



## CHUUK SHOWCASE EVENTS AT THE WORLD EXPO IN OSAKA JAPAN

From the period of June 12 to July 12, 2025 Chuuk State took to the world stage at the amazing World Expo in Osaka, Japan. Signature cultural items and other valuables were on display at the booth designated for the Federated States of Micronesia. Jed Hainrick and Reachard Lukas from Chuuk Visitors Bureau spent the entire four weeks assisting staff from the FSM Department of Resources and Development as the hospitality and support staff at the exhibit.

Toward the end of the four Chuuk four weeks period, additional exhibits were made in art and shipwrecks model display. Ms. Lisette Yamase brought her mural painting that shows arts from different parts of Micronesia. Other charcoal paintings of ordinary island values were made visible for the curious daily visitors.

Mr. Holger Buss from Germany added another element that allowed visitors to see upclose through model creations some samples of wrecks at the bottom of Chuuk Lagoon. For many of the Japanese who came by the booth, they had not heard about the Japanese wrecks.

The last activity for Chuuk had to do with the display and presentation of the sepien Chuuk — the unong sepiechen. CVB Executive Director Marz Akapito, with assistance from Kampetson KD Olap and Repienifou JP Akapito did the chant and carrying of the sepi in front of a crowd at Commons B which housed the FSM booth.

It is the general conviction of our tourism network in FSM that participating at the World Expo in Osaka, which is a six months long global event, will boost our marketing efforts and elevate interest in our islands.



## CHUUK BOXER AIMING FIRST AMATEUR US BOUT



KUAM Photo of Jason Salas interview with Jake on Aug. 21, 2025.

Guam-based boxer from Chuuk, Jake Dion, is set to face his first debut in amateur boxing in New York City during the month of September according to KUAM News on August 21.

Jason Salas sits down with Jake Dion, a boxer who may be fighting at 135 pounds, but mentally is no lightweight. Jake's been training hard for his first international bout in New York City next month. He's the latest

proud, humble and super-talented Chuukese athlete who wants to represent his island, his heritage and expand the sport throughout the region.

CVB is soliciting for funding support to help Jake with his needs.

## CVB AND CIA CONSULT WITH TA MUNICIPALITY

On August 18, a small team combining the CEO of the Caroline Island Air, Mr. Bryan Mori, Captain Jeremia, CVB Executive Director Marz Akapito, two other staff members: Reachard Lukas and Kanisto Redy.

CVB and CIA look for ways to support the leaders of Ta in taking greater advantage of being the island gateway in air access into the Mortlock Region in Chuuk. The Ta airstrip recently got renovated and extended to a full length of 3,000 feet according to CEO Bryan Mori.

Mayor Soriz, during the meeting, stressed the need to secure public ownership of the land so that the municipal government could be more free to invest in the facilities and related areas that support CIA operation. CVB would like to have simple lodging and island tour products to be developed with local community participation.



SIPWE ACHOCHO NE TUMUNU NIMOCHUN ME NINGEN FONUACH KEI NON CHUUK. AKKAEWIN, SIPWE FORI PWUN NOUCH WASONA REPWE TORI FONUACH NGE REPWE KUNA NIMEOCHUN ME NINGAN. RESAP NOSENI FONUACH NGE RA APASA PWE CHON CHUUK RA MEN NIMENGAW POKITEN MI TAROPAAS PIPI PEN AAN, PETEWEN NUKUN IMW, PUFETAN KONIK, PARANG TIT, MAKKEKIS NEENI ESE NIFINIFIN, NOMWOFETAN TAAN CHITOSA, PUREN PIIK EKIS MEINISIN, PIN WAREWAR. OONEEEEE.

#### 4TH FSM EXPO TAKES PLACE IN YAP

The fourth year of holding the premier culture and trade exposition in the FSM brought together representatives, spectators, organizers, business folks, and leaders from the FSM National Government, the State of Kosrae, the State of Chuuk, and the host State of Yap. Pohnpei State was unable to make it to Yap. However, they held their own version of the Expo remotely from home turf.

The Micronesia Expo has been a platform for exchange of ideas amongst the states and the FSM governments through the FSM Tourism Division at the Department of Resources and Development, which is the focal point office for the nationwide event.

Likewise, the event has also been a catalyst for culture revival and sharing, utilizing the support of elders in areas of food preparation, natural resource stewardship, carving of valuable traditional crafts and tools, dances, chants, storytelling, and traditional attire.

Additionally, business operators and sellers of popular Micronesian food, household items, and fashion materials take advantage of this growing event. Because it alternates among the state, it provides equal opportunities for sellers to promote and sale products at home and at the other sister states.

The Expo event has also ushered in the evolution of the FSM greeting of KAMORALE, which is composed of the four main state greeting words of Kaselelie (Pohnpei), Mogethin(Yap), Raan Annim (Chuuk), and Lenwo (Kosrae). The FSM National Government has urged all citizens to practice using KAMORALE at official functions and when greeting each other in the FSM.

The Micronesia Expo has gone to all the states once. There has been no guarantee it will keep on happening.



#### PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP 2025



At Akoyikoyi School in Penia, Weno Island.

This year's Pacific Partnership mission focuses not only on community outreach and engineering projects, but also on medical exchanges and disaster preparedness engagements with the FSM national and state governments. During their stop in Chuuk, the Pacific Partnership medical team is leading community health engagements in audiology, nursing, nutrition, environmental health, and healthcare. (US Embassy in the FSM)

"From working with dedicated professionals at the hospital to visiting schools and sharing the gift of music to making repairs to public buildings that benefit the community, these acts may seem small in isolation, but collectively, they symbolize something much larger," said H.E. Jennifer Johnson, US Ambassador to the FSM regarding the mission.

#### DIVERS VIEW OF CHUUK, BESIDES WRECK DIVING

Will be in Chuuk next month and will have a full day to kill at the L5 hotel. Is there anything within a couple mile walking distance that would be worth seeing/visiting without having to bribe every second person we see? — an incoming diver is asking on Facebook. Here are some responses:

"the lighthouse & old japanese HQ (now a school) is more like 6km away. There is a cave with gun at the other side of town near the Pou water treatment plant. Otherwise the L5 cafe is about the most exciting place in Chuuk - good fish n chips & craft beer from hawaii." (one preson responses)

"Ww took a long walk. Sweat our asses off. Didn't see anything cool. Place was disgusting in areas. Lack of sanitation. So we hung out and drank after." (another person)

"Find a driver and go hang out at Blue Lagoon. There isn't much to do there either as the beach bar only opens some nights, but it's in a nicer setting." (another person)

LET US THINK ABOUT HOW THE DIVERS SEE OUR ENVIRONMENT AND PEOPLE BASED ON THEIR EXPERIENCES.

#### FSM TOURISM ASSESSES TOURISM POLICY IN CHUUK



On August 18, FSM Tourism Division team under the Department of Resources and Development met with CVB in the morning and afternoon to discuss what has been implemented and what still need to improve under the Tourism Policy that was done since

2015. On the 19th the team did courtesy visit to the Governor and Lt. Governor as well as the Speaker of House of Rep and the members of the House of Representatives. Aug. 20th they held a stakeholder meeting at L5 taking the opportunity to get feedback from stakeholders and the office of Commerce and Industry. The first part of the meeting was mainly on the existing Tourism policy, 2nd part was on the investment policy. Stakeholders group included representatives from hotels, car rentals, crafters and community leaders as well as the Chuuk Women's Council representing civil society.