

# 2023 Year in Review

Te au apinga puapinga te ka tauturu i te iti-tangata Kuki Airani – this is the vision of the Cook Islands Investment Corporation, to deliver quality assets that serve the Cook Islands people.

Over the past few years, our focus has been on delivering tangible assets that benefit all Cook Islanders. We do this by upgrading existing public assets and in some cases creating new ones, as well as managing our state-owned enterprises (SOEs) – all to improve the wellbeing of our people both in Rarotonga and across the Pa Enua.

As we move on into 2024, we wanted to take a brief look back and share with you some of what we achieved in 2023.

Looking ahead to 2024 and beyond, CIIC intends to deliver more great projects and initiatives for the nation as we continue to fulfil our vision.

Kia orana e kia manuia.

## June

- CIIC again attended the Rarotonga Careers Expo Day. The lively exhibit required students to participate in a number of interactive activities, with a Jenga game involving careers-related questions being particularly popular. The objective of the day was to give students a better understanding of what infrastructure is all about and the different trades and professions associated with it.



## July

- CIIC continued our ongoing investment in developing effective and evolving leadership by holding a number of training workshops, including with people who had expressed an interest in becoming a director with the CIIC Group.



## January

- Cook Islands Investment Corporation officials and staff returned to work after their holiday break looking forward to a new year of serving the Cook Islands people, including bringing to fruition plans for several major infrastructure and public works projects across Rarotonga and the Pa Enua.



## May

- CIIC in conjunction with Te Marae Ora (TMO) officially opened the new Te Puna Tiaki Wellness Unit at Rarotonga Hospital, joined by community leaders and a range of NGO representatives from the health, mental health, and social services sectors. At the same time, a new IT Building and Pharmacy Extension adjacent to the hospital were also opened.

## September

- CIIC started an extensive 12-month flora-revitalising, tree planting and maintenance programme in Avarua as part of Te Tau Papa o Avarua – the Avarua Town Plan Project. The main purpose of this work is to revitalise the natural landscape of the township area, including eliminating any public safety hazards, while also looking to preserve those trees identified as healthy, as well as their surrounding environments.



## August

- Important remedial works to the grandstand at Rarotonga's National Stadium and Sports Arena were completed, resulting in previous restrictions on the amount of people who were able to use the grandstand being lifted. The initial remedial works included the installation of steel props below the grandstand and rehabilitation work on the grandstand ground beams.

## February

- The new Tauhunu Administration Centre on Manihiki Island was officially opened on February 23 with a blessing ceremony.
- A groundbreaking ceremony was held to mark the commencement of the Ministry of Justice Rarotonga Building Lift Project, which addresses accessibility issues at the building, especially for the elderly and disabled.



## April

- Minister for CIIC the Honourable Albert Nicholas announced changes to the CIIC Board, with the appointment of new Chair Fletcher Melvin, following the resignation of former Chair Michael Henry. New directors Sharyn Paio, Arama Wichman and Patrick Arioka had also been appointed earlier in the year, following the resignations of former directors Malcolm Sword and Caren Rangī.

## October

- The Ministry of Justice Rarotonga Building Lift Project is completed, with an opening held on November 1. Esteemed guests included the King's Representative Sir Tom Marsters, members of the Cook Islands National Disability Council, Minister of Justice Mac Mokoroa, Minister for CIIC Albert Nicholas, members of the Ui Ariki, and other government officials. The project finally addressed major accessibility issues to public services and to the justice system, while also increasing the accessibility of employment opportunities for persons with disabilities as well as the elderly and infirm.



## November

- Major works on the Cook Islands Ministry of Cultural Development (MoCD) buildings, complex and roading infrastructure were completed just in time to successfully host the 52nd Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting (PILFM52). Plans to undertake these works had been implemented in May, in a coordinated and collaborative effort between CIIC, MoCD and Infrastructure Cook Islands.
- Nearly two years after the launch of a visionary programme to transform Mangaia, work was completed over 12 separate sites on the island. Minister for

## March

- Planning, designing, consulting, consenting and procurement activities all commenced for Te Tau Papa o Avarua – the Avarua Town Plan Beautification and Reorganisation Works.



### TE TAU PAPA O AVARUA PHASE 1



- The blessing of a new crane for Aitutaki Ports marked the completion of Phase I and officially launched Phase II of the Arutanga Harbour Project. Driven by CIIC, the Cook Islands Ports Authority and the Aitutaki Island Government, the central aim of the Arutanga Harbour Project is to improve the safety and usability of the harbour and port.

## December

- CIIC the Honourable Albert Nicholas led a delegation from Rarotonga, including representatives of CIIC and from various other government ministries, to celebrate this significant milestone with the people of Mangaia.
- The official commencement of phase one of Te Tau Papa o Avarua project was marked with the unveiling of two project signboards. Dignitaries attending included the New Zealand High Commissioner to Cook Islands Her Excellency Tui Dewes, Minister for Punanga Nui Market the Honourable George Angene and Minister for CIIC the Honourable Albert Nicholas.