

SOIL MANAGEMENT IN TUVALU



Australian Government

Australian Centre for
International Agricultural Research



Objectives:

To ensure that soil knowledge is enhanced to provide a reliable foundation for sustainable intensification of agricultural systems



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Objectives activities:

1. Outreach of the importance of nutrient budgeting and compost management
2. Island soil survey and analysis
3. Field trials and food cube nutrient budgeting



Progress activities:

- Research done on Funafala garden using different kind of composts on root crops and vegetables and suitable planting methods.



FUNAFALA SITE



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- Research on root crops at Funafala project site



- Wicking system at Funafala



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■ Upgrading Funafala garden



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- Agriculture nursery



Seedlings ready for the farmers



Tubs/cubes in the nursery for demonstration & practicals

- Assists farmers in their household gardens



Top left: Amatuku garden
Top right: Funaoa garden



Bottom left: farmer's root
crop garden
Bottom right: Island
piggery (manures)



- Assisting school garden in the capital

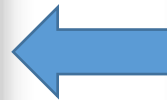
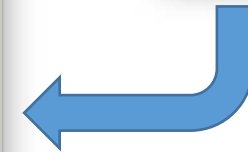


Nauti Primary School



SDA Primary School

■ Collection of soil sample & packing



- Trainings and awareness programs such as soil day, workshops, both in theory and practical.



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- Building extension officer capabilities in health clinics



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- Visiting farmers on the islets



Left: farmer in
Fualefeke.

Right: farmer in
Mulitefala



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■ Home garden in the main land and the islets



Fencing the Agriculture Station in Vaitupu



Elisefou station fence was provided by Soil Health Project

Challenges

- ❖ Availability of Transport (to & fro Funafala)
- ❖ Shortage of staffs
- ❖ Covid activities & restrictions
- ❖ Tight programs/schedules
- ❖ Limited equipment/materials
- ❖ Delay in shipping



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Recommendation

- ❖ Improve laboratory in the country
- ❖ Provide suitable equipment & materials
- ❖ Capacity building – Agriculture staffs, Farmers (continues)
- ❖ Continue Financial assistance – Agriculture programs such as soil day, etc.

Conclusion

- ❖ Improving the livelihood of people in atoll islands
- ❖ Providing knowledge & upgrade skills in farming
- ❖ Understand the soil characteristics of the country
- ❖ Increase food security
- ❖ Sustainable farming systems & production
- ❖ Create opportunity for the people

Acknowledgement

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❖ **FAKAFETAI LASI**