

# NA'A TARAWA CONSERVATION AREA KIRIBATI



## ECOTOURISM SCOPING STUDY

Prepared for  
the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme  
of  
the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme  
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# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- ▶▶ The objective of this assignment was to assess the ecotourism potential of the Na'a Tarawa Conservation Area, and to identify needs for planning of tourism development in Na'a Tarawa
- ▶▶ Na'a (North) Tarawa is well positioned to provide tourism products for visitors arriving in South Tarawa. There is a good range of tourism resources, and North Tarawa is relatively traditional and pristine compared to South Tarawa. North Tarawa is also close to South Tarawa
- ▶▶ With less than 500 tourists arriving in South Tarawa per annum, the current ecotourism potential is limited. Existing tourism products in North Tarawa also serve other markets (VFR, business visitors, residents). However, if tourist arrivals to South Tarawa increase, there could be a growing potential for North Tarawa communities to provide tourism products
- ▶▶ This report identifies several initiatives that could increase community participation in current tourism activity and prepare North Tarawa for possible future tourism growth
- ▶▶ It is recommended that the Buariki community and the two tourism operators in Buariki establish a forum to discuss management issues, and that the community also work with these operators to develop a community-based ecotour
- ▶▶ It is also recommended that Nabeina further develop their proposal for an ecotourism facility on Biketawa Island, focussing on providing a tour, day use facilities and possible overnight accommodation
- ▶▶ In preparation for possible future growth of North Tarawa tourism, it is recommended that the Conservation Area develop a closer partnership with the Kiribati Visitors Bureau and with FSP project activities in North Tarawa
- ▶▶ It is also recommended that the North Tarawa Island Council and all relevant stakeholders consider developing conditions for Council tourism licenses. Conditions could be linked to product quality and environmental standards. Licenses could also provide revenue for conservation project activities
- ▶▶ Tour Product Development training planned by KVB should also include representatives from Nabeina and Buariki.

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## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Background

Na'a Tarawa Conservation Area (NTCA) in the Republic of Kiribati, is a community-based conservation area.

**Tarawa atoll** comprises two distinct parts:

- ➔ the north (Na'a Tarawa) with a population of around 4000 and a largely subsistence economy
- ➔ the south, a series of islets connected by causeways, which houses the nation's capital and government infrastructure, and a large population of around 35,000
- ➔ the NTCA stretches from the islet of Buota in the centre of Tarawa, to Buariki and Na'a in the north (refer **Map 1**)

The conservation area project is managed by the Environment and Conservation Division (ECD) of the Kiribati Ministry of Economic and Social Development (MESD), and is supported by the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

### 2.2 Introduction to this Report

SPREP commissioned this assignment. Its **objective** was to:

“To assess the potential and needs for the planning of future ecotourism development in the Na'a Tarawa Conservation Area as an income-generating activity for the local communities involved in the project”.

- ➔ This report is primarily focussed on **six communities** which indicated interest in ecotourism development through the NTCA Coordinating Committee (CACC). These communities are: **Buariki, Tearinibai, Nuatabu, Taratai, Notoue and Nabeina**
- ➔ Field work was undertaken by Rob Macalister of *terra firma associates* (TFA) and Bwere Eritaia, the Conservation Area Support Officer (CASO) for the NTCA
- ➔ The outcomes of research undertaken during fieldwork are documented in **Sections 3-5** of this report
- ➔ Six days were spent in North Tarawa undertaking site surveys and community consultation. An additional three days were spent in

South Tarawa in consultations with the Kiribati Visitors Bureau (KVB), the Tarawa tourism industry and other stakeholders.

## 2.3 Acknowledgements

The participation of the following people was essential for tourism planning at Na'a Tarawa.

***Ko Raba (Thank You)*** to the following people:

- ➔ Bwere Eritaia, NTCA Conservation Area Support Officer (CASO) who managed the field work and was a partner in planning
- ➔ Teem Uriam, Kiribati Visitors Bureau (KVB)
- ➔ stakeholder representatives of Buariki, Tearinibai, Nuatabu, Taratai, Abaokoro and Nabeina, who gave their time for interviews
- ➔ the communities of Buariki, Tearinibai, Nuatabu, Taratai, Notoue, Abaokoro and Nabeina
- ➔ Levani Tuinabua, Chief Executive of South Pacific Tourism Organization (SPTO- formerly TCSP)
- ➔ Chairman of the North Tarawa Island Council
- ➔ Sasake-san and Nakamura-san of Mauri Paradise
- ➔ Karea Baireti and staff, Kiribati Holidays
- ➔ Val Gavriloff, Hideaway Holidays (Australia): James Sowane, Travel Arrangements (Fiji)
- ➔ Mike Strubb, Buariki Guest House
- ➔ John and Molly Brown, Molly's Tours
- ➔ Peter Scarlett, Buota Lodge
- ➔ Angie Palmer, Otintaai Hotel
- ➔ Inatio Teanako, Marys Enterprises
- ➔ Leonie Smiley, Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific
- ➔ Francois Martel, SPREP, who managed this assignment.

## 2.4 Abbreviations Used

CACC	Conservation Area Coordinating Committee
CASO	Conservation Area Support Officer
ECD	Environment and Conservation Division
FSP	Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific
KVB	Kiribati Visitors Bureau
MESD	Ministry of Economic and Social Development
NTCA	Na'a Tarawa Conservation Area
NTIC	North Tarawa Island Council
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SPTO	South Pacific Tourism Organization
TCSP	Tourism Council of the South Pacific
TFA	<i>terra firma associates</i>
VFR	(Visitors for the purpose of) Visiting Friends and Relatives

# MAP 1: Tarawa Atoll and Location of North Tarawa Conservation Area

**Legend:**

-----	Conservation Area Boundary
●	Conservation Area Boundary Markers

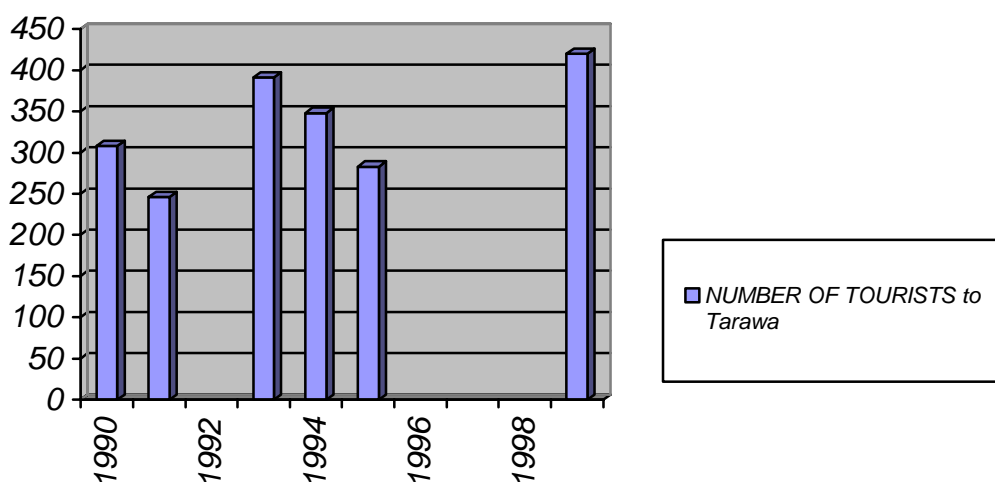
## 3. TOURISM IN KIRIBATI

### 3.1 Past and Current Tourism

A 1997 TCSP Marketing and Development Plan for Kiribati, noted that Kiribati has the second lowest number of tourists in the region, and that “tourism earnings are far below their potential”.

There are two separate **visitor ‘hubs’** in Kiribati, that have different markets and connections:

- ⇒ Kiritimati (Christmas Island): is primarily a holiday destination and received 925 visitors who arrived by air for the purpose of holiday in 1999. A number of cruise ships also visit Kiritimati
- ⇒ Tarawa: is primarily a business destination, with large numbers of visitors for the purpose of business. Visitor arrival data is unclear, but an estimated 1500-2000 visitors for the purpose of business arrive in Tarawa per annum. Tarawa also has a significant number of arrivals for the purpose of visiting friends and relatives (VFR). Approximately 1200 VFR arrived in Tarawa in 1999, although a large percentage would be I-Kiribati expatriates. Holiday arrivals (tourists) have remained between 300 and 500 per annum in the last decade.



SOURCE: TCSP 1997, KVB 2000

There is little information about the background or **behavior of visitors** in Tarawa, or specifically about tourists to Tarawa. Drawing upon the only Visitor Survey (TCSP 1993), research undertaken within the 1997 TCSP Plan, and industry consultations, the following general characteristics have been identified about visitors to Tarawa:

- ⇒ visitor arrivals (part from I-Kiribati) are spread between the key markets of North America, Australia/ NZ, UK/ Europe and Japan
- ⇒ visitors are predominantly male
- ⇒ a large percentage of tourists (87% in 1993) stay less than 7 nights
- ⇒ the coastal defense guns in Betio and Tarawa Lagoon were the most popular attractions for all visitors
- ⇒ very few pleasure tourists visited islands other than Tarawa or Kiritimati
- ⇒ VFR tend to travel more widely within Kiribati
- ⇒ 21% of all visitors travel to North Tarawa. In 1993, significant percentages of Japanese (41%) and European (31%) visitors traveled to North Tarawa
- ⇒ in 1993, North Tarawa was the 5<sup>th</sup> most visited site for pleasure tourists to Kiribati
- ⇒ in 1993, pleasure tourists ranked the following attractions in priority order:
  - friendly, helpful people (90%)
  - relaxed atmosphere (74%)
  - peace/ serenity (69%)
  - beautiful scenery (68%)
  - warm sunny beaches (55%)
  - culture, folklore (54%).
- ⇒ in 1993, organized tours constituted less than 5% of pleasure tourists' expenditure (less than handicrafts).

Reflecting the low levels of tourism visitation to Tarawa, there are few tourism activities in Tarawa. Tourists often commented during surveys conducted under the 1997 TCSP Plan “that it was difficult to find out about, or to arrange anything, on Tarawa”. Most hotels are oriented to serving the business market, and only one tour operates in South Tarawa (the Betio Battlefield tour operated by Molly's Tours). There has been little to no Tarawa participation in overseas marketing or promotion.



**In summary:**

- ⇒ Tarawa has a very small pleasure tourist market. However, VFR, businesspeople, and residents also provide significant market opportunities for Tarawa tourism products
- ⇒ Tarawa offers little in the way of organised tourism. There is only one organized tour available in South Tarawa and hotels are oriented to serving the business market.
- ⇒ North Tarawa is itself an attraction to visitors, particularly because of easy access from South Tarawa, but also because South Tarawa is polluted and overcrowded, in contrast to a relatively traditional and unspoiled North Tarawa
- ⇒ Tourists to Tarawa tend to stay in Kiribati for a short time and do not travel away from Tarawa

## 3.2 Tourism Development

The 1997 TCSP Plan identified several **issues** that should be addressed for tourism activity in Tarawa to grow. In priority order these were:

- ⇒ quality and supply of accommodation
- ⇒ development of products which permit tourists to spend
- ⇒ incentives for business development
- ⇒ environmental issues, specifically, the condition of Tarawa Lagoon, and litter and waste.

Specifically the 1997 TCSP Plan recommended:

- ⇒ that a “private sector developer .. develop a 20 bedroom hotel in North Tarawa’
- ⇒ encouragement for the development of individual bungalows in Tarawa
- ⇒ development of tour products, for which a range of areas were identified, including angling/ fishing, sailing, other marine sports, and cycling
- ⇒ a code of minimum standards for accommodation and tour products is developed.

**Kiribati Visitors Bureau (KVB)** has a Work Plan 1999-2001 to address tourism development issues. KVB activities include improvement of Tarawa’s ‘flagship’ hotel, the government-owned Otintai Hotel, and

facilitating tourism operators, including the accommodation sector, to develop tour operations or sales outlets.

There are positive signs for the growth of tourism arrivals into Tarawa.

- ⇒ destination marketing has recently gathered momentum with Millennium publicity, production by KVB and SPTO of appropriate materials, and private sector initiatives (such as Kiribati Holidays publications)
- ⇒ access to Tarawa is improving with new commercially-minded management of Air Nauru and the introduction of Air Fiji services scheduled for April 2000
- ⇒ the Tarawa private sector is developing awareness of tourism business opportunities, and beginning to develop new tourism enterprises (such as Molly's Tours, Kiribati Holidays, NTCA communities). As a private sector initiative, this is a very healthy sign for further development of the tourism industry and growth in tourist arrivals.

**In summary:**

- ⇒ Development of new product is a priority need for the tourism industry in Tarawa
- ⇒ North Tarawa has been recognized as having a good opportunity to provide new product for the tourism industry
- ⇒ The need to develop minimum standards and a management regime for tourism activity in Kiribati has also been recognized
- ⇒ Recent developments and tourism industry initiatives are laying a healthy basis for possible future growth of the Tarawa tourism industry.

## 4. TOURISM IN NORTH TARAWA

### 4.1 Tourism Resources

North Tarawa covers a large area. Site surveys were undertaken around a number of communities within the Conservation Area. North Tarawa has a number of tourism resources.

#### Strengths

- easy access to some parts of North Tarawa from the capital South Tarawa
- relatively traditional communities
- beautiful, natural scenery
- warm, sunny beaches
- traditional fish traps
- the Conservation Area itself
- traditional shrines
- reef and marine resources
- war history.

#### Weaknesses

- northern parts of North Tarawa reasonably far from South Tarawa
- no organized tourism transport to North Tarawa
- poor communication links to North Tarawa
- reliance on boat transport: weather conditions can make travel difficult
- not as traditional as other atolls in Kiribati
- no single charismatic and internationally unique feature.

### 4.2 Accommodation

There is limited organized tourism activity in North Tarawa. **Table 1** following, identifies current and past tourism accommodation.

Table 1: North Tarawa Accommodation

Name	Owned by	Description	Market	Comments
Mauri Paradise Eco-Resort	Japanese expatriates in ST - leases land off Buariki family	In Buariki Village 2-3 bush accomm. huts	Inbound divers Resident expatriates/ weekend divers	* mainly a dive operation * offers limited range of other tour activity * established in 93 * aiming for 150/60 pax in 2000 (approx. 100 in 1999)
Buariki Guest House	Swiss expatriate in ST - married locally	North of Buariki Village 4 accom. huts	Mainly resident expatriates/ VFR Some inbound tourists	* only established in 1999 * owner aims to keep it small, not as a dedicated tourist facility * has range of activities (hobie-cat yacht etc) and a 2 hr self guided walk
Abaokoro Guest House	North Tarawa Island Council	In Abaokoro 8 rooms in single accomm. building	Principally business/ government visitors Occasional tourist	* buildings in need of repair * visitors book indicates that from 1992-1997, an average of 5-8 tourists per annum stay here
Raion Homestay	Local businessman	Southern end of Abatao	Locals Occasional tourist	Bar the biggest attraction
Karea Homestay	Local businessman	Southern end of Abatao	Occasional tourist	Not heavily marketed
Buota Lodge	Australian expatriate resident in Buota	Buota 4 accomm. units in 2 duplexes	Business/ long term visitors Occasional tourist	* Newly established * Primarily for long term working visitors * road access from South Tarawa

Of these accommodation providers, only Mauri Paradise has a specific focus on the tourist market. However, even they have had to rely principally on resident expatriates, until recently, for the bulk of their business. Buariki Guest House would have a lot of appeal to inbound tourists, but it is the owners intent to keep it as low key operation primarily for use by himself and other residents. The three

accommodations near South Tarawa (Abatao and Buota) are not focussed on tourism or are ‘part-time’ ventures.

### 4.3 Tours

A number of tours have been or are currently operated in North Tarawa.

Table 2: North Tarawa Tours

<b>Tour Operated by</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Mauri Paradise	Apart from diving, MP operate a number of tours/ tour activities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- traditional fishing</li> <li>- traditional dancing</li> <li>- village tour</li> </ul>	Run irregularly: clients mainly dive oriented, or locals/ residents Japanese managers tending to operate some tours themselves
Buariki Guest House	BGH has a range of un-guided activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- including hobie cat yacht, fishing equipment, snorkeling</li> <li>- offers a self guided 2 hour walk around Buariki area</li> </ul>	Most clients to date have been locals, who prefer to relax and fish etc Some tourists have done the self guided walk but did not work very well for them
Marys Motel, South Tarawa	MM operate tours to NT on request, using their boat. Usually go to Notoue, Tabiteuea, or Buariki	Operates about 10 trips p.a., for tourists/ visitors and locals. Activities not organized in NT until boat arrives
Otintaai Hotel, South Tarawa	Advertised a “Lagoon Tour” and a “Across the Island Trek”	1997 TCSP Plan notes the NT tour “well-supported” but “ad-hoc”. These tours not currently operated – no set itinerary.

These tours or tour activities are either:

- ad hoc tours operated by a South Tarawa hotel exclusively for their guests, on demand (and not promoted or advertised widely)
- designed for guests at the Buariki guesthouses, and again not designed or promoted for a wider market.

Although North Tarawa is well-positioned as a ‘rest and relaxation’ destination (swimming, beaches) there are opportunities for structured tour activities. No tour operator has effectively developed the market for this kind of product in North Tarawa. The one organised tour offered in South Tarawa received over 100 clients in 1999.

## 5. COMMUNITY and STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

### 5.1 Community Consultation

Community consultation was undertaken in five NTCA communities. These communities were selected as they had identified, through the CACC, an interest in pursuing tourism development as an income-generating activity:

- ★ Buariki
- ★ Tearinibai
- ★ Nuatabu
- ★ Taratai
- ★ Nabeina

Consultation was through individual/ family interviews rather than group meetings. A series of standard, open questions were used. Interviews included representatives from a range of stakeholder groups, including CACC members, village councilors, men, women, youth and church representatives.

Extended interviews were undertaken at **Buariki**, given that two tourism accommodations have been established in, or adjacent to, the village. The focus of these extended interviews was the participation opportunities presented to the community by these businesses.

Because of transport difficulties, the time spent in Nabeina was reduced and only two community interviews were undertaken. If tourism development is to proceed in Nabeina then further community consultation should be undertaken. One other community (Notoue) expressed interest in ecotourism through CACC, however, they were not included in consultations during fieldwork.

### 5.2 Community Consultation Outcomes

The main outcomes of the community consultation in four of the communities are shown in the following **Table 3**. Consultation outcomes for Buariki are discussed separately.

<b>Community</b>	<b>Evaluation of Past Activity</b>	<b>Hopes for Future Tourism</b>	<b>Concerns for Future Tourism</b>	<b>Issues</b>
Tearinibai (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- no past tourism activity at Tearinibai</li> <li>- seen financial benefits at Buariki though</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- promote employment and income</li> <li>- community rather than outsider projects preferred</li> <li>- revenue to support community projects</li> <li>- encourage replanting traditional species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- social and cultural impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- elders need to control tourism</li> <li>- community rather than family groups should operate tourism: rotate benefits around community</li> <li>- Island Council have role in tourism management</li> </ul>
Nuatabu (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- no past activity at Nuatabu</li> <li>- in Buariki, believe benefits go mainly to expats not communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Councilor proposed to develop a guesthouse</li> <li>- hope to promote income and sales of handicrafts through tourism</li> <li>- community rather than outsider projects preferred</li> <li>- revenue to support community projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- tourist behavior</li> <li>- respect Sunday rules</li> <li>- disease</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- church: shrines OK as tourism attraction</li> <li>- Island Council and community to work together to manage tourism</li> <li>- Island Council to register tourism businesses</li> <li>- Community rather than family groups should do tourism</li> </ul>
Taratai (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- no past tourism activity</li> <li>- one day a year large number of visitors for ceremony at British memorial</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Councilor has developed plan to build guesthouse</li> <li>- Hope to promote income and cultural revival through tourism</li> <li>- Revenue to support community projects</li> <li>- Community rather than outsider projects preferred</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- community mismanage money</li> <li>- social and cultural impacts, esp. on youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- community rather than family groups should do tourism</li> <li>- Island Council have role: to foster new projects, and projects to register with Council</li> </ul>
Nabeina (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- frequent visitation to Biketawa by ST residents</li> <li>- no particular problems from this ST use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council of Elders approved plan to develop a lodge on Biketawa: community fund established already</li> <li>- Want whole community involved:</li> <li>- Revival of traditional culture and sale of handicrafts main objective</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- social- cultural impact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Island Council should have some role in management, in licensing and educating community</li> </ul>

### **In summary:**

- ★ Three of the four communities outside Buariki had plans to develop their own tourist accommodation:
  - Nuatabu: inspired by seeing the tourists visiting Mauri Paradise
  - Taratai: particularly responding to the influx of visitors one day a year for the ceremony at the British memorial
  - Nabeina: in response to the frequent visitation by South Tarawa residents
- ★ The motivation for these plans, and the hopes for tourism, are principally:
  - to gain income through employment and sale of handicrafts
  - to have a community-owned and operated project
  - to revive custom and tradition
- ★ the most common concern regarding tourism was the social and cultural impacts it could cause
- ★ many of those interviewed specifically identified a role for the North Tarawa Island Council in tourism management
- ★ it was also commonly said that tourism projects should benefit and involve the whole community, not single family groups.

## **5.3 Community Consultation Outcomes: Buariki**

In Buariki, seven interviews were undertaken covering all stakeholder groups. The outcomes of Buariki consultation are summarised in Table 4.

### **In summary:**

- ★ in general there was a good relationship with the two expatriate tourism businesses at Buariki, and this is a credit to the management of both businesses
- ★ however, issues regarding payments, diving awareness and employment were commonly mentioned. These issues need to be addressed
- ★ the community are keen to see their income opportunities develop further, particularly through sale of handicrafts and employment
- ★ there was strong support for the NTIC to assume a role in tourism management.



Table 4: Buariki Community Consultation

<b>Evaluation of Past/ Current Tourism</b>	<b>Good Things</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to get some income through employment, sales, handicrafts (6)</li> <li>- expatriate tourism managers join in community activity (3)</li> <li>- tourist behavior etc OK (2)</li> <li>- Improves local skills</li> <li>- Promotes Buariki's reputation</li> </ul> <b>Bad Things</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guesthouses pay too little (3)</li> <li>- Not sure what divers doing underwater (3)</li> <li>- not employing tour guides (2)</li> <li>- MP tell Buariki custom stories</li> <li>- Tourists taking photos</li> <li>- 1-2 family groups get most benefits</li> </ul>
<b>Hopes for Future</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sell more handicrafts etc (5)</li> <li>- community provide traditional dancing, tour guiding, other 'jobs' (5)</li> <li>- hope in future community can develop own projects</li> </ul>
<b>Concerns for Future</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- foreign disease (2)</li> <li>- change in local culture</li> <li>- divers damaging the reef</li> <li>- disruption of village life</li> <li>- stealing by village youth</li> <li>- too many tourists come</li> </ul>
<b>Issues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Island Council should have role in management (4)</li> <li>- Need fixed prices for food, handicrafts etc (2)</li> <li>- there should be an Agreement between the community and tourism projects</li> <li>- Church can help set rules for tourism and tourist behavior etc</li> </ul>

## 5.4 Other Stakeholders

A range of stakeholders also have interests in ecotourism development in North Tarawa.

These stakeholders include:

- KVB** hope to develop tourism that is profitable but also sustainable and compatible with the evolution of Kiribati culture
- MESD** hope to see tourism activity that has minimal impact on the environment
- FSP** an important NGO in Kiribati, FSP is already very active in South Tarawa environmental issues. FSP hope to expand their programmes in North Tarawa and to establish a project to encourage tourism operators to follow best practice
- NTIC** NTIC is the local government authority covering the communities in the NTCA. The Island Council hopes to see more businesses established in North Tarawa, and thus provide revenue for local communities but also for NTIC itself. NTIC's key tourism concern is tourist clothing and social and cultural impacts
- SPREP** as the sponsor of the NTCA and a key funding agency, SPREP's key hope is that income generating activities within the NTCA will have a net conservation benefit
- Tourism Industry**  
Tourism industry partners in South Tarawa are keen to see new products develop in North Tarawa that they can sell, or which would otherwise promote Kiribati tourism. Tourism industry partners overseas also wish to see more product developed, but also to see appropriate standards established, particularly in regards safety and reliability of product.

## 6. APPRAISAL

The following appraisal is a summary of the main issues related to community ecotourism development in North Tarawa. The issues were identified during fieldwork, and are discussed in **Sections 3-5** of this report.

The appraisal identifies:

- ☆ factors that are **strengths** for community ecotourism development within the NTCA
- ☆ factors that are **weaknesses** for community ecotourism development within the NTCA
- ☆ **opportunities** for, and **threats** to, community ecotourism development.

### 6.1 Ecotourism Strengths

- ☆ North Tarawa is relatively pristine and traditional, compared to South Tarawa
- ☆ North Tarawa (particularly Nabeina) is close to the main visitor 'hub' of South Tarawa,
- ☆ there is an existing demand for current North Tarawa tourism products and attractions (such as, Biketawa Island near Nabeina, Buariki guest houses)
- ☆ there is an existing (but limited) demand from a range of visitor markets (VFR, business people, tourists, residents) for more tourism products in Tarawa
- ☆ there are prospects that tourist arrivals into Tarawa will increase in future years
- ☆ there are some interesting and unique tourism resources in North Tarawa, such as fish traps, the conservation area, traditional shrines, and local culture. North Tarawa also has an abundance of white sand beaches and safe swimming areas
- ☆ the conservation area establishes a system for sustainably managing the natural environment of North Tarawa
- ☆ there is a healthy relationship between the two tourism projects in Buariki and Buariki community stakeholders
- ☆ a number of NTCA communities are keen to see ecotourism develop
- ☆ other stakeholders are keen to participate in North Tarawa ecotourism development (such as FSP, KVB).

## 6.2 Ecotourism Weaknesses

- ☆ few tourists currently visit Tarawa and the current visitor market can only sustain a limited range of tourism products
- ☆ the tourism industry on Tarawa is small and offers little support to new tourism projects
- ☆ there is generally low levels of community tourism awareness and experience, particularly away from Buariki
- ☆ conditions on the lagoon can make travel to North Tarawa difficult
- ☆ communication with North Tarawa is often unreliable
- ☆ there is no single, internationally charismatic tourism attraction on North Tarawa.

## 6.3 Opportunities for Ecotourism Development

- ☆ there is a limited market opportunity to provide new tourism products for current Tarawa visitors (including the VFR and business market), and South Tarawa residents
- ☆ there may be a greater range of opportunities for North Tarawa to provide tourism products if the number of tourist arrivals into Tarawa increases
- ☆ there is an opportunity to establish North Tarawa as the principal tourism destination for visitors to Tarawa, given proximity to South Tarawa and the range of tourism resources
- ☆ there is an opportunity to work with and develop partnerships with existing, expatriate tourism operators in North Tarawa, to increase community benefits.

## 6.4 Threats/ Risks to Ecotourism Development

- ☆ the Kiribati and Tarawa tourism industry does not grow, or it may even shrink (this may have many causes)
- ☆ degradation of the North Tarawa environment and culture (for example, through new road access from South Tarawa into North Tarawa, or increased population)
- ☆ lack of North Tarawa community support for tourism if community concerns are not addressed (for example, regarding social impacts or financial management)
- ☆ poor quality tourism products in North Tarawa undermines the area's tourism potential.

## 7. ECOTOURISM POTENTIAL

Clearly there is limited ecotourism development potential for North Tarawa at this stage. However, if tourism arrivals into Tarawa increase, there may be a growing ecotourism potential for the NTCA.

Into at least the medium term, it is assumed that a significant majority of tourists arriving in Kiribati at Tarawa, will be likely to stay on Tarawa and seek activities within Tarawa, given:

- ✪ current and past tourist behavior (tourists staying a short time in Kiribati, staying mainly on Tarawa with a minimum of internal travel) and
- ✪ common patterns throughout the Pacific, where tourism growth is concentrated on a central island (such as Efate in Vanuatu, Rarotonga in Cook Islands).

Thus ecotourism potential in this report should be viewed in two contexts:

- ✪ **currently**, where there is only a limited potential to provide tourism products to a small number of tourists, but also to the VFR, business and local markets
- ✪ **in the future**, when if tourism arrivals to Tarawa grow, there will be a good growth of tourism participation opportunities for local NTCA communities. Some of the requirements for growth in Tarawa tourism arrivals are identified in Section 3.

In this context, the limited ecotourism development initiatives proposed in Section 8 of this report, should also be seen as important steps to:

- ✪ prepare the NTCA communities for possible increased ecotourism participation opportunities in the future
- ✪ establish a system to manage tourism at an early stage of tourism development, to minimize impacts on the environment, and on social and cultural values.

## **8. ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES**

### **8.1 Development Objectives**

The following ecotourism development initiatives are recommended for NTCA. They are designed to:

- develop NTCA community capacity and experience with regards tourism
- demonstrate and establish best environmental practice from the outset
- develop market reputation and market demand for NTCA tourism products, by supplying quality products from the outset
- strengthen partnerships between NTCA communities, the tourism industry and other stakeholders (KVB, FSP etc)
- establish a system to manage tourism in NTCA.

### **8.2 Buariki**

There is scope to increase the opportunities for the Buariki community to participate in the current tourism activities. This could see more benefits going to the community. However, the community should have reasonable and realistic expectations regarding the level of benefits they may receive from tourism. The following ecotourism development initiatives are recommended for Buariki.

#### **8.2.1 Establishment of a local tourism management group, or committee**

- this should comprise representatives from Mauri Paradise, Buariki Guest House, and local community stakeholders
- other stakeholders (such as FSP, KVB, NT Island Council) should be given the opportunity to participate as required
- the management group can be informal and irregular, but there should be structured opportunities to discuss issues and to facilitate open communication. This open communication is in everyone's interests, to address issues before they become problems

- CASO or NTCA Conservation Area staff, may assist to organize and facilitate this management group
- this proposal was discussed with both tourism operators. Buariki Guest House were very supportive and said they planned something similar anyway. Mauri Paradise also indicated that they would participate
- the management group should address the following issues:
  - community participation
  - payments
  - diving awareness
  - other issues as identified by the stakeholders.

### **8.2.2 The Buariki community works with the two tourism operators to establish and operate a small ecotour programme**

- it is recommended that the tours investigated for development are initially:
  - a two-hour guided interpretive walk, based on the self guided walk already used by Buariki Guest House
  - a structured traditional dancing/ village welcome programme
- concept plans for the two tours are included in **Appendix 1**
- these tours should be sold through the two guesthouses. A small commission can be paid to the guesthouses for selling these tours if required
- as there is only a small market for these tours from the guesthouses, the tours should also be sold to tour operators in South Tarawa. These operators may include them in a day tour programme for occasional clients, using South Tarawa boats for transport to Buariki. A reliable communication system would be required if the tours are to be used by South Tarawa operators. Buariki Guest House has a satellite phone that could be used
- as the principal client for these tours, the two guesthouses should be intimately involved in design of Buariki community tours
- although these tours would have a small market initially (50 clients in the first year of operation would be a good result), it provides an opportunity to increase benefits to the Buariki community, improve relations between the community and tourism operators, and increase Buariki tourism experience and understanding

- issues relating to establishment and management of the enterprise are beyond the scope of this report. However, it would be useful if Buariki guesthouse management also gave management support to this small enterprise.

## 8.3 Nabeina

Nabeina has a strong ecotourism advantage over other communities covered in this report, due to its proximity to South Tarawa. It is less far to travel, and travel is less susceptible to bad weather conditions. Biketawa Island near Nabeina village, is also already an existing destination for South Tarawa residents, particularly as a day trip. The following is recommended for Nabeina.

### 8.3.1 Support be given to further develop Nabeina's proposal to develop a small ecotourism project

- Nabeina should develop a day tour designed as a day trip for tourists, VFR and businessmen from South Tarawa. A concept plan for this tour is found in **Appendix 1**
- Nabeina should, in consultation with current users, develop facilities for South Tarawa day trippers to Biketawa<sup>1</sup>. A concept plan for these facilities is also found in **Appendix 1**
- the Nabeina proposal to develop three accommodation units is also worth investigation. However, additional planning work is recommended before accommodation is established:
  - over the next few months, existing visitors to Nabeina should be surveyed regarding their views on accommodation and facilities being developed on Biketawa. A draft survey form (list of questions) is included as **Appendix 3**
  - further discussion of the proposal within the community is also recommended.
- a critical issue to address for Nabeina is having reliable communications with South Tarawa. Tourism agents would be hesitant to sell Nabeina's overnight accommodation and day tour if there is not a reliable communication system in place. Similarly, reliable transport providers would need to be identified. Partnerships with transport operators and booking agents would need to be developed

<sup>1</sup> A similar facility exists at Buota, and is very popular with South Tarawa residents, although Buota has the advantage of road access from South Tarawa.



- as with Buariki, issues relating to management of the Nabeina enterprise are beyond the scope of this report. The enterprise should, however, be developed in close consultation with sales agents in Tarawa, who would sell Nabeina's products (e.g: Molly's Tours). The Tarawa tourism industry could also usefully provide management support.

## 8.4 Notoue, Tearinibai, Taratai, and Nuatabu

It is not recommended that these communities engage in tourism development activities at present, as they would be less likely to succeed in the short term. The following is recommended.

### 8.4.1 Awareness should be undertaken within Notoue, Tearinibai, Taratai, and Nuatabu as to why ecotourism development would be unlikely to succeed at present

- awareness- particularly in Nuatabu and Taratai, who are already thinking about starting their own project – should be a priority. Awareness should help the communities to decide whether to proceed with tourism development at this stage
- in conducting awareness it is recommended that emphasis be given to the following points:
  - Nabeina has the comparative advantage of being close to South Tarawa and already a destination for locals, and
  - Buariki has the advantage of being the host community for two guest houses and thus have participation opportunities arising from that
  - there is still only a small tourist market in Tarawa, of less than 500 tourists per year. This number of people can only support a limited number of projects.
- these communities can be encouraged to look at other income generating activities for which they do have a comparative advantage, and look at developing tourism in the future, if the number of tourist arrivals to Tarawa increases.

## 8.5 Other Initiatives

As well as developing new tourism products, it is also recommended that actions be taken to facilitate tourism development and management in the NTCA.

### 8.5.1 NTCA develop a close working partnership with KVB regarding ecotourism development in the NTCA

- North Tarawa has good prospects to be a growth area for Kiribati tourism. KVB have a lot to offer in terms of support for NTCA ecotourism development
- It would be beneficial for KVB to participate in NTCA tourism development, through, for example, participating in the CACC and providing extension visits. NTCA community representatives should be targeted by KVB for any training or other support work offered by or through KVB.

### 8.5.2 NTCA and FSP should work cooperatively to develop best practice operations for North Tarawa tourism accommodations

- FSP intends to develop a project to encourage tourism operators in North Tarawa to adopt best practice<sup>2</sup>
- for example, best practice in tourism activities includes:
  - appropriate waste management (sewerage, tins, rubbish bins etc)
  - best practice dive operation (reef anchoring etc)
  - water conservation
  - best practice can also cover social and cultural issues, as well as environmental aspects of operation
- the two projects at Buariki already have good management practices- others in North Tarawa have scope to improve. This project would need to offer incentives for tourism operators to participate, and include an education/ awareness component
- this project is strongly supported and NTCA should work cooperatively with FSP in design and implementation of the project.

<sup>2</sup> The FSP project is in planning stage and is currently unnamed. Further information on the project will be forwarded to SPREP as it becomes available

### 8.5.3 Stakeholders should discuss the proposal that the North Tarawa Island Council develop a role in setting license conditions for tourism projects

- it is preferable that tourism operators in North Tarawa voluntarily comply with minimum environmental standards and best practice. That is, tourism operators comply with minimum standards and best practice because they see it as being in their best interest to do so. The FSP project should aim to encourage voluntary compliance by, for example, developing awareness and understanding of the relationship between a healthy environment and a healthy tourism business
- however, stakeholders may also wish to consider enforcing compliance to environmental standards and best practice. This can be achieved through the NTIC business licenses. Community consultation indicated that there was grass-roots support for NTIC involvement in management of tourism
- at present, all businesses in North Tarawa must have a NTIC license to operate. The NTIC collects a set fee (A\$500 per annum) for this license
- this license could be linked to minimum standards and best practice operation. That is, the license could only be issued if the business meets certain standards, such as:
  - the ecotourism business has good environmental practices
  - the ecotourism businesses meets certain quality standards (clean toilets and showers, community values protected etc)
- these standards could be linked to activities developed under the proposed FSP/NTCA project (8.5.2), and community concerns regarding social and cultural impacts (refer Section 5)
- it is recommended that a meeting of relevant stakeholders be convened to discuss how best to achieve best practice operations by tourism operators in North Tarawa. Relevant stakeholders include FSP, NTIC, NTCA, KVB and the tourism industry. It is important that minimum standards are realistic, and that tourism industry representatives and communities have a say in formulating those standards, as they are the ones who would have to comply with them
- issues to be discussed by stakeholders include:

- reasons why developing minimum standards for tourism operation is important in North Tarawa (for example, a clean environment is the best tourism resource for North Tarawa. Similarly, if quality products are established from the outset, market demand for North Tarawa tourism should increase)
- FSP project: what is its scope? Will it address all issues? Will it require some enforcement as back-up?
- minimum standards: should these be restricted to environmental issues or extend into social and other issues?
- how to reduce the burden of compliance for operators (eg: additional costs). Although NTIC have a pressing need for income, the current license fee is already demanding for new tourism operators. NTIC may wish to consider reducing license fees for compliant ecotourism businesses, in recognition of investments they have made to meet the minimum standards
- use of NTIC revenue from license fees. Some of this revenue could be directed to funding the ongoing operation of the NTCA project itself. Tourist operators may support their fees being used to fund activities of benefit to tourism (eg: conservation) rather than disappearing into NTIC general revenues
- NTIC may also face challenges in enforcement and management of the license conditions. Staff training may be required, or perhaps another stakeholder (such as KVB) could help with enforcement on delegated authority from NTIC.

#### **8.5.4 Provision of support to Nabeina and Buariki communities to develop their tour products and tourism projects**

- it is recommended that support be provided to the Nabeina and Buariki communities to develop plans for the tourism enterprises identified in this report. Participative Tour Product Development training, with the outcomes of designing products and drafting Business Plans for Buariki and Nabeina, is recommended
- KVB have their own plans to seek donor funding for this type of training on a wider scale within Tarawa. It is recommended that NTCA liaise with KVB regarding these plans and secure the inclusion of Buariki and Nabeina in any training delivered. Some additional funding may be sought

from SPREP for follow-up. Involvement of a new donor in NTCA tourism training may be an effective part of NTCA's transition strategy as SPBCP draws to a close

- KVB involvement in delivery of the training is recommended as the beginning of a KVB/ NTCA partnership for North Tarawa ecotourism development.

## 8.6 Conservation Links

Conservation outcomes can be strengthened through this proposal by:

- directing increased benefits from tourism in North Tarawa to NTCA communities
- training and awareness activities should seek to develop community conservation awareness, and understanding of the link between a healthy environment and a healthy tourism industry
- setting environmental standards for tourism operators in North Tarawa. This is best achieved through the proposed FSP project, but can also be enforced through setting basic conditions to licenses.

A further issue is how ecotourism activity can contribute to funding of the NTCA itself. From 2002, the NTCA is planned to be managed by the NTIC:

- it is possible that a proportion of the fees paid by tourism businesses for NTIC business licenses, be directed to funding the ongoing operation and conservation activities of the NTCA project itself. Part of the business license payment would thus be used to maintain a healthy environment in North Tarawa
- another alternative is that a conservation fee be levied direct on visitors. NTIC collection of this fee could be collected through tourism operators, similar to a bed tax. However, this is operationally more complex, requiring reliable visitor records, and retrospective collection.

## 8.7 Future Development

It may be appropriate to consider development of the following concepts in the future, if the North Tarawa tourism industry grows.

**Handicraft Sales** sale of handicrafts was a common hope identified by communities for tourism. More organised sales and marketing, through for example, establishing a handicraft shop or marketing scheme within North Tarawa, may be useful

**Cycling** a cycle tour from Buota to Na'a, or cycle tours within North Tarawa, are logistically feasible. They are likely to have only limited market appeal, mainly to FITs as a 'do-it-yourself' activity<sup>3</sup>. A business opportunity may exist to rent bicycles. Cycling could also connect the different accommodations

**Signage** provision of appropriate signage (such as at the Na'a fish traps, Japanese war memorial at Buariki, and British monument in Taratai) and printed information would enhance the visitor experience, particularly for FITs who do not join a guided, interpretive tour such as that suggested at Buariki. If tourism grows in North Tarawa, there may be a need to develop and implement a signage strategy

**Marine Activities** in the concept plan for Nabeina, inclusion of marine activities are encouraged. Marine activities are the mainstay of Pacific tourism, and North Tarawa has excellent opportunities to develop activities in this regard, such as windsurfing, traditional sailing, snorkeling, or fishing

**Abaokoro Rest House** this NTIC facility at the government centre of Abaokoro mainly caters to business and government visitors. It is doubtful whether the Rest House is a profitable enterprise for NTIC. Accordingly, NTIC may wish to consider sale or lease of this facility to a community group. This should be of net financial benefit to NTIC, and improve management of the facility. With some landscaping, basic maintenance, and incentive-based management, visitor nights at the Rest House could increase. However, it should be noted that the design of the Rest House, and its location, are not particularly attractive to tourists. Tourists are more likely to be attracted to lodges/ guesthouses, such as at Buariki, with a beach location and more private rooms.

<sup>3</sup> Motor scooter rental is also possible, although this activity brings noise pollution and other environmental impacts

## 9. IMPLEMENTATION

This section identifies initial actions and responsibilities for implementation of the eight recommendations in the report. As SPBCP draws to a close and a transition strategy is developed, it is understood that the CASO position within MESD is to be replaced by a **NTIC Conservation Officer** position. Accordingly, responsibilities identified for the CASO may become NTIC Conservation Officer responsibilities.

- 1. Establishment of a local tourism management group, or committee at Buariki**
  - 1.1 CASO to facilitate establishment and operation of this group
  
- 2. The Buariki community works with the two tourism operators to establish and operate a small ecotour programme**
  - 2.1 Community consider their opportunities to provide short tours
  - 2.2 CASO and community seek Buariki guesthouse managers support for the proposal, and facilitates their involvement in the design and operation of the tours
  - 2.3 CASO and KVB organize community participation in proposed tour product development workshop
  - 2.4 CASO and Buariki community seek Buariki tourism operators support for ongoing management of the community enterprise
  
- 3. Support be given to further develop Nabeina's proposal to develop a small ecotourism project**
  - 3.1 Community consider their opportunities to provide short tours, facilities for day visitors, and accommodation for overnight visitors
  - 3.2 CASO facilitates community to survey existing users of Biketawa island (draft survey in **Appendix 3**)
  - 3.3 CASO facilitates further community stakeholder discussion of the ecotourism development option
  - 3.4 CASO and KVB organize community participation in proposed tour product development workshop

- 3.5 CASO and Nabeina community seek KVB and tourism industry support for the developments at Nabeina
- 4. Awareness should be undertaken within Notoue, Tearinibai, Taratai, and Nuatabu as to why ecotourism development would be unlikely to succeed at present**
- 4.1 CASO undertakes ecotourism awareness with Notoue, Tearinibai, Taratai, and Nuatabu
- 5. NTCA develop a close working partnership with KVB regarding ecotourism development in the NTCA**
- 5.1 CASO initiate further discussions with KVB about ecotourism development in North Tarawa and jointly identify opportunities for KVB participation
- 6. NTCA and FSP should work cooperatively to develop best practice operations for North Tarawa tourism accommodations**
- 6.1 CASO discuss with FSP, FSP's proposed project to develop best practice for North Tarawa ecotourism operators
- 6.2 Understanding or agreement reached on project objectives and methodology, and respective responsibilities
- 7. Stakeholders should discuss the proposal that the North Tarawa Island Council develop a role in setting license conditions for tourism projects**
- 7.1 NTIC give preliminary consideration to this recommendation
- 7.2 NTIC and CASO facilitate meeting of all relevant stakeholders to discuss this proposal
- 8. Provision of support to Nabeina and Buariki communities to develop their tour products and tourism projects**
- 8.1 CASO liaise with KVB regarding their plans to seek funding for tour product development training and negotiate inclusion of Nabeina and Buariki community representatives
- 8.2 CASO seek additional funding from SPREP, as required, for additional support for the NTCA communities.



# APPENDICES

- 1. Concept Plans: North Tarawa Community Ecotourism Products**
- 2. Terms of Reference**
- 3. Draft Survey: Nabeina**

# 1. CONCEPT PLANS: COMMUNITY ECOTOURISM PRODUCTS

## 1.1 Buariki

Two tours that are already being operated in an informal way in Buariki are:

- traditional dancing
- two hour self-guided walk (see Mike Strubb of Buariki Guest House for map of walk).

It is recommended these be considered for development into structured, guided tours.

### **Buariki Walk: Design**

- the combination of activity and attractions could make this a good tour. There are limited walking opportunities within Tarawa, and a short walking tour may appeal to a range of markets
- the tour should include tourism resources such as: plants and their traditional use, *babai* pits and agriculture practices, traditional shrines (if permitted by caretaker/ owner), village, *maneaba*, Japanese war memorial. The Na'a fish traps could be included, however transport would need to be provided
- a good trail would need to be identified or developed, that is safe and not too strenuous.

### **Buariki Dancing/ Welcome: Design**

- this should become a structured activity with a guide/ escort assigned to guests
- a set programme could be developed based on customary practices: such as welcome speech and presentation to guests, followed by dancing, food etc. It could include some interpretation about the *maneaba* and other customs or cultural aspects.

### **Market**

- both tours should be designed specifically for tourists staying at Mauri Paradise and Buariki Guest House. Initial consultation with these two accommodation providers indicated that short tours would be the most suitable

- both tours could also be sold to tour operators in South Tarawa as part of a day programme. For example, Mary's Motel showed interest in including short Buariki tours in day programmes that they operate from South Tarawa.

### **Operation**

- the tour would rely on good interpretation by a community guide: some guide training would be required
- outcomes of the tour product development training planned by KVB should include design of these tours and development of a Business Plan for the Buariki community tour enterprise
- both tours should include a commission for the Buariki guesthouses when they sell it, and also for South Tarawa tour operators.

## **1.2 Nabeina**

### **Day use facilities**

- the principal market for this product is likely to be local residents using Biketawa in the weekends
- providing limited facilities for day visitors to Biketawa can provide some income for Nabeina
- the proposed survey (Appendix 3) should indicate what facilities are appropriate. However, (environmentally friendly) toilets, shelters and picnic tables are probably required, and possibly also a fresh water supply
- the Nabeina project to revegetate Biketawa with traditional plants is an excellent idea, as it provides a nice environment and an additional attraction for visitors
- in future, provision of marine sports equipment on Biketawa could be investigated, such as a windsurfer (however, at least one guide would need to be trained in this, including safety procedures) and snorkeling equipment
- additional income could be earned by villagers offering tourists a sail in a traditional sailing canoe for a set fee.

### **Nabeina Day Tour**

- this tour would largely be aimed at visitors to South Tarawa who are looking for an activity for a day. The market would principally be pleasure tourists, but also business people on their day off, and VFR

- there should be consultation with tour operators in South Tarawa (Molly's, Mary's, Otintaai, Kiribati Holidays) regarding the length of this tour- full day or half day. There will need to be strong consideration of tides, as low tides can restrict access to Nabeina
- the proposed tour should have two components: a 2-3 hour village/ Nabeina tour, and rest and relaxation using the day facilities developed in Biketawa. Traditional sailing canoes could also be incorporated for transfers between Nabeina and Biketawa
- the Nabeina tour could follow a similar format as at Buariki, combining a walk and attractions, and not exceeding more than 2-3 hours. Tourism resources such as plants and their traditional use, *babai* pits and agriculture practices, traditional shrines (if permitted by caretaker/ owner), the village and village life, could be included. It would be good if the walk circled Nabeina island
- again, a good trail would need to be identified or developed, that is safe and not too far
- this tour would rely on good interpretation by a community guide
- as with Buariki, the proposed Tour Product Development training should seek to design this tour and develop a Business Plan for it.

### **Accommodation**

- more market research is required before the community invest in this facility
- the market for this facility may be both local residents and visitors (pleasure tourists, VFR etc). There should be a survey of current users (residents) to get their views on the proposal, and discussion with tour operators in South Tarawa regarding whether outside visitors would use the facility
- market research should indicate what standard of accommodation would be required. However, particularly for the resident market, a modest standard of comfort would probably be suitable
- the community's initial plans (three traditional style units, with ownership shared between clans in Nabeina) and community expectations are otherwise supported.

## 2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

### 3. DRAFT SURVEY: NABEINA

It is recommended that for a period of 2-3 months, Nabeina representatives survey all visitors to Biketawa Island. The current users are mainly local residents, and the survey is a good way of finding out more about the needs and behavior of this market.

**We (the Nabeina community) are considering developing Biketawa Island for the enjoyment of our visitors. We would appreciate your help with our planning by answering the following questions. Ko Raba!!**

1. **Are you a:**  
 I-Kiribati resident  Tourist   
 I-Matang resident  Visiting friends/ relatives   
 Businessperson/ other
  
2. **As a visitor, what are the best things about Biketawa Island?**
  
3. **As a visitor, what are the worst things about Biketawa Island?**
  
4. **What facilities would you like to see developed on Biketawa Island for day use visitors?**  
 Toilets  Showers  Picnic Tables   
 Shelters  Anything else? \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. **What daily rate would you be prepared to pay to visit Biketawa Island if some of these facilities were developed for day use visitors?**  
 Less than \$5 per person  \$5-10 per person   
 More than \$10 per person
  
- 7 **Would you like to see some activities developed for visitors to Biketawa Island, such as:**  
 2-3 hour tour of Nabeina village and Island *Yes*  *No*   
 Traditional sailing *Yes*  *No*   
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 8 **If we developed some small, traditional style accommodation units, would you be likely to stay overnight?**  
 Yes  No  Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 If YES, how often would you stay? \_\_\_\_\_

