1. Name of the project/initiative/country/pilot areas/project timeline (start and end date) (encouraged the use of maps and diagrams)

SPREP-USAID Climate Change Adaption Project – On the ground adaptation on 6 villages on Abaiang Island, KIRIBATI

2. Partners Involved:

SPREP, Ministry of Public Works and Utilities (MPWU), Ministry of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development, communities on Abaiang

3. Objectives and expected outputs/outcomes before project intervention.

The goal of the USAID-SPREP Climate Change Adaptation Project is to increase the ability of Kiribati communities and the water sector and related sectors to adapt to climate change and to reduce the risk of climate related natural disasters and extreme events. The project will focus primarily on implementation of on-the ground adaptation initiatives mainly on integrated water management in the outer islands; water being a NAPA priority.

4. Processes/Methodology used

- Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment
- Adaptation planning in the water sector and mainstreaming
- Adaptation implementation including community engagement, design and construction of household hand pumps, water quality monitoring to establish water quality monitoring programme and drought management plan, and ecosystem based adaptation options.
- Adaptation training

5. Outputs/Outcomes achieved after project implementation

- Design of hand pumps and guidelines for installation of hand pumps
- Water Quality Monitoring baseline data collected for the 5 villages covered under project
- Construction of 71 household hand pumps on Takarano village
- Ecosystem based adaptation activities on Abaiang
- Community consultation on Takarano village including workshop to villagers on installation and maintenance of hand pumps
- Agreement signed by Community of Takarano on responsibilities for installation and maintenance of hand pumps

6. Lessons Learned

- Engagement of Local communities in planning stages of the project to ensure relevancy throughout project implementation
- Targeting household water systems as opposed to community systems promoting local solutions to climate change adaptation.
- Tangible benefits seen straight away garner tremendous project support and anticipation at the community level.

- EbA in increasing groundwater lens and improving climate/weather information through the upgrade of weather station
- Involvement of community champions to implement work on the ground foster self reliance at the community level
- Importance of capacity building during inception phase
- Drinking water ladder is an important consideration for the appropriateness of technology as pertaining to current financial and social situation existing at the community level.
- **7.** Recommendations (If this kind of activity were to be repeated/replicated what would you do differently? What are any future priorities for future projects that could benefit from the lessons learned?
- Of importance are the supports for; focus on capacity building of National and local governments while integrating traditional knowledge and practices of communities, research and leadership capacity building within Small Pacific Island countries.
- Future priorities for water projects on Kiribati looking at improving delivery of safe water to outer island communities should focus on appropriate technology which is also easily affordable and maintained.
- Household level intervention is a hit with the communities