



ISLANDECO

Young women contribute to the energy transition of remote islands as trained technicians



“Women can and should contribute to the flow of energy transition. They will help overcome resistance.”

Riyad M Mucadam

Project start: 2014, Award year: 2015

IslandEco trained young women in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) on the assembly, installation, operation and maintenance of solar-powered lights, refrigerators and freezers. These solar equipments replace polluting diesel generators on remote atolls where access to fossil fuel is highly expensive and rare. This gender innovative programme contributes to the RMI’s national climate plan, which aims at producing 100% renewable energy by 2050 and has set a target of having 20% women among all trained electricians by 2030. The results and activities of this project have been included in the national electricity roadmap.



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UNIQUE VALUE

What’s special about this project

- ▶ By demonstrating women’s ability to perform well in the male dominated energy sector, this project breaks gender stereotypes and challenges structural barriers, mobilizing all citizens of the Marshall Islands for solar technologies.
- ▶ The National Energy Office decided to include an ambitious gender target – 20% women in the solar and renewable electricity sector by 2030 – in its national electricity roadmap. The activities and results were incorporated into the National Action Plan on Climate Change.



AWARD IMPACTS

- ▶ The award and participation in 3 COPs since 2017 ensured national and international recognition, leading to additional funding and further project successes.
- ▶ The mentoring program offered by the WGC and the CTCN, as well as being part of a network of awardees, helped better understand the challenges faced by the women to enter a male dominated, technical industry.

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES



110 solar PV installations on different Islands performed by women technicians



Cooperation with the National Energy Office



Inclusion of women’s contribution in the National Electricity Roadmap



Breaking gender stereotypes in a technical sector / STEMS



Revenue generating activities through the production and sale of local foods that could be refrigerated or frozen



SDG FOCUS

