

The impact of sand mining

No. 6

Did you know?

- Coastal erosion is the loss of land due to land-ward movement of the beach.
- Over the last 40 years, removal of sand and coral rubble (sand mining) from the beach and reef flat has been the biggest cause of coastal erosion on Kosrae.
- The population of Kosrae is increasing. If more people take sand and coral rubble from the coastline, coastal erosion and loss of land will increase.
- Even taking a small amount of sand has an impact.



How does it affect you?

By taking sand and coral rubble from any part of the coastline you will:

- Lose more land due to coastal erosion.
- Increase the risk of damage from storms and typhoons to your land and property
- Cause coastal erosion and increase the risk of storm damage to your neighbors land and property.



Much of the coastal erosion problems at Malem village and along most of the Malem coast have been caused by sand mining. Over 30 yards of land have been lost at Malem village over the last 15 or so years.

What can you do?

You can help reduce the effects of coastal erosion on you, your family and your community:

- HELP – by not taking sand and coral rubble from the coastline for construction or other purposes.
- HELP – by encouraging people in your Municipality not to take sand or coral rubble from the coastline.
- HELP – by getting sand for construction from DRC permitted sand mining sites.
- HELP – by showing people who are sand mining this leaflet Explain to them the problems sand mining causes.



Where to get more information

To get more information on sand mining, contact the Development Review Commission on 370 2076 or come into the office in Tofol.

There are also a number of other factsheets on coastal issues. Contact the DRC for more information.