



# EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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## Ambassador Reed-Rowe visits Ngermeskang



On June 29, Palau Community College Research and Development Station at Ngaremlengui State welcomed U.S. Ambassador Helen Reed-Rowe for a briefing and tour. The Station shared historical and current information highlighting many accomplishments of its mission. Catalogues of the diverse types of taro, cassava and sweet potatoes have been developed and are used as guides for farmers in Palau, who also have access to starting plants from the Station. The current project, identification of a salt water resistant taro, demonstrates the continuing relevance of the Station as it moves to address the pressing issue of climate and environmental change.

Vice President PCC Cooperative Research and Extension, Thomas Taro and Researcher Dr. Aurora Del Rosario are instrumental in guiding the continued success of the Station. The Republic of Palau and the United States Department of Agriculture partner to provide funding for this innovated Station. This summer five interns from the PCC are onboard and working onsite to enhance their knowledge of the agricultural and food security fields. After a tour of the 25-acre farm that consists of various produce and farm animals, Ambassador Reed-Rowe donated gloves, cutting and sharpening tools in support of the Station work program. Dr. Del Rosario and PCC staff hosted a lunch for the Ambassador with a variety of taro specialties, prepared by Dr. Lydia Marero, and Ngaremlengui State's signature dish "you'll never know."