

WIM ExCom Site Visit
Location: Kalal En & Eneko
Date: September 13, 2026

What to Expect

At Kalal En

Participants will be picked up from the Marshall Islands Resort at 1 pm by boat from the dock outside the restaurant. From there, they will be transferred to the islet of Kalal En, which depending on the weather could be about a 20-30 minute boat ride. There, they will have an opportunity to witness how coastal changes can result in the loss of land that holds environmental, cultural, and community significance. The traditional landowners' family will guide participants around the site and share how their family once used the islet for food gathering and other activities through generations. They will also share how the islet has physically changed over time, and how repeated overwash and coastal changes have gradually washed away much of the land that was once used and valued by her family and community. The visit will provide a direct, personal perspective on how the loss of a physical place can also mean the loss of access to traditional resources, memories, practices, and sacred connection to land.

At Eneko

Following the short trip to Kalal En, participants will reboard the boat to transfer to Eneko, another islet nearby that is about a 10 minute boat ride. The original program included a visit to the nearby islet of Bokinbotin. However, due to logistical challenges this has been changed to the islet of Eneko. Both are beautiful islets that are popular for picnics. The bwebwenato/talanoa session at Eneko will provide an informal space for participants to learn and exchange with two nonprofits - *Jo-Jikum*, an environmental organization dedicated to working with youth, and *Waan Aelon in Majel* (WAM), an organization dedicated to preserving traditional Marshallese canoe-building and seafaring knowledge. These local organizations will share their experiences and perspectives on how climate change is affecting cultural practices, traditional knowledge, cultural identity, and other important aspects of community life.

- Jo-Jikum will share their work on documenting non-economic loss and damage and community experiences.
- Waan Aelon in Majel (WAM) will share perspectives on traditional Marshallese canoe-building, seafaring knowledge, and the importance of preserving these practices.

A Few Things to Keep in Mind

- Please arrive at the Marshall Islands Resort main lobby by 12:30 PM for prompt departure at 1 PM.
- The field visit involves boat travel to the neighboring islets, so wear comfortable clothing and footwear. If you're planning on swimming, pack a towel, swimming clothes, a hat, and change of clothes if you'd prefer to change there. There will be an opportunity to swim at Bokanbotin, and there are restrooms and showers available there.
- Bring water, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, and any personal medication you may need.
- The schedule is approximate and may change depending on weather, sea conditions, and transportation arrangements.

- If the *bwebwenato/talanoa* session finishes earlier than expected, participants are more than welcome to swim, explore Eneko, or spend some informal time on the island before we depart.
- Let us know of any dietary restrictions beforehand.
- Please follow guidance from the field trip coordinators and local hosts throughout the visit.

Tentative Schedule

Time	Activity	Details
12:30 pm	Meet at MIR restaurant	Participants meet at the MIR restaurant, outside by the water. Check-in and preparation for departure.
1:00 PM	Depart MIR	Group departs by boat for Kalal En
1:45 PM	Visit to Kalal En	Visit the site of the islet that has been significantly reduced by repeated overwash and changing coastal conditions. Participants will hear about the site's history and its significance to local communities.
2:00 PM	Depart Kalal En → Eneko	Boat transfer to Eneko.
2:30 PM	Lunch and Bwebwenato / Talanoa at Eneko	Lunch will be provided on site. After everyone receives their food, there will be a community dialogue led by Jo-Jikum and Waan Aelon in Majel (WAM), focusing on non-economic loss and damage, cultural practices, traditional knowledge, and community experiences.
3:30 PM onwards	Informal time / Explore Eneko	Following the <i>bwebwenato/talanoa</i> session, participants are welcome to swim, explore the island, or spend time informally with other participants and community members, as time and conditions allow.
4:00–4:30 PM	Depart Eneko → MIR	Return boat trip to MIR dock.

Please note: All times provided are approximate and subject to change. The schedule may be adjusted depending on weather and sea conditions, boat and transportation arrangements, the timing of activities at each location, and other circumstances that may arise during the field visit. Participants are kindly asked to remain flexible throughout the day.