



Resilient coral reef ecosystems and fisheries management

Pacific BioScapes Programme - Marshall Islands

The Pacific BioScapes Programme aims to provide **enhanced local fisheries management capacity** and **national harvest strategies for key grouper species** in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Coral reef fisheries are fundamental for food and economic societies across the tropical Pacific. Yet, many nations are struggling to manage these fisheries. Recent surveys conducted across Micronesia highlighted how grouper species made up nearly 20% of all landings in several islands, including Majuro and Arno in the Marshall Islands. Unfortunately, many of those targeted groupers are especially vulnerable to uncontrolled exploitation, as shown by their extinction in several geographies across the region.

The Nature Conservancy will work alongside **Marshall Islands Conservation Society, Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority** and other key stakeholders and partners to enhance management of coral reef fisheries and resilience of coral reef ecosystems by building local capacity to develop robust evidence-based harvest strategies that contribute to economic prosperity, food security and healthy reefs.

CENTRAL ISSUES:



Vulnerable groupers are commonly fished in the Marshall Islands



Limited local capacity to monitor stocks



No harvesting strategy or fisheries management in place for groupers

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY SUMMARY:



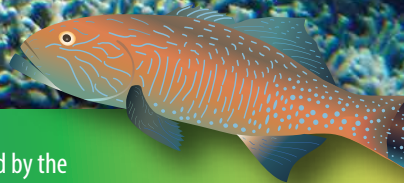
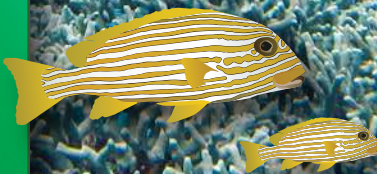
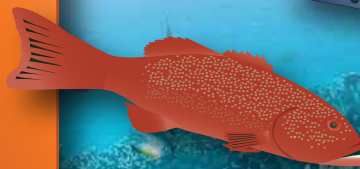
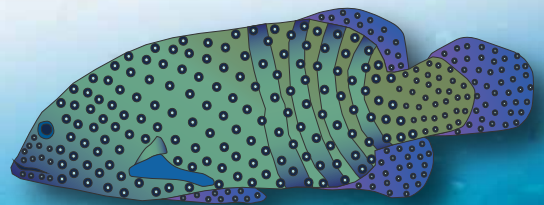
Develop local capacity for studying and managing fisheries stocks



Conduct formal assessments of key spawning species



Develop national harvest strategies for key grouper species with communities and the fishing industry



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