



Ministry of Environment Lands and Agricultural Development



## AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK DIVISION

*"To Promote Sustainable Atoll Crop and Livestock Production System"*

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# Vegetable Productions in Kiribati

## Contents

- Vision and Mission (objectives and goals)
- Country geographical background
- Vegetable production systems
- Challenges in vegetable productions
- Benefits from Training

AVRDC LECTURE ROOM  
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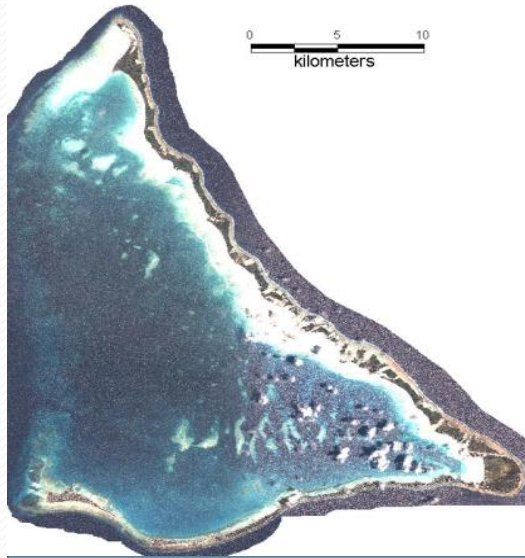


# Vision and objectives

- The Vision of the Government of Kiribati depicts the long term goal of Government which is - '*A vibrant economy for the people of Kiribati*'. The Line Ministries' strategies are aligned towards this vision and are linked to the six broad key policy areas of the 2008 to 2011 plan.
- The agricultural strategy of the ALD of Ministry of Environment Land and Agricultural Development (MELAD) is aligned to KPA2 and KPA 4.
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- 1. KPA 1: Human resource development
- 2. KPA 2: Economic growth and poverty reduction
- 3. KPA 3: Health
- 4. KPA 4: Environment
- 5. KPA 5: Governance
- 6. KPA 6: Infrastructure

**Goal:** The goal derived from the above mission is: Households of Kiribati are food, income and nutritionally secured and the balance of the agricultural and forestry environment is maintained.

# Geographical background



Total land Area: 811 square kilometres(0.02%)

Total population: 112,850 (Statistics,2009)

The Republic of Kiribati (pronounced *KIRR-i-bas*) is an island nation located in the central tropical Pacific Ocean. The country consists of 32 atolls and one raised coral island dispersed over 3,500,000 square kilometres (1,351,000 square miles), straddling the equator, and bordering the International Date Line to the east.

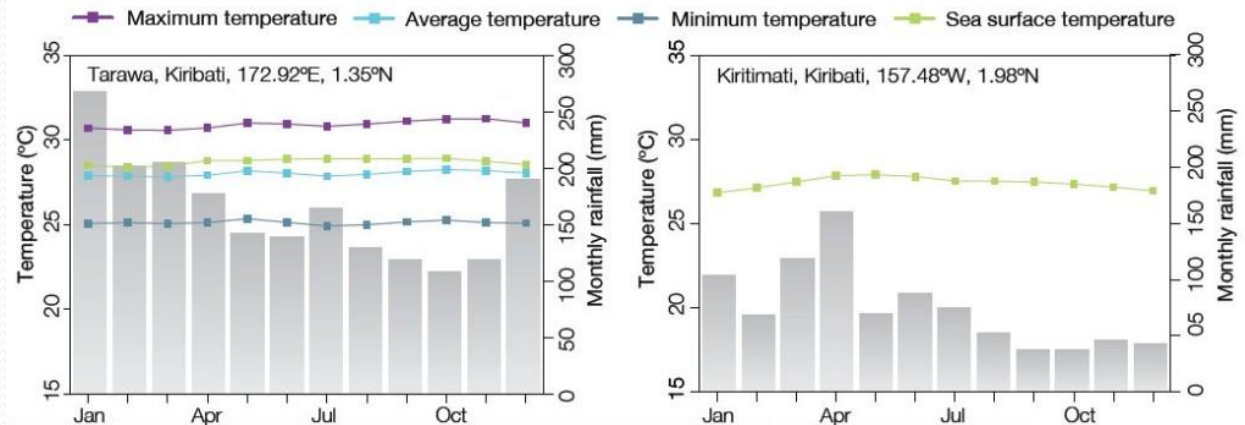


Figure 1: Season rainfall and temperature at Tarawa and Kiritimati. Source: Kiribati Meteorology Service.





# Vegetable production systems

- Family household gardens
  - Usually less than 60 square metres
  - For household consumption
  - For marketing
  - For both



# Challenges in vegetable production

- Nature of soils (Alkaline, shallow and coarse textured)
- Water availability (vulnerable to pollution and brackish)
- Narrow genetic base (Less than 300 species)
- Pests and diseases (**Taro beetle**, whiteflies, mealy bugs, aphids, scale insects, **Fruit rot** and **Fruit flies**)
- Costs of farm inputs (very high)
- Climate change (increase in sea level rise)
- Isolation (restricts biodiversity)
- Farmers knowledge (minimum level)

# Benefits from training

- Understanding IPM in Pest management and control
- Irrigation systems in managing water during drought seasons
- Vegetable breeding in protecting and maintaining pure stands, creating biotic and a-biotic tolerance crops.
- Vegetable grafting
- Early detection of disease presence (Virus, bacteria, fungus and nematodes) within the field and seeds
- Seed collection and preservation techniques
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Thank You  
Best Wishes to Avrdc Staffs  
And a safe travel to Module 1 Participants  
“It has been a great pleasure meeting you ALL”

