

Bdelul La' Arkemais (BLA)

President
Rodney Eledui Omelau
Vice President
Bernice Ngirkelau

Main Activities

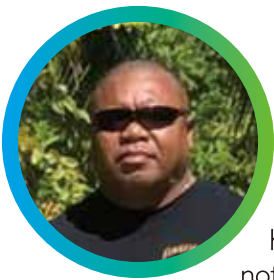
- Improving the community
- Organizing projects for the youth
- Cleaning the hamlet / rock islands
- Organizing sports events
- Fixing roads and buildings
- Fundraising for the community to support families in need

Background of Establishment

In 2017, Former President Tommy E. Remengesau Jr officially signed the Non-Profit Corporate Charter for Bdelul La' Arkemais. The name derives from the original name of the area surrounding T-Dock, which roughly translates to "Port of Arkemais". "Arkemais" comes from the word "chomais" in Palauan, which means constantly coming and going.

Purpose

Supporting the hamlet of Meketii in Koror state. A bridge connecting the Community of Meketii and the State to promote advocacy for the youth and the community.



Member's Voice Mr. Rodney Eledui Omelau

We started this NGO in 2017 before I was elected legislator of Meketii for the State of Koror.

Our short-term goals include completion of our current project restoring the Bul ra Kemais (pool of Arkemais). Different from a common swimming pool, this is a saltwater pool that utilizes the ocean all around. It has existed for over a century and is situated at the end of T-Dock. This historical pool has been used by many people in the past, but over time with several typhoons and not being properly maintained, it has deteriorated. We were fortunate enough to receive a grant from the Global Environment Facility/Small Grants Programme implemented by the United Nations Development Programme through the United Nations Office for Project Services for this project.

Our long-term goals include: the renovation of the basketball court, putting up a roof so the community can use the space as needed in any weather, building a summerhouse and adding restrooms next to the swimming pool, and working closely with more organizations to support and help in any way we can. Just as Ngaramecherocher (a traditional association of Melekeok) came to assist us with the launching of our Bul ra Kemais project, we help them with their Ngerdok Lake project.

We strive to teach our kids that it is not only the Government's job to clean the community, but our own as well. Sometimes it's a struggle to get kids outside and off their electronics but we try to convey the importance of working together and supporting one another to accomplish a goal. We hope to instill in our youth a sense of pride and ownership of their community. It has truly been a pleasure to see them learn and grow into responsible citizens who care about their community.

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