



## **Taiwan helping Nauru become a low-carbon emission country**

By Online Editor

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Nauru President, Marcus Stephen with President Ma of Taiwan

Taiwan will help the Republic of Nauru, its ally in the South Pacific, replace traditional lighting with energy-saving lights in all households by the end of the year, an official with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Sunday.

Tien Chung-kwang, director of the Department of East Asian and Pacific Affairs under MOFA, said Nauru largely depends on imports of energy and commodities.

The electricity on the island country relies on imported diesel fuel and is of relatively higher cost, Tien said.

Tien said the ministry chose Nauru as the pilot project in its plan to develop "low-carbon emission" islands because the South Pacific country has a small population and is exposed to abundant amounts of sun.

The plan for low-carbon emission involves three phases -- energy-saving lights, solar power, and alternative energy such as fuel from plants.

Another challenge is to help the Nauruan people develop the habit of switching off lights when they are not using them.

Tien said the ministry will complete the replacement by the end of the year and the initiative can save Nauru 14 percent in energy costs, and reduce carbon emissions by 12 percent each year.

According to the director, the project will require over 30,000 bulbs and 25,000 fluorescent tubes.

He would not disclose the total budget but said the amount is cost-effective.

SOURCE: CNA/PACNEWS