



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY

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HIGHLIGHTS & SUMMARY REPORT

EPA FY2010

**Submitted to the
RMIEPA Board of Directors**

1.0 The Environmental Protection Authority

This section provides information on the Role of the EPA, the current situation and policy focus.

1.1 Role of the Environmental Protection Authority

The primary purpose of the Authority shall be to preserve and improve the quality of the environment

The Act further states the objectives of the Authority:

- To study the impact of human activity including population growth and redistribution, cultural change, exploitation of resources and technological advances on the environment;
- To restore and maintain the quality of the environment;
- To use all practicable means including financial and technical assistance to foster and promote the general welfare of the people by creating conditions where mankind and nature can coexist in productive harmony
- To improve and coordinate consistently with other essential considerations of national policy, governmental plans, functions, and other programs and resources, so as to prevent, as far as practicable, any degradation or impairment to the environment;
- To regulate individual and collective human activity in such a manner as will ensure to the people safe, healthful, productive and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
- To attain the widest possible range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation or impairment thereof and other undesirable consequences to the health and safety of the people; and
- To preserve important historical, cultural and natural aspects of the nation's culture and heritage, maintaining at the same time a culture that supports multiplicity and choice.
- In 2004 EPA transferred its responsibilities and funds for International Co-ordination for Bio Diversity, IWP, Bio Safety, and Climate Change to OEPPC. OEPPC reports directly to the President. This arrangement was implemented in FY05.

1.2 Policy Focus

The EPA's mandate and role has undergone changes in the past 20 years, and continues to evolve. In 1984, the EPA was the only body mandated to protect the environment in the RMI, however since that time environmental and sustainability issues have become major issues with regard to public and international policy. During the 1990's the EPA engaged in global, regional and local treaties and conventions. However, during the past year the role of the EPA regarding Environmental Impact Assessment, Water Quality Standards, and Coordination with MOH regarding health issues related to water quality have come to the forefront of EPA actions.

1.3 Our Vision

Together we are Responsible for our Environment

1.4 Mission

- Look after the natural environment of the Marshall Islands;
- Ensure sustainability of resources and ensure a balance between economic development and the environment; and
- Enhance the quality of life (public health and safety) of our people.

1.5 Purpose of EPA

The purpose of EPA in the RMI is to provide the following major services to all the peoples of the RMI:

- Water Quality and Environmental Health
- Land and Coastal Management
- Conservation
- Waste and Pollution
- Information Management; and
- Planning and Human Resource Management
- Education and Awareness

1.6 Goals of EPA

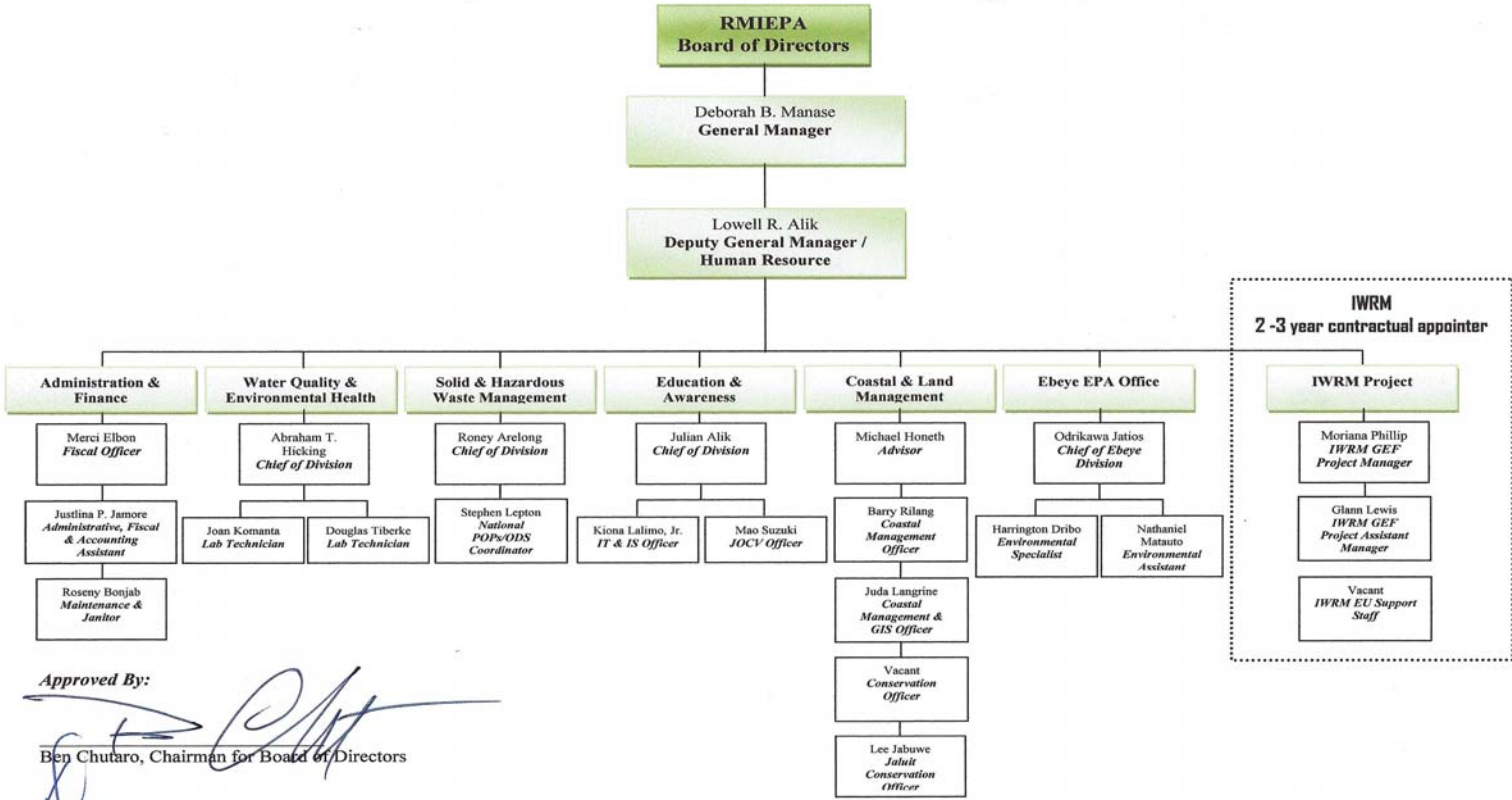
The functions and duties of the EPA, mandated in the Act are (paraphrased):

- To administer the provisions of the Environment Protection Act;
- To recommend to the government national environmental policy and criteria for the protection of the environment;
- To investigate pollution;
- To carry out research and develop criteria for the protection and improvement of the environment;
- To publish information regarding environmental management;
- To collect information and establish record keeping, monitoring and reporting requirements;
- To undertake investigations into complaints relating to noncompliance of any provisions;
- To specify methods for sampling and testing;
- To provide information to the public regarding the protection and improvement of the environment;
- To maintain relationships with other countries and organizations with respect to environmental protection and management;
- To advise the minister on any requirements for new legislation or amendments to legislation;
- To promote and carry out long-range planning in environmental protection and management;
- To classify land, air and water according to present and future uses;
- To minimize the impact of solid waste disposal on the environment and the health of the RMI people; and
- To conserve, and ensure sustainable use and equitable benefits from the biodiversity of the Marshall Islands.

The following report highlights key accomplishments FY10 to date. The last section of this report highlights areas in which EPA will focus on in FY10-11 to address pending issues relating to environmental protection.



Organizational Chart for the RMI Environmental Protection Authority (RMIEPA)



Approved By:

Ben Chutaro, Chairman for Board of Directors

Deborah B. Manase, General Manager

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

In October 2009, a new General Manager was appointed by the EPA Board of Directors. The post of Deputy General Manager was filled in April 2010.

Issues focused on during this time were finalization and completion of pending audits for FY07, FY08 and FY09. In July 2010, FY09 Annual Report was submitted to the Public Accounts Committee with highlights for FY09 including final Audit Report for FY07 and FY08. FY09 audit is currently being finalized.

Human Resource Development

EPA has recently hired the new Chief Environmental Officer in Quarter 3, who is in charge of overseeing all of the operations and activities on Ebeye and Santo. RMIEPA Legal Counsel will be advertised in 4th Quarter 2010.

WATER QUALITY & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Treatment Plant Operators Level 1 Certification (USEPA/Guam EPA/SOPAC/RMIEPA/MWSC)

The RMIEPA and MWSC in partnership with USEPA, SOPAC and Guam EPA held a Treatment Plant Operators Training in Majuro. The main training will focus on chlorination and disinfection. The training was made possible from financial and technical support of the above external agencies along with MWSC and RMIEPA.

Community-based Drinking Water Safety Planning and Water Quality Monitoring course

A Community-based Drinking Water Safety Planning and Water Quality Monitoring course in partnership with RMI EPA was conducted in March in Majuro and a second one in May in Ebeye. The course is supported by the governments of Australia and New Zealand (through their WQM and DWSP programmes) and the European Union (through their EDF 9 B-envelope funding). SOPAC Water Services Coordinator (Tasleem Hasan) and WHO Integrated Water Programme Officer (Kamal Khatri) was aimed to conduct and facilitate a Community-based Water Quality Training course, upon request and in partnership with RMI EPA. The Training course is designed to train a range of stakeholders as facilitators for community-based drinking water safety planning and water quality monitoring.

The team visited Ebeye in May 2010 to conduct the Community Based Drinking Water Safety Planning and Water Quality Monitoring workshop with Ebeye agencies and community members. The Ebeye certified participants are currently implementing this program.

A third Community-Based WQM Training/workshop was held at CMI Campus in June in conjunction with the Marshall Islands Conservation Society Workshop on Marine Conservation. Sixteen (16) participants were invited from the Outer Islands.

The RMI EPA Water Quality Lab and Ministry of Health 177 Program have been coordinating together on outer island visits to the 4 atolls this year, so far two of the four atolls have been

visited, Kili and Utrik. EPA also joined National Training Council (NTC) and Weather Service Office on a trip to Ujae this August for Water Testing.

Pacific Water Demand Management (WDM) Programme

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) is among the pilot countries selected for the NZAID-funded Pacific Water Demand Management (WDM) Programme implemented by SOPAC. The basic aim of the WDM Programme is to build capacity of the region's urban water utilities to implement improved water demand management practices. Ongoing correspondence with partners from RMI and FSM during 2009 (at the PWWA Conference in Tonga and the GEF IWRM Inception meeting in Nadi, Fiji) focused on ways to best utilize Northern Pacific best practices to provide support to utilities. Utilizing regional knowledge and experience, it was proposed that a "buddy" system be trialed between FSM and counterparts in RMI – to share best practices in water demand management and provide support in the identified priority areas of pressure management, leak detection and repair practices and water loss management. It was also proposed that technical support be provided to RMI to develop a system water balance (or provide recommendations which will enable this to be developed) to enable improvements in water loss management and system performance.

Integrated Water Resources Management Demonstration Project (IWRM-GEF) Laura Lens Protection

Through the IWRM project, a full survey is being planned for Laura community to assess the current state of sanitation facilities in each household; EPA is currently liaising with EPPSO to include sanitation facilities as part of the census for 2011. This issue will require longer term plan planning between RMIEPA, MWSC and other offices to identify technical assistance and financial needs for rehabilitating current sewer system provided to urban and rural residents.

- The project log frame for the Integrated Water Resource Management Demonstration Project has been reviewed and revised and a draft log frame has been completed. It is currently being reviewed by stakeholders for feedback and endorsement.
- Water Quality Division continues to collect monthly samples of the Laura water lens through the JIRCAS Project.
- Visits from SOPAC experts to review and update on the IWRM Project, was conducted during the 3rd quarter

The IWRM project in partnership with CMI Land Grant, Ministry of Resources and Development Energy Division distributed pamphlets to the community of Laura on water supply treatment methods and energy conservation. Brochures can be found at the EPA office.

PACIFIC HYCOS MISSION Republic of Marshall Islands May 2010

Opportunity was taken for the Pacific HYCOS Project Coordinator, Mr. Lloyd Smith, while in the Micronesian region visited the Marshall Islands from 10th to 14th May to undertake project consolidation and address some technical issues. These extend to the operation of the Diverground water loggers and automatic rain gauge located at the MWSC/Meteorological Department climate station on Laura. HYCOS visit which indicated that rainfall in Laura is declining and can affect water lens.



Pacific HYCOS Mission to RMI Pictured are Douglas Tiberke (EPA) and Lee Jacklick (Weather Services)

SOLID & HAZARDOUS WASTE

EPA continues to monitor and enforce the solid waste regulations. About 50 Notices of Violation were issued this year, to residents and businesses which had illegal dump sites on their premises. 146 Violation Notices to date, and all of these cases were taken to the Attorney General for further action. The EPA will be advertizing post of Legal Counsel in 4th Quarter to improving prosecution rates.

The Majuro Atoll Waste Corporation (MAWC) was established and charged with responsibility for waste collection and disposal; thus, ending the piece meal (multi-agency) approach of managing solid waste in the RMI.

Solid Waste remains the greatest immediate environmental problem facing the Marshall Islands. The change in lifestyle towards consumption of imported goods with a high degree of packaging has meant that waste has gone from being largely biodegradable in the past to being significantly non-biodegradable now. In a large land mass nation, the primary way of disposing of waste is through landfill, but in an atoll environment this is difficult due to the availability of land of cover material.

Water Quality data over the past decade and in FY09 indicate that there is an urgent need to address the current landfill capacity and to prioritize identification of alternative site for waste operations. The RMIEPA will focus on assisting MAWC in identifying most appropriate options for incineration and sanitary landfill suitable for atoll environments in FY10-12.

Coastal waters continue to exhibit some level of contamination in selected areas of Majuro and Ebeye. Sources of contamination point to the need to conduct community surveys to identify potential sources of contamination and to identify solutions. Visual surveys/inspections will be carried out in Q4 however as part of water quality monitoring activities staff will be asked to note visual observations of surrounding areas for initial identification of potential sources of pollution.

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

The Marshall Islands is participating in a global monitoring project under the Stockholm Convention to monitor and collect information on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS), human

milk sampling and air sampling from Majuro, Ebeye and four (4) outer islands. National partners involved in this project are Majuro Weather Service Office and the Ministry of Health (MOH). Funding to carry out the project was made available through the University of South Pacific (USP) and Stockholm Convention.

Food Safety

The EPA continues to monitor and send out notice to general public on recall notices and expiry of products. Even though, the mandate to monitor expiry of food product and recalls is under the MOH, EPA has been taking the lead at the national level. The 5.5% budget cut across the board for Government, will affect some of EPA's programs and this is among the programs that will be taken out. The Food Safety Act and draft regulations are currently under the mandate of the Ministry of Health.

The recent incident regarding low grade rice purchased for USDA feeding program has raised the need for more coordinated effort amongst MOH, Customs and EPA on inspecting goods at ports of entry. A meeting of these offices was held on Monday 20th September. The following action items are under way as result of this meeting:

- 1) Customs, EPA, and MoH to issue a joint public notice requiring importers of consumable products to comply with relevant MoH Law(s) on quality food standards. Customs will initiate the notice, which will clearly state that violation of the notice will result in Customs not approving clearance or confiscation of goods. Customs to require suppliers to provide health, phytosanitary and quality certificates along with shipments of rice upon arrival at Dock, in addition to this requirement, random inspection will be undertaken in coordination with MOH and EPA and upon failed inspection of goods, these goods will not be cleared by Customs for entry. On the inspection, Customs and EPA to jointly inspect the next shipment of rice (or other food products) of targeted companies as specified at the meeting. WHO is being consulted on contents of notice given that food standards are still under development.
- 2) Recommendation to MOF/KBE Local Government to ensure damaged rice distributed already as part of USDA food program be replaced by vendor with a better quality rice (payment should be withheld until this is done) and for future procurement of food for USDA program, national standards and or even US food standards be included in conditions for bidding
- 3) Customs and Health to designate email and person to be added to the list serve for NPEHA

COASTAL & LAND MANAGEMENT

Developmental Project Monitoring & GIS

The GIS hardware and software has been purchased through funding assistance of the GEF/UNDP Sustainable Land Management Grant. The new equipment will provide better data information for EPA to closely monitor.

Two of the staff under the Coastal and Land Management Division completed an intermediate University level course on GIS through the USP.

Monitoring of major and coastal projects are conducted twice a month, use to be twice a week, but has been reduced due to limited availability of vehicles. Coastal activities database has been to track all permitted activities and measure performance.

Coastal Monitoring & Response

The EPA patrol boat that has been used for monitoring was deemed not seaworthy during inspection due to termite damage and general wear and tear. During FY2010, EPA was not able to respond effectively to numerous oil spills, sunken ships and illegal discharges due to the lack of a coastal patrol vessel. Assistance to respond to some of the matters when possible was provided by MIMRA, MICS and Kili/Bikini/Ejit Mayor Alson Kelen.

With the difficulty in responding to the environmental incidents, EPA applied for a grant through the Canada Small Grants Fund, to procure a patrol boat. The purchasing of the patrol boat is currently being finalized and will be in place before the end of FY2010.

EPA secured the disposal of Angelina, the vessel was owned by a local businessman. The vessel posed an environmental and navigational hazard and was in danger of sinking in class AA waters in the lagoon off the tip of Rita.

The issue of derelict vessels is an area that needs to be addressed through strengthening of national regulations and standards for domestic water crafts. The EPA has sent out a notice requiring decommissioning plans from water craft operators and various agencies, however more discussion with the Ministry of Transportation and Communication on this issue is needed.

CONSERVATION

The EPA currently chairs the Coastal Management Advisory Committee (CMAC) and actively participates in regional and national conservation projects and program through the Ramsar Convention, Micronesia Challenge and Reimaanlok National Conservation Strategy.

The Marshall Islands currently has two designated Ramsar sites, Jaluit Atoll and currently awaiting approval from the Ramsar Secretariat on the submission of RIS document is Namdrik Atoll for designation as Wetland of International Importance, but has been approved as a designated site by its Local Government.

Bikini Atoll was recently inscribed as a World Heritage site and it is the first World Heritage site for the Marshall Islands. Alinginae Atoll is also applying to be inscribed as a World Heritage site and status is currently pending, more information of its inscription can be collected from Mayor James Matayoshi of Rongelap Atoll.

There is much support for integration of traditional and modern conservation practices however there are limited in depth information on traditional conservation practices. For example the Marshall Islands have traditional conservation sites called “mo” that belongs to our traditional leaders, which can be used as a model for modern day conservation practices.

EPA has recently recruited a Conservation Officer, who will be in charge of monitoring and coordination of national conservation sites with communities throughout the Marshall Islands, with already established agreements and practices. Among the activities the Conservation Officer will be doing is to assess and collect information on all the wetland sites in the Marshall Islands.

AWARENESS & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

School Visits & Outreach Programs

EPA visited 41 schools both on Majuro and Ebeye and presented on Water Quality, Pollution, Littering, Solid Waste, Global Warming, Climate Change and High Tides. Total number of students on hand to receive and learn from EPA's environmental awareness presentations was, 6944. Other visits to the CMI, GED, Majuro Boys Scouts and RMI Youth Council to raise awareness were also conducted.

General Public Awareness

EPA continues to raise public awareness to ensure general public is aware of the activities and programs that are mandated under the EPA, through...

- Updating and providing information on the EPA Awareness Boards located at the Post Offices on Majuro;
- Weekly radio program on V7AB, every Thursday evenings. There is a plan to have a radio talk program for students and teenagers;
- Published articles and related news on EPA Column on the Marshall Islands Journal;
- Published brochure, pamphlets and printed documents that are distributed widely; and
- EPA is currently updating its website, once up and running it will be a good source to showcase RMI environmental issues and programs at all arenas, internationally, regionally and nationally.

National Observance of International Events

The EPA actively partakes in international events with national partners and stakeholders, throughout the Marshall Islands. Some of the activities that were carried out this year were;

- Conducting cleanup activities on Ejit Island, in observance of Earth Day 2010
- Environmental awareness programs at 5 schools on Ebeye in observance of World Water Day 2010;
- Participated in Education Week 2010 and carried out activities in 4 schools;
- Assist with coordination and organizing an essay and poster competition for Jaluit High School students in observance of World Wetlands Day 2010;
- Participated and assisted national partners with organizing the successful World Population Day 2010; and
- Currently planning for national activities to raise awareness on Ozone Depleting Substance (ODS) in honor and observance of Ozone Depletion Day 2010.

Saturday Jumbo Cleanup & JICA Program

The EPA through assistance from the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and EPA's JOCV volunteer, has a program to cleanup Majuro that is carried out every Saturday for promotion of community cleanup initiative.

There is a plan to boost the activities implemented by the JOCV volunteer in FY2011. An activities workplan for FY2011 is to be established at a Regional JOCV meeting that will be held in Fiji, in September 2010. The Chief of Solid & Hazardous Waste will join the JOCV volunteer in the meeting. Cost to pay for air ticket and per diem is being funded through JICA.

EBEYE, KWAJALEIN EPA OFFICE

Coastal & Land Management

At the moment, there has been no permits issued out for major development projects on Ebeye, but the EPA continues to monitor on a regular basis. There are a few issues on following or honoring the Sustainable Development Plan that was adopted in 2008. EPA will continue to raise awareness at all levels to ensure that everyone in the Marshall Islands is aware of its mandates.

EPA is aware that there is a plan to make the causeway more feasible and reliable for land transportations. At the moment the causeway is at a risky stage, and a few recommendations that have been made, such as, making culverts and planting trees near the coastal areas to strengthen the soil.

EPA is currently coordinating with an NGO, the Marshall Islands Conservation Society (MICS), on the planting project for the causeway.

Solid & Hazardous Waste

The Ebeye dumpsite is among the busiest areas to visit because it is a hangout spot for members of the community signs of oil spill, medical waste and used oils were witnessed; therefore, recommendation to purchase an incinerator for MOH to dispose medical waste is highly needed. KALGov and KAJUR have asked for assistance from EPA on disposal of waste oil, this activity is currently being looked into.

EPA has visited the Santo dumpsite and it faces the same problems as the dumpsite on Ebeye. At the moment, EPA is looking at options to linking the community closer with a possibility of hiring a part-time staff to oversee all the environmental issues on Santo. This activity is still at its early stages, but there is a high need to regularly monitor the islet that has a population of approximately 2000 plus people. The islet is nearly the size of Ejit Islet in Majuro Atoll.

Water Quality & Environmental Health

EPA conducted a Community Based Water Quality Monitoring Program (CBWQMP) on Ebeye to train community members and local business representatives of Kwajalein Atoll on how to monitor and treat their water supplies. Following the training, the trained members from the Ebeye community are now assisting EPA with collection, monitoring and treatment of water supplies throughout Ebeye. EPA will work with MOH to gather information or analysis on results of water borne disease and typhoid for FY2010-FY2011 versus previous years.

USAKA Related Activities & Programs

Conventional Strike Missile Demonstration (CSM) Briefing

A briefing meeting was held on the 16th September with US Air Force, US Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, USAKA and RMI Stakeholders which included members of Cabinet, Traditional Leaders from Kwaj.

The CSM briefing focused on an overview of the CSM and Advanced Hypersonic Weapons (AHW) Programs and environmental aspects of testing and monitoring. RMIEPA will be expecting to receive a Document of Environmental Protection (DEP) for CSM and AHW in the next 2-3 months. Initial issues raised during briefing sessions by RMIEPA, RMIHPO and CMI and other stakeholders include:

- Proposed soil screening/survey methods for Depleted Uranium (DU) – RMIEPA has asked for details on the methodology for soil screening and will review these to determine if concentrations of DU will be able to be determined using this method vs. lab analysis (lab analysis was done for MMIII tests)
- Other testing RMI looking into include coral core sampling to determine cumulative effects of impacts of testing on coral health, rat autopsy for Beryllium as a better indicator of inhalation and concentrations of Be in rats on Illigeni vs. other non contaminated islets
- Data was requested by RMIEPA on # of land and # of ocean impacts during previous testing programs (MMIII) – this info to be forwarded by Air Force
- It was confirmed that both these substances will remain in the environment at Illigeni for 100 yrs+ if not remediated, the issue of remediation was raised and questions on when USAKA will begin remediation efforts – follow up on response to this question will be done by RMIEPA

NOTE on Be and DU: Commercial use of beryllium metal presents technical challenges due to the toxicity (especially by inhalation) of beryllium-containing dusts. Beryllium produces a direct corrosive effect to tissue, and can cause a chronic life-threatening allergic disease called [berylliosis](#) in susceptible persons.

Structurally, beryllium's very low density (1.85 times that of water), high melting point (1287 °C), high temperature stability and low coefficient of thermal expansion, make it in many ways an ideal aerospace material, and it has been used in rocket nozzles and is a significant component of planned space telescopes

Military uses include defensive armor plating and [armor-piercing projectiles](#). The use of DU in [munitions](#) is controversial because of questions about potential long-term health effects.^{[4][5]} Normal functioning of the [kidney](#), [brain](#), [liver](#), [heart](#), and numerous other systems can be affected by uranium exposure, because in addition to being weakly radioactive, uranium is a [toxic metal](#).^[6] It is weakly radioactive and remains so because of its long [physical half-life](#) (4.468 billion years for [uranium-238](#)), but has a considerably shorter [biological half-life](#). The aerosol produced during impact and combustion of depleted uranium munitions can potentially contaminate wide areas around the impact sites or can be inhaled by civilians and military personnel

4. Miller AC, McClain D. (2007 Jan-Mar). "A review of depleted uranium biological effects: in vitro and in vivo studies". *Rev Environ Health* **22** (1): 75–89. [PMID 17508699](#).

5. John E. Pattison, Richard P. Hugtenburg and Stuart Green (2010), "Enhancement of Natural Background Gamma-radiation Dose around Uranium Micro-particles in the Human Body", *Journal of the Royal Society Interface* 7(45):603-611. DOI 10.1098/rsif.2009.0300.
6. E. S. Craft, A. W. Abu-Qare, M. M. Flaherty, M. C. Garofolo, H. L. Rincavage, M. B. Abou-Donia (2004). "[Depleted and natural uranium: chemistry and toxicological effects](#)". *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Part B: Critical Reviews* 7 (4): 297–317. doi:[10.1080/10937400490452714](https://doi.org/10.1080/10937400490452714). PMID [15205046](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15205046/). <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~db=all?content=10.1080/10937400490452714>.
7. Mitsakou C, Eleftheriadis K, Housiadas C, Lazaridis M [Modeling of the dispersion of depleted uranium aerosol](#). 2003 Apr, Retrieved January 15, 2009

Key Focus Areas for FY10-11

The following areas are considered key areas for improvements and will be the focus of management in FY10-FY11

Governance and Decision Making

- Development of a Policy and Procedures Manual to strengthen overall management, documentation of procedures per regulations and financial management of EPA
- Re-establishment of Environment Advisory Council as referenced in the National Environment Protection Act
- Strengthen information management and data on current and emerging environmental issues to enable longer term trends and analysis
- Improve coordination and sharing of information to all levels of government and non government sectors through MOUs and/or other means of establishing agreed roles and responsibilities between agencies

Enforcement

- Legal Counsel to be identified in-country to assist with legal matters
- Strengthen record keeping and investigation procedures, and follow up actions for non compliance-including prosecution where necessary.
- The EPA will focus on clarifying its roles and responsibilities towards Food Safety with the Ministry of Health in FY10 and FY11. This is an area that requires more attention and resources than are currently available within the EPA.

Legislation

- Explore areas of legislative overlap with other government agencies/ministries i.e. food safety, land-use planning and zoning, building codes, biodiversity, and nuclear wastes
- Address overlaps through updating and or establishing new MOUs, promulgating regulations and/or revise existing legislation.

Financial Management

- Review and update Fiscal Accounting Policy of RMIEPA
- Improve rate of completion of Financial Audits and work towards clean audit of financial reports

Human Resources

- Training needs analysis and performance evaluation system for employees
- Review existing organization and amend to improve overall information flow and coordination of activities both within the organization and externally

Services Delivery

- Review EPA Strategic Plan and Portfolio and target improvements to services to public including Ebeye and outer island communities
- Improve public outreach programs for greater impact and value to the public
- Effective service delivery is highly contingent on ability to obtain necessary support and resources needed to address the vast mandate currently required as well as future expansion of services.