

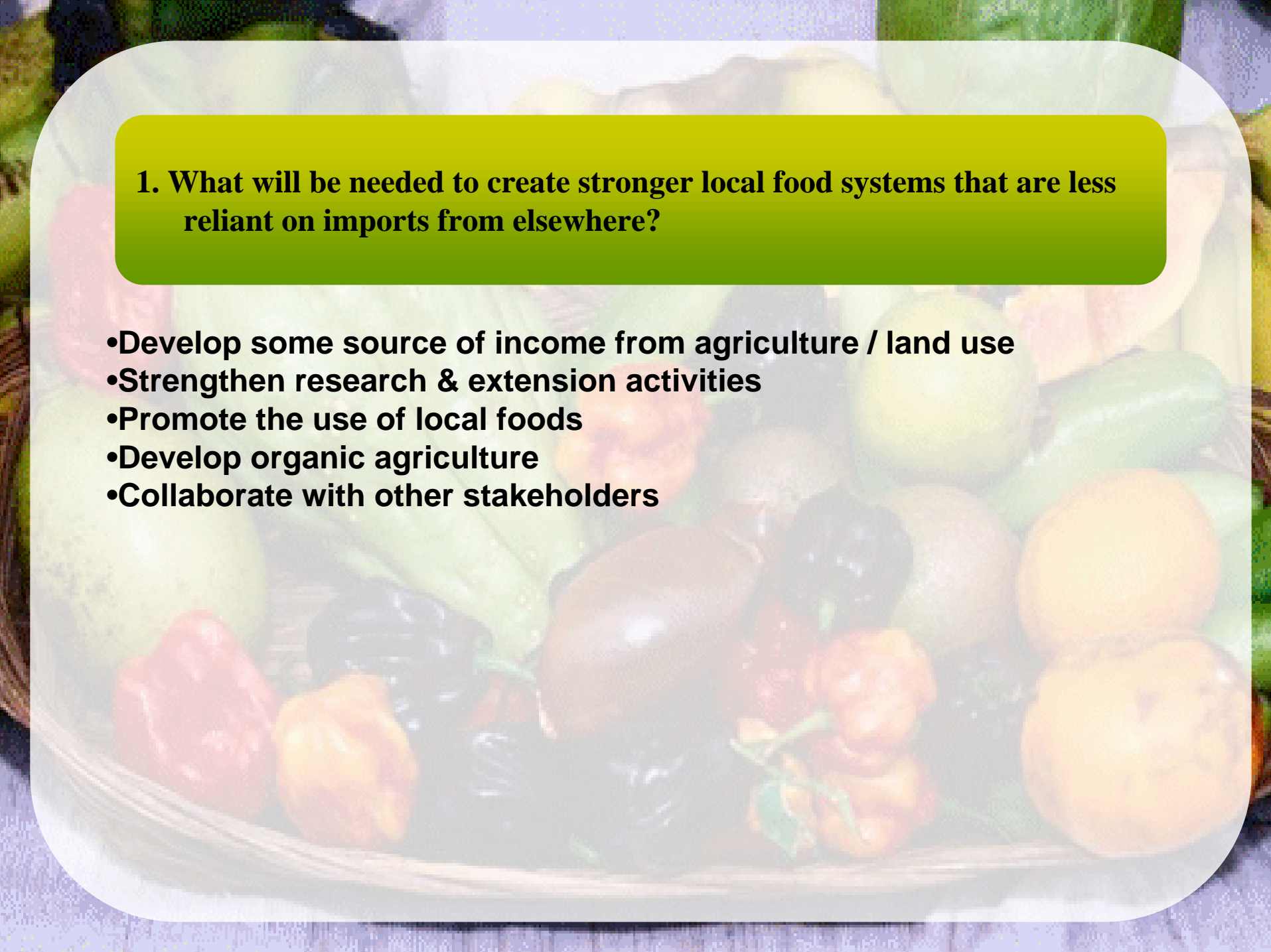
A woven basket filled with various tropical fruits. In the background, there are several green coconuts and a bunch of yellow bananas. In the foreground, there are sliced red tomatoes, a whole papaya, and some dark, round fruits. The basket is set against a light blue background.

Community Group:

Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI)

*Presenters: Nat Tuivavalagi, Jabu Aikne, Carmen Bigler*

*(CMI Land Grant, WUTMI, MoR&D)*

A background image of a woven basket filled with various fresh vegetables, including red and yellow bell peppers, green cucumbers, and several red tomatoes. The basket is set against a light-colored, textured background.

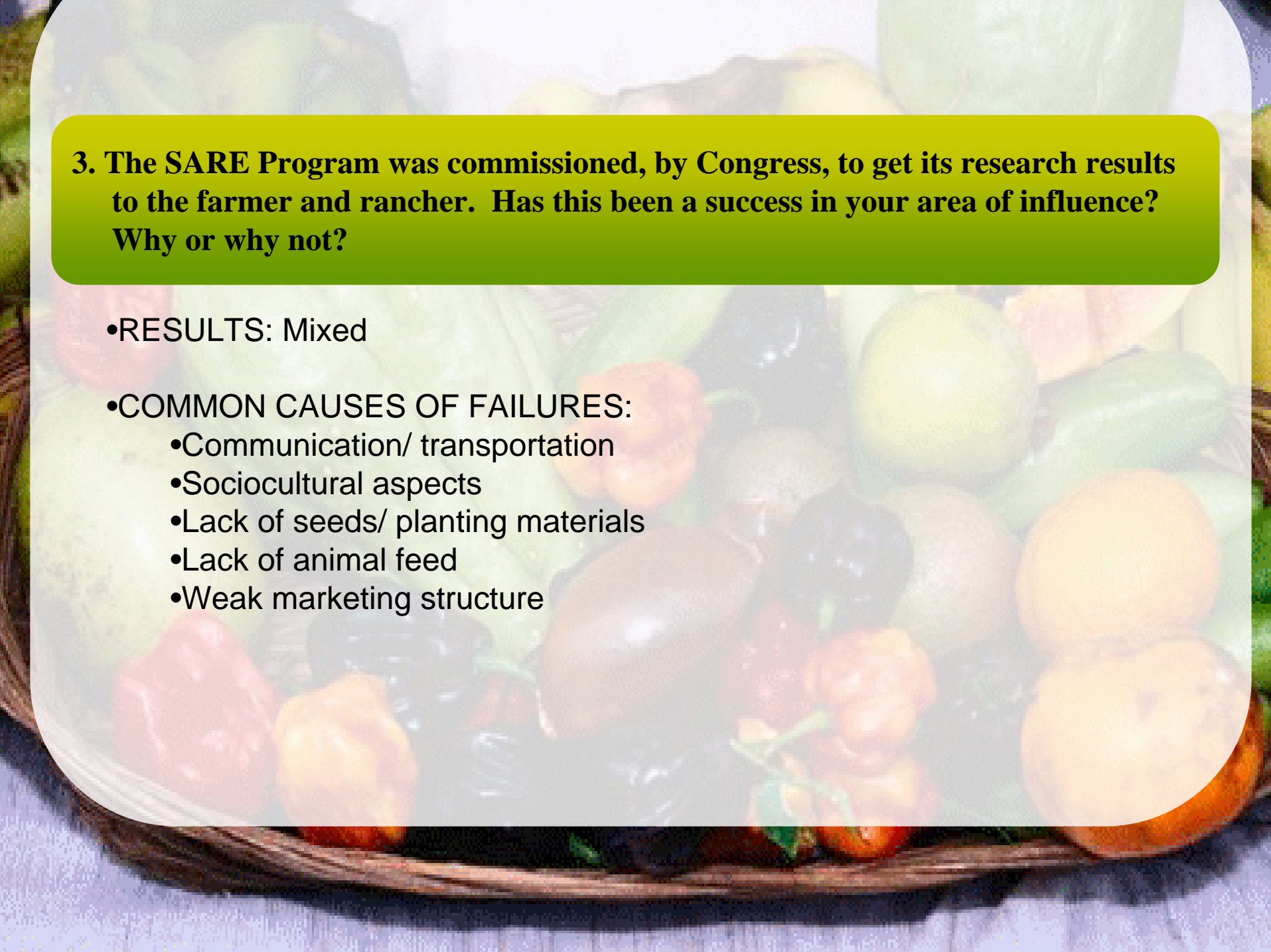
## **1. What will be needed to create stronger local food systems that are less reliant on imports from elsewhere?**

- **Develop some source of income from agriculture / land use**
- **Strengthen research & extension activities**
- **Promote the use of local foods**
- **Develop organic agriculture**
- **Collaborate with other stakeholders**

## 2. Situation in RMI

- Trend in food production (migration)
  - Slight increase in Majuro (Laura)
  - Fluctuation in Outer Islands
    - Mili (banana)
    - Namrik (banana)
    - Ebon (root crops)
- Level of Self Sufficiency

• Current Level	10-20 %
• +10 yr without intervention	05-10 %
• +10 yr with intervention	30-40 %
- Areas of Production that Need Improvement
  - Crops
  - Livestock
  - (Fishing)
  - → Integrated Farming

A background image of a woven basket filled with various fresh vegetables. Visible items include several red and yellow tomatoes, green cucumbers, and leafy greens like lettuce. The basket is resting on a light-colored wooden surface.

**3. The SARE Program was commissioned, by Congress, to get its research results to the farmer and rancher. Has this been a success in your area of influence? Why or why not?**

- RESULTS: Mixed
- COMMON CAUSES OF FAILURES:
  - Communication/ transportation
  - Sociocultural aspects
  - Lack of seeds/ planting materials
  - Lack of animal feed
  - Weak marketing structure

#### **4. Needs over the next 10 years.**

##### **RESEARCH**

- Breadfruit (flour, recipes, preservation, animal feed, etc)
- Other Traditional Foods (varieties & potentials, product development, etc)
- Vegetables (include nutrition, seed production, etc)
- Organic Agriculture (pest control, soil fertility, etc)
- Agroforestry

##### **EDUCATION**

- Agriculture in elementary & secondary schools
- Cert (Agric), AA (Agric) at CMI
- Locals sent overseas for advanced degrees

##### **DEVELOPMENT**

- Target women and young people
- Develop extension materials (local language)
- 2-pronged approach: Majuro/Ebeye & Outer Islands
- Develop linkages & networking (with Health & Others)
- [Develop infrastructure]

**5. If Western SARE received (from Congress) an additional \$1 million per region, what types of projects should be targeted or emphasized?**

- Emphasize small projects rather than big ones
  - Be in line with available human resources
- Emphasize empowering groups and individuals
  - Support NGO's, CBO's, farmer-to-farmer mentoring, etc
  - Successful individuals can be role models