

## KIRIBATI INTEGRATES SANDWATCH CONCEPTS INTO SCHOOL CURRICULUM

The Curriculum Development Resources Centre (CDRC), a part of the Kiribati Ministry of Education, shared their progress with integrating Sandwatch concepts into the Kiribati school curriculum during a Sandwatch Training Workshop in December 2015, supported by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the European Union funded “Environmentally Sustainable Aggregates for Tarawa Project”.

The vision of the CDRC is “*Nurturing our children and young people in Kiribati to become wise and responsible citizens able to adapt to, and participate in their changing world.*”

The curriculum reform started in 2012 and has been undertaken for years 1-6 (years 5 - 6 are still in progress). The reform is being funded by AusAID and coordinated by the Kiribati Education Improvement Programme.

Sandwatch concepts have been incorporated in the curriculum for years 1 – 6 in environmental science and Kiribati community study. Several materials have been produced including:

- Year 1 and 2 syllabuses: Kiribati Reader: Na kanga n tarau au Otanibanin
- Year 1 and 2 English Reader: Playing on the Beach – a story about a group of children who couldn’t play on the beach because of all the rubbish, so they involved their friends in carefully sorting the different types of rubbish and cleaning up the beach and then keeping it clean.
- Year 3 Term 3: English Reader: Save our Beach – a story about a family who used to play on the beach and one day the beach disappeared. The children worked with their parents to build a small wall and plant mangroves to save their beach.
- Year 1 and 2: Kiribati Reader: Weather
- Posters of Year 1 and 2: Our Beach
- Posters of Year 3 and 4: Angry Waves



*Poster for Years 3 and 4 “Angry Waves” (CDRC, Ministry of Education)*

The reform of the syllabuses for junior secondary school and senior secondary school will start in mid-2016 and the Ministry of Education in Kiribati are looking at ways to incorporate Sandwatch activities, which also address the principles of education for sustainable development, at a more advanced level.