Marshall Islands Maritime Investment Project

Chance Finds Procedure

# Introduction

1. Cultural property includes monuments, structures, works of art, or sites of significance points of view, and are defined as sites and structures having archaeological, historical, architectural, or religious significance, and natural sites with cultural values. This includes cemeteries, graveyards and graves.
2. Screening for the MIMIP indicated that Cultural Physical Resources were unlikely to be at risk as a result of the projects. Therefore WB OP/BP4.11 was not triggered. Nonetheless, there is the possibility that unexpected cultural heritage items could be discovered during works – ‘Chance Finds.

# Chance Finds Procedure

1. This procedure is to be followed in the event of a Chance Find:
* Stop the construction activities in the area of the chance find
* Delineate the discovered site or area;
* Secure the site to prevent any damage or loss of removable objects.
* Notify the supervisory Engineer who in turn will notify the responsible local authorities;
* Responsible local authorities and the Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs (RMI Historic Preservation Office (HPO)) would be in charge of protecting and preserving the site before deciding on subsequent appropriate procedures.
* Decisions on how to handle the finding shall be taken by the responsible authorities and the HPO. This could include changes in the layout (such as when finding an irremovable remain of cultural or archeological importance) conservation, preservation, restoration and salvage.
* Implementation for the authority decision concerning the management of the finding shall be communicated in writing by the HPO.
* Construction work could resume only after permission is given from the responsible local authorities and the HPO concerning safeguard of the heritage.
1. These procedures must be referred to as standard provisions in construction contracts.

# Reporting

1. During project supervision, the Site Supervisor shall monitor the above regulations relating to the treatment of any chance find encountered are observed. Relevant findings will be recorded in World Bank Supervision Reports and Implementation Completion Reports will assess the overall effectiveness of the project’s cultural property mitigation, management, and activities, as appropriate.