

## **Timeline**

Project implementation began in **July 2025**, following fund disbursement, during which initial planning, procurement, and preparation activities were initiated. Supplies were ordered and project logistics were finalized to support upcoming research and outreach activities.

From **July through November 2025 (rainy season period)**, the project formally initiated **Objectives 1 and 3**, focusing on swine reproductive performance under modified environmental conditions and the construction and implementation of the temporary individual farrowing system. During this period, four farrowing systems were constructed, installed, and tested within the existing piggery infrastructure. The first system required design adjustments, including modifications to door swing alignment and panel configuration, resulting in improved functionality for subsequent units. All systems were successfully deployed and used throughout the study. Concurrently, data collection began, including daily tracking of pig production metrics, feed and water intake, and weather conditions. A farmer-to-farmer demonstration was conducted in the morning of September 20, 2025, in conjunction with the field day in the afternoon, and all activities were documented through photos and videos. Objective 1 concluded following completion of the rainy season reproductive cycle.

In **August 2025**, planning and promotion for the field day and farm tours were carried out, including coordination with partners, preparation of educational materials, and outreach to participants.

In **September 2025**, the primary outreach event was held on September 20, 2025, at Kumoi Farms. The field day and farm tours were successfully conducted with high attendance and participation from producers, students, volunteers, and community members. Activities included guided farm tours, demonstrations of swine management practices and farrowing system design, educational presentations, and engagement with agricultural organizations. The event was widely covered by local media and documented extensively through photos, videos, and social media outreach.

In **October 2025**, data from the field day and outreach activities were reviewed and analyzed to assess participation and engagement.

In **December 2025**, continued monitoring of pig production and data collection activities occurred, and breeding for **Objective 2** was initiated, aligning with the gestation timeline for anticipated farrowing during the dry season study period. Preparations for continued research and outreach activities were also conducted.

From **January through April 2026 (dry season period)**, the project implemented **Objective 2** while continuing **Objective 3**, focusing on comparative analysis of pig production under dry season conditions. However, this period was marked by unusual and prolonged weather patterns, with significantly higher-than-average rainfall observed across all months. January and February experienced rainfall levels well above historical averages, while March—typically the driest month—was impacted by tropical instability associated with regional storm activity. These

atypical conditions created environmental stressors more characteristic of the rainy season, influencing pig production outcomes and complicating seasonal comparisons.

During this time, data collection continued, including monitoring of pig births, litter size, and physical characteristics. Two additional farmer-to-farmer demonstrations were conducted: one in February 2026 on Tinian (in a small, private setting), and one at Kumoi Farms in April 2026 in a post-disruption setting. Documentation of activities continued through available means.

In early April 2026, prior to major storm impact, video production materials for the project's educational series were substantially completed, including filming and editing. However, final voiceover components remained incomplete.

In mid-April 2026, project activities were significantly disrupted by Super Typhoon Sinlaku, which caused widespread damage across Saipan, including loss of electricity, water access, and physical damage to farm infrastructure. These conditions limited full data collection during farrowing events, restricting measurements such as piglet weights and detailed handling. Observational data, including litter counts and visible characteristics, continued to be recorded where feasible. Despite these challenges, Objectives 2 and 3 were carried through to completion to the extent possible under emergency conditions.

Following the typhoon, recovery efforts began while final data organization and evaluation activities for **Objective 4** were completed using available datasets.

In **April 2026**, the project entered closeout activities, including preparation and submission of the final WSARE report and completion of fact sheets. While video production was largely completed prior to the typhoon, final voiceover recording and full dissemination of videos and fact sheets were delayed due to ongoing infrastructure limitations. Distribution of these materials will occur upon restoration of stable electricity and internet access and will be shared with partners including the Marianas Producers Association, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources Animal Health Section, and the Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Service (NMC-CREES), as well as participating producers and community stakeholders.