

# Kiribati Women in Mapping: Progress & Challenges



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#### **Background Information**

- Abbreviated as KWIM
- Founded in September 2020 and recognized as an incorporated society by the Ministry of Women, Youth, Support and Social Affairs (MWYSA) in October 2020
- Vision: Empowering Women ability in Mapping and promote the importance of Geographical Information System (GIS)
- Aims: Empowering Women in GIS skills and knowledge, promoting Gender Equality and promoting of the Importance of GIS
- Long term goals: Improving gender equality, increasing female participation in GIS, reducing women poverty.
- Members: 62 annual fee \$2, age limit: 18 years 60 years
- Professions within our KWIM: Cartographer, Tourism Management, Marine Biologist, Land surveyors, GIS, Water engineer, Nurse, Accountant..etc



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KIRIBATI WOMEN MAPPING

BREAKING BARRIERS BUILDING WOMEN









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### **Activities & Events**

- Monthly GIS training: open-sourced software (QGIS), OpenStreetMap (OSM) – funded by OSGeo Oceania microgrants, organized by KWIM members, and facilitated by Aaron Hick and Tion Uriam
- Drone training by Aaron Hick
- Monthly meetings (executive members & members)
- Fundraisings supported by OSGeo Oceania
- 2021 FOSS4G Sot Map at Tarawa funded and supported by OSGeo Oceania
- 2022 FOSS4G & Pacific Geospatial Conference a member was funded through the SheLeadsSheInpires program to present KWIM at the conference.





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#### **Projects**

1. Betio and Buariki Mapping and validation Project Funded by Asia Pacific Open Mapping Hub



2. Mapping of well water salinity in Betio Funded by International Organization of Migration





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#### **KWIM Future Plans**

- Education and Skills Development
  - Continue Training on QGIS, OSM, other GIS software
  - Training of trainers to expand KWIM activities in the outer islands including Christmas island (Kintimati)
  - 6-month Internship program for members to attach in workplaces
  - Scholarship: Certificate or Diploma
  - Short-term training overseas
- Employment opportunities through short-term projects and at government workplaces
- Micro loans for training within Kiribati Institute of Technology (Basic computing, English, IT..etc)
- Fundraising for KWIM necessary needs (partial funding for travels/ training)
- Building of KWIM training facility and office (funding)



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## **Challenges**

- Fund for training & activities (Venue & Transport)
- Training facility/Place of gathering
- Lack of computers/laptops •
- Support from the Kiribati Government
- Gender equality





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#### **Acknowledgements**

- Woolpert & Aubery Barker Fund
- Aaron and Kate •
- Local TA Mr. Tion Uriam
- **OSGeo** Oceania •
- Asia-Pacific Open Mapping Hub
- International Organization of Migration
- KWIM Chairperson & Executive Members
- KWIM Founder & Former Chairpersons •
- **KWIM Stakeholders** •











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# Thank You

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