



MICRONESIA  
**EXPO**  
2023 *Kosrae*

# Report

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# Overview of Micro Expo 2023

The 2nd MicroExpo 2023 was hosted by the beautiful Island of the Sleeping Lady, Kosrae. The event took place throughout the four municipalities, of Tafunsak, Lelu, Malem, and Utwe where the sister states were able to present their culture and businesses, creating opportunities to showcase their traditional cultures, products, services, new and current developments.

The 2nd MicroExpo was given a total of \$456,700.00 to utilize at the event. \$100K from Congress, \$350K from Asian Development Bank Grant for Response to COVID-19, donation of \$24,700 from sponsors (WCPFC, CFC, NFC, IOM, Australian Embassy, and China Embassy) In-kind contribution by UNICEF, they donated rented portable toilets, toiletries, renovations of bathrooms and toilets at Kosrae High School as the expo accommodation site.



# Background

FSM is a small country and our remoteness affects our ability to be part of the global supply chain, increases import costs, and limits our competitiveness in the tourist industry. Expos provide a unique platform for our businesses to increase brand success through engagement and meaningful interactions. Though it may be time-consuming and costly, but it provides benefits, unlike any other form of marketing scheme. The Micro-Expo welcomes a wide range of businesses to showcase their products and services at their exhibition booth. The Micro-Expo events will prepare our business and people for regional and international similar events to take part readily. For instance the upcoming Pacific Festival of Arts in Hawaii 2024 and the World Expo in Kansai Osaka, Japan 2025.

The Expo is a great opportunity to conduct market research into FSM's current product trends and customer preferences. The Expo is to sensitize the businesses and tour operators to be aware of what our competitors offer and how they can compete with their products and services by being innovative and creative.



## WELCOMING THE SISTER STATES

Our Sister State of Yap flew into Pohnpei to make the next connecting flight into Kosrae. A total of 29 Yap delegates, a total of 20 Pohnpei delegates and a total of 30 Chuuk delegates arrived in Kosrae on United Airline whereas the rest of Pohnpei delegates a total of 55 sailed into Kosrae on Navigator. The delegates received a warm welcome upon arrival by the Kosrae State and the National Expo team, followed by a dinner ceremony at the end of the day. On the opening of the 2nd Micronesia Expo, all the state delegations joined together in a parade from the governor's office to the main venue at Tofol Gym which shows unity and solidarity across the nation.

The Governor of the State of Kosrae T.H. Tulensa Palik delivered the welcoming remarks on behalf of the people of Kosrae and the Kosrae state government, followed by special remarks from the sister states head of delegation. Representative of the National government presented the President's remark for the 2nd Micronesia Expo on his Excellency's behalf. The first day ended with a warm welcome reception co-hosted by the National Government and Kosrae State Government.





# A Day in Yap

A Day in Yap began with the honoring of the guardians of the stone money, revealing the significance of the land and people. A day in Yap start out with exhibition of various grass skirts according to the ages - from childhood to womanhood, various weaving demonstrations, stone money games and traditional tattooing display. The Yap Visitors Bureau also distributed pamphlets and promoted Yap hotels, services, and local handicrafts on a projection screen in between the delegate's performances.

Their five private businesses (ESA Bay View Hotel, O'keefe's Waterfront Inn, Marusko, Tropical Touch, Tribal Tattoo) sold their products of art, jewelry, traditional clothing, food, and magazines.

# A Night Market in Lelu

The people of Lelu welcome the participants and visitors by a song entitled 'Our Precious Land of Kosrae' where the ladies sing and swing their lafalafa upon arrival. The participants and visitors felt the welcoming hospitality of Lelu, Kosrae through the song and the dances.

Ten local community sellers demonstrated traditional Kosraean food and carving, while others sold local apparel and handicrafts. Lelu municipality with live music entertainment which created enthusiastic entertainment for everyone as they enjoyed the night with traditional dances and music. The original version of the "Kamorale song" was first set during the Lelu Night Market and sung by the Pohnpei delegation representing the significance of the Micronesia Expo - 'We Are FSM Today, We Are FSM Tomorrow'.





# A Day in Chuuk

Chuuk began their day with the Fefan Island group demonstrating mashed breadfruit and taro (KON) a delicacy of Chuuk State that is very well known throughout Micronesia. Mr. Marcellus Akapito, Executive Director for Chuuk Visitors Bureau, leads and narrates the food preparation and the chant as they present the KON to the leaders. After the KON was prepared and put into the KON bowl called Unong, they invited everyone back into the gym for the presentation of the UNONG and distribution of its contents - the Kon along with grilled tuna, followed by the Fefen ritual 'USUPWOPWI' dance. The Pollap group ended Chuuk Day with their captivating dances and songs that entertained the audiences.

Chuuk delighted visitors with a vibrant marketplace with three exceptional vendors. These vendors skillfully showcased and sold a wide array of local clothing, including beautifully crafted skirts and mumus. Additionally, they offered a captivating collection of handicrafts, exquisite jewelry, and intricately designed leis. Furthermore, they provided an assortment of oils and Coral Pounding tools that the Chuukese call the 'Po'

# Street Market in Tafunsak

In the afternoon, an invitation was extended to all for the Tafunsak Municipal Street Market. The street market served as a hub for more than 30 vendors from the municipality, showcasing an arrangement of products, ranging from delectable goods to refreshing beverages. Operating from the comfort of their own homes, these vendors graciously extended their offerings to the visitors from 1pm to 4pm. The Tafunsak Street Market acted as a captivating conduit, not only enticing visitors but also providing them with an immerse tour of the municipality. It served as an informal platform, effortlessly promoting the rich products of Tafunsak, Kosrae.





# Night Market in Tafunsak

The Tafunsak Municipal Government welcomed the participants through a formal welcoming ceremony. The Tafunsak elementary students performed dances and singing while other students demonstrated carving. There were cooking demonstrations among the vendors with preparation of Fafa, local food, and the local carving of the Fafa tub (local tray). Audiences were kept entertained with the vendors and the live band.





# A Day in Pohnpei

The day began with a sakau ritual led by Dauk Kitti (Traditional Leader) and the Youth of Enpein Powe. Once the sakau ritual concludes, Pohnpei proceeds with food demonstrations, particularly focusing on Uhmw, where they butcher three pigs along with breadfruits. Following the food demonstration, all the delicious Uhmw delicacies of Pohnpei were shared among the participants and the people of Kosrae.

Pohnpei delegates performed captivating traditional dances taking center stage, accompanied by a song composed in the late 1960s. This song serves as a tribute to the 179 men from Kitti who were compelled by the Japanese Military to relocate to Kosrae, aiding in the construction of an airstrip. Among these courageous individuals, six were laid to rest in Malem, Kosrae, including a revered high Chief from Kitti known as Dauk Kitti. These individuals, representing Pohnpei, encompassed the families of the six men who found their final resting place in Kosrae.

# Night Market in Malem

The visitors and participants were welcomed by the mayor of Malem as he officially inaugurated the night market. With more than 35 local community vendors and three off-island vendors, Malem municipality displayed their creativity through a variety of local Kosraean food, drinks, paintings, handicrafts, clothing, farm tools, and jewelry. The night market concluded with a lively atmosphere, despite the heavy rain, featuring live music and performances by the enthusiastic youth and participants.





# A Day in Kosrae

The Day begins with the marching dance distributing tributes to the visitors to Kosrae and thanking them for attending the Micronesia Expo. The leaders among the participants sang "Kampare song" which reveals the strength and unity from the people of Kosrae. The Micronesia Expo party continued outside the main gym in Tofol with over thirty vendors who contributed to the demonstration of local hut, Fafa pounding as well as displaying of local jewelry, clothing, handicraft, and local tours were also arranged to keep the participants entertained.

# Night Market in Utwe

The visitors and participants were welcomed by the mayor of Malem as he officially inaugurated the night market. With more than 35 local community vendors and three off-island vendors, Malem municipality displayed their creativity through a variety of local Kosraean food, drinks, paintings, handicrafts, clothing, farm tools, and jewelry. The night market concluded with a lively atmosphere, despite the heavy rain, featuring live music and performances by the enthusiastic youth and participants.



# Financial Report

## Overall Budget by Funding Source

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>
FSM Congress CIP	\$100,000	\$100,000	-\$1,059.60
ADB Grant for COVID-19 Recovery	\$350,000	\$247,104.05	\$102,456.30
Cash Contribution	\$24,700	\$6,700	\$18,000
In kind contribution : T-Shirts & Polo Shirts	\$4,600	\$4,600	0

\*\*\* \$18,000 Contribution is pending for DOJ to transmit a resolution to access this contribution

## Expenditure Summary

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Travel	\$181,459.90
OCE	\$167,143.40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$348,603.30</b>

# Expenditure Breakdown 100k FSM

## Congress CIP

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Amount</u>
OCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• Food</li> <li>• Supplies</li> <li>• POL</li> <li>• Advertising, Printing</li> <li>• Rental Services</li> <li>• Utilities</li> <li>• Misc Goods &amp; Services</li> </ul>	\$100,000.00 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1,200.00</li> <li>• \$28,879.00</li> <li>• \$36,990.54</li> <li>• \$3,252.00</li> <li>• \$2,960.00</li> <li>• \$15,798.00</li> <li>• \$1,113.00</li> <li>• \$10,867.06</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$101,059.60
<b>BALANCE</b>	-\$1,059.60

# Expenditure Breakdown 350K - ADB Grant for COVID-19 Recovery

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Travel	\$181,459.90
OCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food</li> <li>• Supplies</li> <li>• POL</li> <li>• Rental Services</li> <li>• Utilities</li> <li>• Misc Good &amp; Services</li> </ul>	\$66,083.80 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$7,906.60</li> <li>• \$6,524.49</li> <li>• \$1,497.50</li> <li>• \$9,802.29</li> <li>• \$1,000.00</li> <li>• \$39,352.92</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$247,543.70
<b>BALANCE</b>	\$102,456.30

# **Sponsors**

China Embassy - 18K

NFC - 5K

IOM - 150 T Shirts 50 Polo Shirts (4.6K)

CFC- \$800

Tuna Commission - \$500

Australian Embassy - \$400

UNICEF - Portable Toilets, Toiletries, First-aid kits, etc

# **Key Supporters**

National Government

FSM Resources & Development

FSM Health & Social Affairs

FSM Department of Justice

FSM Finance & Administration

FSM Foreign Affairs

FSM Office of President

FSM Transportation, Communication &  
Infrastructure

FSM Congress

College of Micronesia

State Government

Yap State Government

Yap Visitors Bureau

Chuuk State Government

Chuuk Visitors bureau

Pohnpei State Government

Pohnpei Tourism Office

Kosrae State Government

Kosrae Visitors Bureau

Local Municipal Governments



# Photo Gallery









