

Kosrae Marks a Milestone with Handover of Newly Renovated Biosecurity Facility

📍 Marly Fredrick 🗂️ Gov News 📅 February 19, 2026



OKAT, Kosrae — February 16, 2026 — The Honorable Aren B. Palik, Vice President of the Federated States of Micronesia, formally handed over the newly renovated Kosrae State

Biosecurity Facility, reinforcing the nation's commitment to protecting its borders, natural resources, and communities.

State and national leaders gathered for the ceremony in a shared demonstration of partnership and purpose. More than a building, the facility represents protection of land, ocean, livelihoods and future generations.

In his welcoming remarks, Governor Tulensa W. Palik reminded those in attendance that the moment carried deeper meaning:

“Today marks more than the opening of a building. It marks a strengthening of our borders, the protection of our natural resources and an investment in the safety and prosperity of our people. As one of the gateways to the FSM, Kosrae carries an important responsibility. Our island’s pristine environment, rich marine ecosystems and fertile lands are not only sources of pride. They are the foundation of our food security, our economy and our cultural heritage.”

Vice President Aren B. Palik emphasized the shared responsibility behind the investment stating:

“Biosecurity is not just a technical function. It is a safeguard for our people and our future,” the Vice President stated. “In a nation of islands connected by air and sea, prevention is our strongest line of defense. This facility strengthens Kosrae’s ability to protect not only the state, but the entire Federated States of Micronesia.”

The upgraded facility provides a dedicated space for inspection, monitoring and early response activities, strengthening Kosrae’s operational readiness and contributing to the resilience of the national biosecurity system.

The renovation was made possible through the GEF-6 FSM Invasive Alien Species Project, implemented by the Agriculture Division of the FSM Department of Resources and Development, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The project supports efforts across the country to prevent, detect and manage invasive species before they cause lasting environmental, economic, and public health harm.

The ceremony concluded with the handover of the key and ribbon cutting, a symbolic but meaningful gesture of cooperation between national and state governments.

For Kosrae, the facility stands as a visible commitment to protecting what makes the island unique: its environment, its food systems, and its way of life. For the FSM, it reinforces a broader national promise to act early, work together and safeguard the natural heritage that sustains the nation.

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