



FSM HOLDS THIRD RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE IN YAP STATE



The Federated States of Micronesia National Government, through the Department of Resources and Development (R&D), is convening the third Resources and Development Conference in the State of Yap, bringing in participants from relevant agencies and offices from the four States, the National Government, as well as certain representatives of various development partner entities.

The National Government Delegation is led by The Honorable Aren Palik, Vice President of the FSM. The Yap State Delegation is headed by The Honorable Francis Itimai, Lt. Governor. The Pohnpei State Delegation is headed by The Honorable Governor Stevenson A. Joseph. The Honorable Lt. Governor Arty Nena leads the Kosrae Delegation. The Chuuk State Delegation is led by Mr. Roger Mori, Special Advisor to the Governor on Resources and Development.

The conference theme is: "United for Economic Growth". An extensive agenda for thematic discussions among stakeholders has been provided, covering sectoral areas for Trade and Investment; Business Financing; Statistics; Childhood Development; Energy; Fisheries; Agriculture; The Green Climate Fund project on Food Security, with a baseline survey report done by Rutgers University; the Blue Prosperity Micronesia; and Tourism. All of these activities spread over a period of five days starting on January 29. The conference Outcome Document can be accessed on FSM Department of R&D website.

BUSINESS VENTURES BRIGHTEN TOURISM POTENTIALS IN CHUUK

These recently opened business operations add in tangible ways to tourism potentials and excitement. They also drive further competition among service providers, a condition beneficial to consumers. In addition to Rachel's Beach Resort mentioned in our December issue, we applaud these new businesses and wish them success.



Airport Hotel
Located beyond the airport parking space.



Momma's Midland Diner
First Floor of the Midland Building in Nepukos Village.



BZ Catch Market is right by the Seaside front parking lot and the adjacent Saki Store.

CPUC & SUEZ CONSULTING TEAM TESTED DEEP WELLS #4, #5 & #6 IN EPINUP

CPUC & the Suez Consulting team for the ADB-CWSSP (Asian Development Bank – Chuuk Water Supply & Sanitation Project) visited Epinup last week as part of the package 2 of the (CWSSP) investment to test the capacity of the deep wells 4, 5 & 6 in Epinup.

In May of 2023, Suez consulting team conducted a study which provided the insights on the deep groundwater identification and found that the deep wells 4, 5 & 6 are sufficient to draw water. Part of optimizing the deep well is to use a water level measuring instrument that utilizes a radar technology that measures how much water can be produced from the deep wells per minute enough to provide the water supply needed per day.

Under the CWSSP, it is proposed that Wichap and Epinup are supplied from groundwater wells. Two new wells (#4 & #6) and a third existing well (#5) are being tested to confirm the capacity is sufficient to supply Wichap and Epinup for the next 25 years. The testing involves pumping water from the well at different flow rates to determine the sustainable output from the wells. Once the pump tests are completed on 31 January the test data will be analyzed and incorporated into the final designs for the Wichap-Epinup system. In addition to pump testing the well water quality is also being analyzed to ensure the water can be safely used.

PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP MEDICAL EXPERTS PROVIDE TECHNICAL TRAINING THAT IMPACTS CHUUK DIVE INDUSTRY

More often, interested divers want to know if Chuuk has a "divers machine" prior to making the decision to come. This machine is critical to deep dive for safety of those affected by "the bend". The phrase below is from the US Embassy in Kolonia page.

While in Chuuk, Pacific Partnership had dive medicine doctors from U.S. and Germany to work along side dive medicine doctors in Chuuk on subject matter expert exchanges. During that time, a patient came in for "the bends" and our team, shoulder-to-shoulder with the Chuuk dive medicine team, took action to provide care. (photo by JUS Embassy Kolonia)



PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP BRINGS MEDICAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES TO CHUUK RESIDENTS

US Embassy Kolonia



A warm and final farewell to the great team from Pacific Partnership (PP24-1), who completed their mission today in Chuuk. In closing remarks Ambassador Johnson expressed deep

appreciation to the dedicated members of the PP 2024 team and the USNS MERCY T-AH 19 crew. They provided expert community health training, band performances at six Chuuk high schools, community sports/activity days, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief planning, and medical services which reached thousands of people. It was an extraordinary effort!!! They set sail Sunday with our heartfelt thanks. [Pacific Partnership USNS MERCY T-AH 19](#)

IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

(Someone post in Truk Lagoon Facebook Page:) [Allen Mckiddy](#)

Can the divers that have ben to Truk and also Coron Palawan please compare the two for those of us that haven't seen Truk yet ... Thanks p.s. we max out at 130' 43 meters deep

Answers are hereunder:

Chris Potts

I've done 4 Truk expeditions over 40+ years:1979;85;2018 &2019.Logged most dives except v deep.Truk is in a class of its own.But there's little to do on surface.And therefore v boring for non divers.One is also at mercy of accommodation ashore which can be sketchy and is certainly expensive.There's a liveaboard if you're prepared to try that. Busuanga is something else.Wrecks are no way as good but shore experiences and scenery are fabulous.And the people are v nice.Ive been around 10 times and prefer to stay outside Coron somewhere like D Divers Pearl Bay near wrecks. I'm also a pilot.And the approaches to Busuanga & Culion are simply fabulous.

Bob Todd

If it's wreck diving your after then you cannot compare Truuk with anything else, but it's a right pain in the ass to get to, and very expensive. I like Coron in Palawan as there are also wrecks and you can also do other stuff when there, but Truuk is a once in a lifetime trip and is a must to visit

Michele Puryear

We lived in Chuuk for 4 years/learned to dive there. But found Yap and Palau far superior for diving— but from what I saw last time in Chuuk, many wrecks had been scavenged (2009). If you try Palau, do dive with Sam's Tours. Palau also has some wrecks plus much more to do for non divers like snorkeling. Reefs are beautiful

ABOVE STATEMENTS TEACH US BIG LESSONS for our tourism and the way some of our visitors see our islands and associated surroundings. .

CALIFORNIAN CHILDREN DOCTORS HELP CHUUK



The Chuuk Pediatric screening team, under the supervision of the Pediatric unit, Public Health divi-

sion, MCH/CSHCN and FP programs, would like to express our profound gratitude to the Pediatric Cardiac Team from Children Hospital Orange County (CHOC) in California - "[Pacific Hearts](#)" for their unwavering commitment in providing vital

FONOTON MAYOR SEEKS ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FROM CVB

On January 15, newly elected Mayor of Fonoton Island, The Honorable Tommy Otis (left in photo), makes a visit to CVB Office soliciting support toward his island in areas of cleaning & beautification and tourism related activities. Congratulations to Mayor Otis! We look to working with him any way possible. CVB looks to engage more with municipal islands and communities this year.

