding agricultural activity through a variety of methods to increase national green food production year-round</i></p>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	<p>Priority Area 1. Local food production and linking producers to consumers; Strategy 1.12.</p> <p><i>Strategy 1.12: Enhance capacities to use natural resources in a sustainable manner to support sustainable growth in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.</i></p>
<p><b>Supporting Pathway 2.3:</b></p> <p><i>Specific support for women-led initiatives</i></p>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	<p>NSP 1. Social and Culture Pillar; Strategic Area 1.3 Social Justice and Inclusion; Policy Objective 2.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 2: Ensure provisions and opportunities for equitable participation of all persons in society.</i></p> <p>NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.4 Trade, Investment and Tourism; Policy Objective 4.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 4. Promote MSMEs and women entrepreneurs.</i></p>

## Priority Theme 3: Delivering lifelong nutrition and health education and awareness raising

<p><b>Critical Pathway 3.1:</b></p> <p><i>Nutrition and health education and awareness are made national priorities</i></p>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	<p>NSP 1. Social and Culture Pillar; Strategic Area 1.1 Health; Policy Objective 1.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 1: Strengthened response to non-communicable diseases, including nutrition, mental health, and injuries.</i></p> <p>NSP 2. Environment Climate Change and Resiliency Pillar; Strategy Action 2.2 Climate Change; Policy Objective 2.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 2: Mitigation of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions in pursuance of RMI's NDC targets and pathway to net zero emissions by 2050.</i></p> <p>NSP 3. Infrastructure Pillar; Strategic Area 3.3 Water and Sanitation; Policy Objective 3, 4, 5.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 3: Improved sanitation for better health and well-being.</i></p>



	<p><i>Policy Objective 4: Comprehensive management of wastewater.</i></p> <p><i>Policy Objective 5: Management of urban drainage and surface waters for safe public exposure.</i></p> <p>NSP 3. Infrastructure Pillar; Strategic Area 3.4 Waste Management; Policy Objective 2, 4.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 2: Assess and promote sustainable and sanitary landfill applications and operation.</i></p> <p><i>Policy Objective 4: Carry out appropriate incineration for medical waste and waste to energy conversion.</i></p> <p>NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.4 Trade, Investment and Tourism; Policy Objective 6.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 6: Enhancement and protection of consumer interests and rights.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Agriculture Sector Plan 2021-2031</b>	<p>Output 3. Sustainable crop production systems developed and promoted; 3.6.</p> <p><i>3.6 Develop a package of practices for major crops.</i></p> <p>Output 6. Improved capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders; 6.1.</p> <p><i>6.1 Conduct capacity needs assessment.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Forest Sector Plan 2020-2030</b>	<p>Priority issue A. Conservation of Biodiversity; Strategy 3.</p> <p><i>Strategy 3: Expand educational outreach in regards to forest management (importance of conserving traditional trees, plants and crops), to include pest identification and management.</i></p> <p>Priority issue D. Urbanization.</p> <p><i>Strategies: Conservation education, promote school planting activities, interest youth in careers in agriculture and agro-forestry, organic composting education.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	<p>Priority Area 2. Access to nutritious foods for vulnerable households and individuals; Strategy 2.1, 2.2.</p> <p>Strategy 2.1: Seek technical support to map all communities and households that are particularly vulnerable to lack of food and water security and good nutrition and ensure that appropriate interventions are targeted to reach these groups.</p> <p>Strategy 2.2: Seek technical assistance to institutionalize early warning sentinel monitoring systems to identify those vulnerable to food insecurity and nutritional deterioration, particularly in relation to food price crisis and natural disasters.</p>
<b>The Republic of the Marshall Islands National Environment Management Strategy 2017-2022</b>	<p>Environmental Theme 1. Atmosphere and Climate; Strategic Focus Area 1, 4.</p> <p><i>Strategic Focus Area 1. Committed to reduction in greenhouse gases (GHGs) and reduction in fossil fuel purchase.</i></p> <p><i>Strategic Focus Area 4. Ensure RMI commitment to Climate Change adaptation.</i></p>
<p><b>Critical Pathway 3.2:</b></p> <p><i>Food production, nutrition and food safety are incorporated into formalized education curricula from kindergarten to grade 12 and beyond</i></p>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	<p>NSP 1. Social and Culture Pillar; Strategic Area 1.2 Education and Training; Policy Objective 2, 3.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 2: Increased learning and student achievement in primary and secondary schools.</i></p> <p><i>Policy Objective 3: Enhanced post-secondary and continuing education opportunities that provide in-country access to obtain qualifications such as certificates, diplomas, undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.</i></p> <p>NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.2 Agriculture; Policy Objective 3.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 3: Enhance capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders.</i></p> <p>NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.4 Trade, Investment and Tourism; Policy Objective 6.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 6: Enhancement and protection of consumer interests and rights.</i></p> <p>NSP 5. Good Governance Pillar; Strategic Area 5.1 Public Administration; Policy Objective 4.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 4: Strengthen the connection and cooperation with civil society, private sector and outer islands.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Agriculture Sector Plan 2021-2031</b>	<p>Output 4. Increased consumption of nutritious locally-produced foods; 4.4.</p> <p><i>4.4 Support schools in proper nutrition.</i></p> <p>Output 6. Improved capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders; 6.2, 6.3.</p> <p><i>6.2 Develop capacity building program including support to schools (curriculum).</i></p> <p><i>6.3 Conduct training and assess impacts.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	<p>Priority Area 2. Access to nutritious foods for vulnerable households and individuals; Strategy 2.6.</p> <p><i>Strategy 2.6: In line with Public Law 1991-125 (with 2008 revision) maintain and enhance school feeding programs.</i></p> <p>Priority Area 3. Education on food security and nutrition and home gardening; Strategy 3.4.</p> <p><i>Strategy 3.4: Nutrition will be featured strongly in school curricula starting at the earliest age and at every grade level. This should ensure that students graduate with an understanding of healthy food and how to access and prepare it.</i></p> <p>Priority Area 5. Safety, quality and resilience in food supply and production; Strategy 5.3.</p> <p><i>Strategy 5.3: Strengthen the capacity to monitor the Food Act (provide appropriate trained human resources and equipment to monitor implementation of regulations).</i></p>
<p><b>Supporting Pathway 3.1:</b></p>	





<b>New and existing educational initiatives will be linked</b>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	<p>Priority Area 2. Access to nutritious foods for vulnerable households and individuals; Strategy 2.2. <i>Strategy 2.2: Seek technical assistance to institutionalize early warning sentinel monitoring systems to identify those vulnerable to food insecurity and nutritional deterioration, particularly in relation to food price crisis and natural disasters.</i></p> <p>Priority Area 5. Safety, quality and resilience in food supply and production; Strategy 5.9. <i>Strategy 5.9: In line with Climate Change Policy, undertake enhanced planning and interventions to address climate vulnerabilities in food security and nutrition.</i></p>
<b>Supporting Pathway 3.2: Building awareness on the global stage</b>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	<p>NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar 4; Strategic Area 4.1 Land; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Promote greater awareness of land rights and opportunities through awareness and partnership.</i></p> <p>NSP 5. Governance Pillar; Strategic Area 5.4 Judiciary; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Catalyze external support for development from traditional and new partners.</i></p>

## Priority Theme 4: Ensuring food safety in a complex system

<b>Critical Pathway 4.1: Bolster the RMI food system with appropriately enforced food safety regulations</b>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	<p>NSP 2. Environment Climate Change and Resiliency Pillar; Strategic Area 2.1 Atoll Environment; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Strengthened management of waste, chemicals, pollutants and nuclear radiation.</i></p> <p>NSP 2. Environment Climate Change and Resiliency Pillar; Strategic Area 2.4 Radiation Contamination; Policy Objective 1, 5. <i>Policy Objective 1: Undertake environmental surveys focused on radiation monitoring, including data analysis and interpretation.</i></p> <p><i>Policy Objective 5: Enhance capacity of stakeholders and community to manage radiation contamination.</i></p> <p>NSP 3. Infrastructure Pillar; Strategic Area 3.1 Transportation; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Compliance with all applicable (international) maritime and civil aviation safety standards for the ports.</i></p> <p>NSP 5. Good Governance Pillar; Strategic Area 5.3 Law, Justice and Public Safety; Policy Objective 2. <i>Policy Objective 2: Require robust and unbiased enforcement of laws, justice and regulatory processes.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Agriculture Sector Plan 2021-2031</b>	<p>Output 1. Environmental Degradation Minimised; 1.6. <i>1.6 Monitor potential sources of pollution by agriculture practices.</i></p> <p>Output 2. Sustainable small-livestock production systems developed and promoted; 2.3, 2.4. <i>2.3 Appropriate livestock management practices developed and promoted.</i></p> <p><i>2.4 Livestock waste management improved.</i></p> <p>Output 5. Improved biosecurity and marketing; 5.4. <i>5.4 Develop animal and crop protection program.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Forest Sector Plan 2020-2030</b>	<p>Priority issue B. Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods; Strategy 7. <i>Strategy 7: Forest/agroforest pests &amp; diseases.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	<p>Priority Area 5. Safety, quality and resilience in food supply and production; Strategy 5.4, 5.7. <i>Strategy 5.4: Recognize the importance of food safety and support the private sector to obtain international standards such as HACCP and comply with good hygienic practices (GHP) and good agricultural practices (GAP).</i></p> <p><i>Strategy 5.7: Ensure a well-functioning biosecurity service to ensure adequate protection of plant and animal health status from introduced exotic pests and diseases.</i></p>
<b>The Republic of the Marshall Islands National Environment Management Strategy 2017-2022</b>	<p>Environmental Theme 6. Built Environment; Strategic Focus Area 2, 5. <i>Strategic Focus Area 2. To provide proper waste management services.</i></p> <p><i>Strategic Focus Area 5. Deliver sound sewage and sanitation management.</i></p> <p>Environmental Theme 7 Nuclear Legacy; Strategic Focus Area 1. <i>Strategic Focus Area 1. Improve governance support to nuclear affected Marshallese for better livelihoods.</i></p>
<b>Critical Pathway 4.2:</b>	



*Integrate modern approaches to traditional food preservation to enable the production of safe, desirable food products for local consumption and export*

<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Agriculture Sector Plan 2021-2031</b>	Output 4. Increased consumption of nutritious locally-produced foods; 4.3. <i>4.3 Preservation of knowledge on traditional food preparation and preservation.</i>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	Priority Area 5. Safety, quality and resilience in food supply and production; Strategy 5.1. <i>Strategy 5.1: Define an appropriate Food Safety and SPS architecture which clarifies roles and responsibilities.</i>
<b>The Republic of the Marshall Islands National Environment Management Strategy 2017-2022</b>	Environmental Theme 5. Culture and Heritage; Strategic Focus Area 3. <i>Strategic Focus Area 3. Maintain traditional consumption and production of food and medicine.</i>
<b>Supporting Pathway 4.1:</b> <i>Food safety measures and approaches respond to climate adaptation needs</i>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar 4; Strategic Area 4.4 Trade, Investment and Tourism; Policy Objective 5. <i>Policy Objective 5: Promote partnerships among public-private and Civil Society Organizations.</i> NSP 5. Governance Pillar; Strategic Area 5.2 Public Financial Management; Policy Objective 6. <i>Policy Objective 6: Strengthen dialogue between national and local government and the private sector, and enact a robust governance framework for effective partnership.</i>

## Priority Theme 5: Building inter-ministerial/cross-sectoral collaboration

### Critical Pathway 5.1:

*Ensure ongoing cross-sectoral collaboration to maximize progress towards shared goals and to enable project synergies to be capitalized on*

<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020-2030</b>	NSP 1. Social and Culture Pillar; Strategic Area 1.1 Health; Policy Objective 4, 7. <i>Policy Objective 4: Strengthened planning, management and administration of Human and Financial resources.</i> <i>Policy Objective 7: Address issues of climate change and human health.</i> NSP 2. Environment Climate Change and Resiliency Pillar; Strategic Area 2.2 Climate Change; Policy Objective 6. <i>Policy Objective 6: Increased climate finances to enable necessary response to climate change impacts on RMI's socio-economic development.</i> NSP 2. Environment Climate Change and Resiliency Pillar; Strategic Area 2.3 Disaster Risk Management (DRM); Policy Objective 3. <i>Policy Objective 3: Greater coordination, nationally and internationally on DRM efforts.</i> NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.2 Agriculture; Policy Objective 4. <i>Policy Objective 4: Develop enabling policies and legislation.</i> NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.3 Marine Resources; Policy Objective 3. <i>Policy Objective 3: Enhance professionalism, transparency and accountability in the management of fisheries resources.</i> NSP 5. Good Governance Pillar; Strategic Area 5.3 Law, Justice and Public Safety; Policy Objective 4. <i>Policy Objective 4: Strengthen the capacity and processes of law making, regulation, enforcement and oversight of relevant agencies.</i>
<b>Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Strategic Plan 2019-2023.</b>	Strategic Goal 3. MIMRA will be professional, transparent and accountable in the way it manages fisheries resources in RMI; Strategic Action 1, 3. <i>Strategic Action 1: Utilize best practice governance methodology to manage MIMRA.</i> <i>Strategic Action 3: Ensure MIMRA is properly resourced to manage and engage with RMI fisheries for the benefit of the RMI people.</i>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Agriculture Sector Plan 2021-2031</b>	Output 7. Enabling policies/legislations developed; 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4. <i>7.1 Review current policies/legislations.</i> <i>7.2 Develop appropriate policies/legislations.</i> <i>7.3 Develop lobbying strategies and policy briefs on key issues.</i> <i>7.4 Implement and assess impacts.</i>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	Priority Area 3. Education on food security and nutrition and home gardening; Strategy 3.6. <i>Strategy 3.6: In partnership with our NGOs workshops and demonstrations will be conducted on urban gardening and use, preparation and preservation of nutritious local foods.</i>

	<p>Priority Area 5. Safety, quality and resilience in food supply and production; Strategy 5.2, 5.8, 5.9.</p> <p><i>Strategy 5.2: Review legal and regulatory framework for food. Legislation should be harmonized and strengthened to influence a clear policy framework and determine the principal enforcement agency.</i></p> <p><i>Strategy 5.8: Orient policy focus from “crisis management or response” to “risk reduction and resilience-building”.</i></p> <p><i>Strategy 5.9: In line with Climate Change Policy, undertake enhanced planning and interventions to address climate vulnerabilities in food security and nutrition.</i></p>
<b>The Republic of the Marshall Islands National Environment Management Strategy 2017–2022</b>	<p>Environmental Theme 1. Atmosphere and Climate; Strategic Focus Area 4.</p> <p><i>Strategic Focus Area 4 Ensure RMI commitment to Climate Change adaptation.</i></p> <p>Environmental Theme 7. Nuclear Legacy; Strategic Focus Area 1.</p> <p><i>Strategic Focus Area 1 Improve governance support to nuclear affected Marshallese for better livelihoods.</i></p>
<p><b>Critical Pathway 5.2:</b></p> <p><i>Incentivize the private sector to realign its resources to sustainably deliver healthier diets</i></p>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020–2030</b>	<p>NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar; Strategic Area 4.4 Trade, Investment and Tourism; Policy Objective 5.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 5: Promote partnerships among public-private and Civil Society Organizations.</i></p> <p>NSP 5. Good Governance Pillar; Strategic Area 5.1 Public Administration; Policy Objective 1, 3, 4, 5.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 1: Improve practices to achieve an effective, ethical, and transparent public service, local governments and related public agencies.</i></p> <p><i>Policy Objective 3: Strengthen oversight, audit, alignment and coordination across and within the public service and related public agencies.</i></p> <p><i>Policy Objective 4: Strengthen the connection and cooperation with civil society, private sector and outer islands.</i></p> <p><i>Policy Objective 5: Strengthen the capability of accountability and integrity institutions to address corruption and unethical practices.</i></p> <p>NSP 5. Good Governance Pillar; Strategic Area 5.2 Public Financial Management; Policy Objective 6.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 6: Strengthen dialogue between national and local government and the private sector and enact a robust governance framework for effective partnership.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	<p>Priority Area 3. Education on food security and nutrition and home gardening; Strategy 3.2, 3.3.</p> <p><i>Strategy 3.2: Investigate possible market/price and regulatory measures (e.g. preferential tariffs, ‘sin food’-tax, content regulations, fortification etc) which promote healthy food choices.</i></p> <p><i>Strategy 3.3: Consideration will particularly be given to increasing taxes on alcohol, “junk food” and soft drinks known to be high in sugars, saturated and trans-fats, and / or high salt content.</i></p>
<p><b>Supporting Pathway 5.1:</b></p> <p><i>Promotion of the consumption of sustainable, healthy foods in all public buildings and facilities</i></p>	
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2020–2030</b>	<p>NSP 3. Infrastructure Pillar; Strategic Area 3.6 Public Facilities; Policy Objectives 1, 2.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 1: Strategic and resilient infrastructure planning and investment.</i></p> <p><i>Policy Objective 2: Well-designed, built and maintained public facilities (roads, runways, buildings, amenities, schools, dispensaries, seawalls etc.).</i></p> <p>NSP 4. Economic Development Pillar, Strategic Area 4.2 Agriculture; Policy Objective 1.</p> <p><i>Policy Objective 1: Improve production, supply and distribution of nutritious food.</i></p>
<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands Food Security Policy October 2013</b>	<p>Priority Area 1: Local food production and linking producers to consumers; Strategy 1.11.</p> <p><i>Strategy 1.11: Introduce local purchasing policies regulating use of local food produce in all government catering purchases.</i></p> <p>Priority Area 3: Education on food security and nutrition and home gardening; Strategy 3.2, 3.5</p> <p><i>Strategy 3.2: Investigate possible market/price and regulatory measures (e.g. preferential tariffs, ‘sin food’-tax, content regulations, fortification etc) which promote healthy food choices.</i></p> <p><i>Strategy 3.5: Participatory and community-based approaches will be adopted to promote local food production, healthy lifestyles and sustainable diets.</i></p>