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PacWastePlus (PWP) Steering Committee

MEETING REPORT

9 March 2021, Zoom Teleconference

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Our vision: A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

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ATTENDEES

The meeting was attended by the following people.

Name	Position	Organisation / Country
Diane Charlie-Puna	Secretary	Ministry of Infrastructure, Cook Islands
Patricia (Patti) Pedrus	Deputy Assistant Secretary, WMPC Unit	National Government – Federated States of Micronesia
Teniti Aro Taam	Solid Waste Management Officer	Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agriculture Development - Kiribati
Moriana Phillip	General Manager	Environmental Protection Authority – Republic of the Marshall Islands
Grace Garabwan	Waste and Chemical Manager	Government - Nauru
Bryan Star	Director for Environment	Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment, Nauru
Haden Talagi	Director	Department of Environment - Niue
Veari Kula	Manager – Infrastructure, Utilities and Conventions Branch	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority – Papua New Guinea
Kathrina Mogia	Project Assistant	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority - Papua New Guinea
Frances Brown-Reupena	Chief Executive Officer	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment - Samoa
Seumalo Afele Faiilagi	Acting Chief Executive Officer	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment - Samoa
Aliimuamua Setoa Apo	Principal Solid Waste Management Officer	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment - Samoa
Fiasosoitamalii Siaosi	Principal Chemical & Hazardous Waste Management Officer	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment - Samoa
Debra Kereseka	Chief Environment Officer	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology – Solomon Islands
Michael Suinao	Senior Environment Officer	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology – Solomon Islands
George Bogese	Director	Honiara City Council – Solomon Islands
Gregorio Ferreira da Silva	Programme Director	National Authorizing Office Services – Democratic Republic of Timor Leste
Zitu Fernandes	Rural Development Programme Manager	National Authorizing Office Services – Democratic Republic of Timor Leste
Mafile'o Masi	Chief Environmentalist	Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications – Tonga
Lupe Matoto	Director	Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications – Tonga
Epu Falenga	Director	Government of Tuvalu
Emily Lafai	Waste Regulator	Government of Tuvalu
Ionie Bolenga	Principal Officer - WMPC	Ministry of Climate Change, Meteorology & Geohazards, Energy, Environment and Disaster Management - Vanuatu
Isoa Korovulavula	Acting Director – Institute of Applied Science	University of the South Pacific
David Hebblethwaite	Water Security and Governance Coordinator	Pacific Community
Rose Kitua	Senior Technical Advisor	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Andreja Vidal	Programme Manager – Delegation of the EU for the Pacific	European Union
Anthony Talouli	Acting Director WMPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

Name	Position	Organisation / Country
Joshua Sam	Hazardous Waste Management	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment
	Adviser WMPC	Programme
Ma Bella Guinto	Solid Waste Management	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment
	Adviser WMPC	Programme
Kilom Ishiguro	Technical Export	SPREP North Office
Nicole Coombe	Director	Department of Agriculture, Water and
		Environment, Government of Australia
Mimura Satoru	Chief Advisor	JICA/J-PRISM II
Ayako Yoshida	Regional Cooperation/Project Coordinator	JICA
Mayu Nomura	Expert on Waste Management	JICA
iviaya ivoitiata	Training/Monitoring	JICA
Oishi Misa	Sub-team leader (SWM Expert)	JICA J-PRISM II Group 1(Micronesia Region)
Ichiro Ono	Chief Consultant	Consultant for JICA
Evangeline Potifara	JPRISM Assistant	JICA/J-PRISM
Bradley Nolan	PacWastePlus Project Manager	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
Nitish Narayan	PacWastePlus Communications	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment
	Officer	Programme
Sela Soakai Simamao	PacWastePlus Procurement	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment
	and Finance Officer	Programme
Lance Richman	PacWastePlus Technical Officer – Hazardous Waste	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
Sainimili Bulai	PacWastePlus Technical Officer	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment
Saillilliii Bulai	- Solid Waste	Programme
Hilary Boyes	PacWastePlus Technical Officer	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment
	– Resource Recovery	Programme
Vira Atalifo	PacWastePlus Regional Project	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment
	Officer	Programme
Michael Taiki	PacWastePlus Regional Project Officer	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment
Courted Schurenko	PacWastePlus Technical &	Programme
Crystal Schwenke	Admin Officer	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme



INTRODUCTION

The European Union funded PacWastePlus programme is working with 14 countries in the Pacific region, plus Timor-Leste, to address the cost effective and sustainable management of waste and pollution, as well as reducing the negative impacts of improper waste management on human health and wellbeing.

The programme is a continuation and up-scaling of a previous European Union funded Hazardous Waste Management project (PacWaste) that assisted countries to manage asbestos, e-waste and healthcare waste. This new programme will continue working in these areas and expand to address an additional five new waste streams.

The Project Steering Committee is established to guide the development and implementation of the PacWastePlus Programme, ensuring a fair and reasonable decision-making process for project priorities and funding allocations. The committee meets on an annual basis to discuss project activity and confirm forward activity for 12 months.

The 2021 Steering Committee Meeting was held as a virtual event (zoom meeting) due to the continued travel restrictions imposed in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Due to the online meeting format, the steering committee meeting was a focused 3.5-hour meeting that provided high level discussions on activities. The following report provides a summary of discussions and provides details of the various project activities presented at the meeting.

SESSION 1: Introductory Remarks / Welcome Address

The meeting was officially opened by Samoa country representative, Ms. Frances Reupena, Chief Executive Officer of the Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, where she welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided the opening prayer.

Ms. Andreja Vidal from the European Union's Delegation to the Pacific provided a welcome address to the meeting noting the challenges presented by the global pandemic, and the confidence the EU Delegation has in SPREP and the countries for continuing to deliver the programme work and progress on the development of local activities.

Andreja noted the intent to vary to programme and that the Delegation was working with PIFS to enable this to occur. Andreja also noted she was looking forward to hearing directly from the countries on the activities they would be undertaking as part of the programme.

SESSION 2: Programme Highlights from 2020

The PacWastePlus Programme Manager then provided a high-level summary of activity during 2020 and identified how the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic had delayed and slowed many activities, leading to the need to request a variation to the programme to account for these delays.

2020 Achievements

Key achievements from the project activity discussed at the meeting focused on:

- Successful recruitment of the PacWastePlus PMU (9 of 10 positions were recruited) and all staff have been actively working on delivery of key actions
- Numerous contracts were executed to deliver key actions to close the PacWaste project. Unfortunately, most of these have not been able to be delivered due to travel restrictions, but the contractors are standing ready to deploy as soon as travel restrictions are lifted.
- Eight countries have engaged to undertake feasibility studies to inform the development of national legislation supporting sustainable financing for recovery of waste materials.
- Active and ongoing implementation of a Communications & Visibility Plan and the successful launch of the guarterly "Connections" newsletter.
- Completion of the Regional Legislative Assessment, completion of regional Human Rights assessment, and coordination of waste auditing from all 15 participating countries.
- Partnerships with various regional donors and donor funded projects to undertake work that will assist PacWastePlus actions and generated over US\$800,000 in co-financing.
- Provided support to countries regarding healthcare waste policy, standard operating procedures for facility management and National Waste Strategies

A detailed list of achievements included in the Annual Donor Report is provided following:

Item	Description
Legislative Review and Assessment of the Environmental and Waste Legislative Environment in the PacWastePlus Participating Countries	PacWastePlus through its contract with the University of Melbourne completed a series of reports taking stock of existing legislations, assessing that waste legislation in all the 15 PacWastePlus participating countries. The legislative Stocktake <i>Reports</i> (current and pipeline) have been published, along with the <i>National Options Papers</i> that propose targeted options to consider when reviewing the legal and institutional infrastructure governing waste, have been provided directly to the NAO of each country. The final full legislative reports were published in March 2021.
PacWaste Legacy actions (KRA 3.11 Continuity of initiatives started under PacWaste.)	Outstanding issues from PacWaste have started to be developed and implemented. Specific activity is: Contracted service provider to update health care waste management training materials and deliver the training to the Ministry of Health in Timor-Leste. Contracted service provider to undertake approved works on health care waste incinerators in Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Kiribati Developed ToR to contract a service provider to continue asbestos removal work in Niue The actions will be completed once the COVID-19 travel restrictions are removed.

Item	Description
Establishment of a Regional Waste Audit Methodology	PacWastePlus in recognition of the number of organisations currently working in the region and similar requirement for waste data assisted PRIF to establish a Waste Audit Methodology. This methodology will ensure consistency in all audit works in the region and allow for data sharing. This partnership also resulted in the agreement of other programme to capture all country data in SPREP's Inform Portal.
Establishment of the Regional Waste Audit Committee	PacWastePlus in consultation with PRIF success fully established a Regional Waste Audit Committee. The committee is made up of other donor partners engaging in waste audit in the region. These included the World Bank, ADB, POLP and JPRIM II. The main objective of this committee is ensuring consistency, enable lessons sharing and data sharing amongst partners.
Building Country Relationship	The PacWastePlus, although impacted by not being able to undertake mission travel due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, continued to develop working relationships with country counterparts to continue progressing the design and implementation of PacWastePlus activities. Regular interactions with country staff have built their capacity on a variety of activities, with many expressing gratitude for the time taken, and effort spent working with country officers to develop the country projects.
Legislation Support to participating countries	PacWastePlus PMU received request for assistance for support on legislation drafting from five participating countries. The PMU is currently in the process of either tender advertisement or contract negotiations to recruit reputable consultants to establish technical note for the drafting of a Container Deposit Legislation for Samoa, Solomon Islands, Republic of Marshall Islands and Cook Islands, Niue, Nauru, PNG, and Vanuatu.
Support for the development of National Health Care Waste Management Guideline	PacWastePlus PMU provided technical support to the state of Yap in the Federated States of Micronesia on the finalisation of the state's Health Care Waste Guideline. PMU is also in consultation with the national government in FSM to provide similar assistance to the state of Pohnpei.
PacWastePlus In Country Concept Note/Application	An opportunity presented by the lack of travel was to allow the PMU team to provide a concerted effort in the design of a comprehensive yet user-friendly Concept Note to guide the development of PacWastePlus Project applications. This form was created in excel to enable the sections of the application to be logically structure using separate tabs, allow the use of formulas to carry forward key topic areas to provide guidance on what details are necessary in each section, automatically calculate budget from the project plan, and to provide colour-coding to highlight important features identified by the risk plan. The form has been continually adapted to reflect updated and improved planning processes e.g., an ESS tab was added after the SPREP ESS training, a NEAPs tab was added after identifying more focus was needed on NEAPs during country project design, and the M&E Plan has evolved in the attempt to provide a balance of high-level monitoring requirements with realistic data collection for Country Focal Points. Positive feedback has been received for the form and it has been adopted by GEF ISLANDS for use during their country application process. All country projects have been developed utilising this design system.

Item	Description
PacWastePlus Policies and Plans	The PacWastePlus PMU has developed polices to assist with the delivery of certain key components of the PacWastePlus project. Of note is the GESI Policy, developed to assist PacWastePlus in the attempt to mainstream gender equality and social inclusion into programme activities. The PMU team drafted a policy which was reviewed and finalised by a GESI specialist. PacWastePlus PMU staff also completed two half-day sessions with the GESI specialist to increase awareness of GESI considerations and to facilitate discussions using real examples on how GESI considerations can be mainstreamed into PacWastePlus programme activities. Additionally, an M&E consultant has been engaged to assist PacWastePlus to build the PacWastePlus M&E Plan to ensure important programme activities are captured for monitoring and evaluation.
Remote Engagement Strategy	The lack of travel in 2020 resulted in the urgent need to alter the engagement strategy for communications with country Focal Points. The PacWastePlus PMU recognised that one solution would not work for all countries, so a flexible approach has been implemented – with countries choosing their preferred method of communication and timing/frequency of calls. Individual strategies were employed from these preferences. Communications methods currently being utilized for connecting with countries include landline calls, cell phone calls, Skype, Zoom, Teams, IMO, and, in one case, Facebook Messenger. Calls with countries are typically planned each week, however, can often be rescheduled a number of times in response to other meetings and differing priorities such as COVID-19 Response Committees, network issues, or other unscheduled interruptions. The PacWastePlus PMU has maintained flexibility and generally has needed to allow the country Focal Points drive the meeting schedule. PacWastePlus PMU staff completed a two-day workshop on Hosting Remote Workshops and so gained valuable skills to employ when communicating remotely.
Newsletters	PacWastePlus developed its newsletter <i>The Connection</i> bringing together partners and projects with similar objective of improving waste management in the region. With quarterly publications, <i>The Connection</i> provided a space for sharing of information, announcements of events and project progress. PacWastePlus received numerous constructive feedbacks on the content and designs aspects of the newsletters from participating countries, partners and several SPREP executive staff.
Publications	As several mission trips were affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the PMU developed additional programme resources and remained actively engaged with participating Pacific islands country focal points. All resources can be downloaded from the PacWastePlus webpage.

Item	Description
Technical Assistance on Disaster Waste Management	A workshop was held 2-6 March 2020 as a follow up to the Disaster Waste Management Training conducted in November 2019 and the Pacific Regional Disaster Waste Management Guideline developed by J-PRISM II with PacWastePlus technical support. PacWastePlus is provided technical support to JPRISM II for the facilitation of the Disaster Waste Management training for local officers in Vanuatu. Lesson sharing through this partnership will enable PacWastePlus implement a regional disaster waste project covering disaster prone countries not assisted by JPRISM II.
On-ground support to Vanuatu to respond to Tropical Cyclone Harold	A direct request for support from DEPC in Vanuatu was received, and after project investigation, support was provided to 9 communities on outer islands to undertake disaster waste clean-up, and to develop village level disaster resilience plans.
Partnership with JPRISM II to develop Regional Disaster Waste Guideline and delivery of Disaster Waste Management Training to Vanuatu	PacWastePlus has partnered with JICA through the J-PRISM II (Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries, Phase II) to develop a draft Disaster Waste Management (DWM) National Contingency Plan to build up the capacity of Vanuatu in dealing with debris removal and management through more planned approaches. The contingency plan covers actions to address waste issues prior to, during and after each disaster event.
Engagement with National Recycling Associations	PacWastePlus is a participating member for the Fiji and Vanuatu Recycling Association. PacWastePlus is providing technical advice to the association and highlighting key programme works that would contribute to the achievement of the association objective. PacWastePlus hope that this engagement will promote the concept of circular economy whereby pollution is significantly reduced and removed from the environment.
Waste Segregation Facility SOP, Nauru Dumpsite	At the request of the Nauru NAO, PacWastePlus provided comment on the Nauru Waste Segregation Facility Standard Procedures for their facility at Nauru's main dumpsite. The Department of Commerce Industry and Environment in Nauru initiated a pilot project with support from Japan on the promotion of waste segregation in Nauru. This effort lead to the construction of a waste segregation facility and two machines, a can baler and glass crusher, for the operation of recycling system at Nauru dumpsite. PacWastePlus provided input to the draft procedures for proper use of these facilities. Recycling activities at this location are overseen by Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation (NRC) waste segregation operational staff.
Detailed guidance and drafting assistance to Kiribati for their National Strategy	PacWastePlus staff provided significant comment and guided the revisions of the development of a new Kiribati Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy (KWMRRS). Kiribati has prepared and worked the strategy with national stakeholders and will shortly be seeking cabinet endorsement for its adoption. The goal of this strategy is "to strengthen national capacity to ensure a safe and healthy environment for the people of Kiribati through effective and sound management of chemical and waste targeting the priority waste streams namely plastic waste, end of life vehicles, e-waste, recyclables, disaster waste, organic waste and used tires".
Assistance to Yap on the development of a State Heath care waste Management Strategy	The PacWastePlus technical officer responded to a request from the Federated States of Micronesia to support the Yap State Dept of Health Services/Memorial Hospital in revising their healthcare waste guidelines. We provided guidelines they will incorporate into that document.

Item	Description
Engagement with Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency of the Australian Government	PacWastePlus is in active discussions with the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency of the Australian Government concerning asbestos and ACM activities in the PICs. PacWastePlus has established a working relationship with the agency to provide support relating to the proposal to ban asbestos and ACM from the Pacific Island region.
Project integration with partners	A significant amount of effort has been utilised to align PacWastePlus activities with other donor projects. The PMU has established active and working relationships with PRIF, ADB, World Bank, UNEP, WHO, UNDP, NSW EPA, USP, UPNG, UoN, University of Wollongong to further the delivery of the PacWastePlus actions and add value to our participating countries.

PacWastePlus Programme Variation Request

Due to the impacts from COVID-19 that has stopped travel of the PacWastePlus PMU, international consultations, and country officers; coupled with restriction of country officer time as they have been required to manage increased country-based actions; the PacWastePlus programme has been significantly delayed in delivering the design of country projects, and commencing implementation of these works.

The PacWastePlus PMU has been working continuously with all countries to develop country projects that will meet with the approval of the EU, and therefore enable the implementation of works in 2021.

To ensure projects have sufficient time and resources, the PMU has developed a programme variation seeking the EU's approval to make the following modifications:

- Extend the programme activities through in 2024 (add 11 months to the project timeframe). A formal request to PIFS to extend the Financing Agreement has been sent. And the formal variation is currently being assessed by SPREP management prior to submission to the EU.
- Modification to the Programme Logic and Theory of Change to ensure the project monitoring system is linked to the project actions to be implemented through country and regional actions, and directly link to the Cleaner Pacific 2025 Regional Strategy.
- Modification of the funding allocated to each KRA, to provide additional support to both country and regional project implementation. Most notably a reallocation of funds from KRA 0 (Governance) into KRA 3 (On-Ground Activity) to co-finance a National Officer in each Country (co-financing arrangements with the GEF ISLANDS project)

Specific detail on the variation will be sent to all participating countries once a formal response from the EU is received.

Questions from Session 2

Question / Comment	Raised by	Response
Solomon Islands would like to thank the Regional team for the great support and coordination with us to develop our country project design last year till beginning of this year 2021	Debra Kereseka	Thank you Debra and team
My comment relates to the waste audit. JICA conducted waste audits in 2017. We would like to recommend for PacWastePlus to note this and to coordinate with JICA and JPRISM II committees to ensure that there is no duplication. I am pleased to report that RMI is in the process of actively collecting data for the NIP.	Moriana Phillip	Thank you Moriana. Your comment is noted. Any information on waste audits or WM reports produced previously will be very valuable for PWP, as it will help inform activities, projects, interventions, and clarify waste situation in-country. Please send through the information to the PWP team.
Thank you to Bradley and Lance for the technical support provided for the development of our in-country project. Thank you also to the EU for the financial support that enabled the assistance. The Timor-Leste project is progressing well and close to completion, with clear outcomes responding to the need of the country. Thankful for the PWP for recognising the need for legal assistance captured in the legislative review, and the waste audit in which a Consultant will be recruited to undertake in-country.	Gregorio Ferreira da Silva	Thank you Gregorio.
May I request the status of our NEAPs, as we had submitted the Plan but have not received any response.	Mafile'o Masi	Please note we had responded via email to Sulieti (DOE) for further information to be included on the Plan. We have not received any response to the email. Suggest for Focal Point to check with Sulieti to follow-up on this work.
The report on the legislative assessment that we had provided input on, information is needed for page 14. We have not received any feedback from the PWP team.	Zitu Fernandes	Based on the information and feedback you provided to PWP, we have updated and published the report, but if you see that there are issues that need to be resolved, feel free to book a discussion separately regarding this matter.
We would like to acknowledge the technical support provided by PWP for Samoa through the drafting of our incountry application and addressing key priorities. Initially, we faced a few issues in securing the support and participation of key stakeholders but we've managed to resolve that and submit our final proposal to the PWP team.	Seumalo Afele Faiilagi	Thank you Afele.

SESSION 3: COUNTRY PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Each country was provided 5 minutes to present their country focused project to be implemented utilising the finding support from the European Union. The following pages provide summary detail of the planned projects, whilst the full presentations are attached in *Appendix A*.

Cook Islands - Advance Recovery Fee



Solid waste management is a serious issue in the Cook Islands due to land scarcity, proximity to the ocean and a very small economic base.

Through this proposal, the Cook Islands seeks to utilise PacWaste Plus funds for expert consultant assistance, equipment and facilities, and seed money to implement the ARFD.



Current situation

Currently we rely primarily on disposal of waste to landfill but the amount of waste we are now receiving is exceeding our landfills capacity and to continue to dispose waste to landfill has significant costs, both environmental and financial. Our focus now needs to be on reducing solid waste to landfill.

Future situation

We see an ARFD as a way to improve the collection, management and recycling of waste entering our nation, offering a way to ensure its long-term self-sustaining management no longer completely reliant on variable government funding.





At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Have the ARFD system approved to provide long-term funding for effective management of target waste streams
- Have an updated Customs database and Customs staff able to effectively identify ARFD products and collect the Fee / Deposit
- Have the Resource Recovery Centre furnished with the tools and equipment to allow for long-term collection, processing and export of target recyclable waste
- Have the ARFD system operating effectively (Rarotonga and Pa Enua) and providing opportunity to all
 members of the community to participate and generate income through redemption of products
- In combination with GEF ISLANDS, have other legacy waste items (cans, bottles, vehicles, etc) cleaned-up and removed from the Cook Islands through the use of seed funding
- Have a Recovery and Recycling industry which provides equal opportunity employment for women and men, and those that have a physical or mental disability



How will we Measure?

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- New ARFD legislation approved, adopted and running effectively, achieving a recycle rate of 40% year 1;
 50% year 2; 60% year 3
- Customs system operating effectively, capturing 65% of target items in year 1; 80% year 2; 100% year 5
- Equipment (TBD) installed, operational and running effectively, including the enactment of a maintenance plan and achieving less than 10% down-time
- Percentage recycling i.e.,: # items imported
- Number of items collected and exported
- 50% year 1; 70% year 2; 90% year 5
- Monitoring social data of who is utilising system and providing changes if necessary
- Number (TBD) of items collected, processed and exported from the Cook Islands
- ICI recruitment process to offer equal employment opportunity for all.

Federated States of Micronesia – Improving Organic Waste Management in Chuuk and Yap



The project will divert Organic Waste in Weno (Chuuk) and Colonia (Yap), from landfills.





At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Organic processing facilities and equipment operational to allow for effective collection and processing of Organic waste in Weno and Colonia
- Reduce volume of organic wastes being landfilled to reduce land, water and air pollution
- Have all households participating in the Organic Processing Programme by segregating organic waste for collection by local authorities.
- Have an Organic Processing Programme that enables equal participation of local population regardless of gender, physical or mental disability.
- Compost from the processing facilities is being utilised to improve agricultural production



How will we Measure?

- Volume of compost produced from the facility
- Quarterly landfill audits identify the decrease in the volume of organic waste disposed at the landfill.
- % households undertaking waste segregation
- Awareness on the organic waste management programme is advertised on various media platforms.
- Local communities are utilising compost produced from the processing facilities.

Fiji - Improving Organic Waste Management



Fiji's project will focus on improving Organic Waste management in informal settlements and villages.



The project will assess existing composting programmes and design suitable composting programme for identified communities.



The project is designed to minimise waste and support local agricultural activities.



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- All Organic waste generated at targeted communities are composted effectively, thereby eliminating land and water contamination.
- Composting facilities established to process organic waste collected from targeted communities.
- Awareness activities facilitated for community members.
- Targeted communities are participating in the new programme by segregating organic waste for collection.
- Establish a market for compost produced through the organic waste management project.



How will we Measure?

- Composting programme effectively capture and process organic wastes from targeted communities
- Facility constructed and handed over to Ministry of Environment.
- Community members are well informed of the new organic waste management programme.
- Random household audits confirm no organic matter in household waste collected for landfilling.
- Department of Agriculture is supportive of the project and assist in the supply of compost to local farmers.

Kiribati – Addressing legacy Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) on Banaba Island through sound disposal and establishing appropriate legislation and policies including training to eliminate the import of ACM



A regional asbestos survey was undertaken by the PacWaste Project, "An Asbestos Free Pacific: A Regional Strategy and Action Plan 2011"; Kiribati was one of the countries involved in this study.



In addition, a focused study was undertaken for Banaba Island in 2014. Most of the buildings on the island were surveyed, and approximately 30 were sampled for the presence of ACM.



We seek to meaningfully engage in the management of ACM on Banaba Island with the goal of ultimately removing from the island this risk to human health and the environment.

A preliminary estimate on volume of ACM on the island easily exceeded 1,000 m3.



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Adopted appropriate regulations and/or policy to eliminate the importation of asbestos and ACM into Kiribati
- Strengthened the capacity of local Customs, and other government officials, to carry out ACM identification and enforce the ACM Regulations/Policies adopted.
- Executed removal and disposal of ACM from sites prioritized as high risk
- A Strategic Plan for long-term management of ACM in Kiribati.



How will we Measure?

- The adoption and enactment of the asbestos ban regulation
- Number of trained personnel that undertook the training, and
- 5 Year review of Import/Export data to ensure that no new ACM has been imported into the country.
- Number and volume of buildings where asbestos has been abated in Banaba, and
- yearly report on the status of abatement actions for Banaba Islands consistent and as defined in the Action Plan.
- Field study report identifying high risks ACM sites released, and
- Strategic Plan for the long and short-term management and removal of Asbestos developed

Nauru – Addressing Legacy ACM in Nauru through disposal best practice and establishing appropriate legislation and policies for the elimination of the importation of ACM



Previous asbestos survey from the PacWaste Project included Nauru. There is substantial quantity of asbestos discovered, estimated 212,000 m2 primarily in the form of asbestos-cement in roofing and cladding and stockpiles of waste.



It is estimated that it will cost about USD\$17.3 million to free Nauru of asbestos (not including cleaning up contaminated sites).



We recognise the PacWastePlus budget of USD\$300,000 is only a fraction of the required amount, however it is essential for this fund to be meaningfully engaged in the management of ACM with the goal of ultimately removing from Nauru of the high risk to human health and the environment.



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Established legislation to ban the importation of new ACM into Nauru eliminating the long-term health and pollution risks.
- Established Code of Conduct for Asbestos in Nauru.
- Executed packaging, labelling and offsite shipment of containers of ACM off Island.
- Have trained Customs officials who can confidently identify and capture Asbestos prior to it entering the country.
- Have trained individuals with relevant skills to safely execute asbestos abatement (safe handling and disposal).



- Asbestos ban legislation approved by parliament.
- Code of Conduct finalised and approved.
- # of shipping containers of ACM shipped.
- # Customs staff provided with relevant resources and training.
- No occurrences of Asbestos entering the country.
- All individuals and staff trained.
- # individuals trained in ACM handling and disposal.

Niue - Sustainable Management of Waste



Niue, like many Pacific Island Countries (PICs), is faced with the increasing issue of waste filling dumpsites and stockpiles of low-value recyclable materials. Items are imported into Niue but there are limited viable options for their management and/or export.

We seek for the PacWastePlus supported project to be developed in combination with the Australian Government-funded Recycle Facility, the GEF ISLANDS, and the Ridge-to-Reef projects to develop and implement a "Plan for the Sustainable Management of Waste in Niue"

Current situation



Future situation

We seek for Niue to become a frontrunner in the management of waste, by having an effective solution for the collection and recycling of each item before it is imported.





At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Have a "Niue Waste Management Strategy & Action Plan" approved and operational giving viable options for management of each waste item entering Niue.
- Have a sustainable financing system approved to provide long-term funding for effective management of target waste streams.
- Have an updated Customs database and Customs staff able to effectively identify sustainable financing products and collect the Fee / Deposit.
- Have the sustainable financing system operating effectively and providing opportunity to all members
 of the community to participate and generate income through redemption of products.
- Have the new Austral Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFaT) funded waste facility (currently
 under construction) furnished with the tools and equipment to allow for long-term collection, processing
 and export of electronic waste.
- Have legacy electronic waste currently in stockpiles and dumps in a variety of locations around Niue cleaned-up and removed from Niue.
- Have DOE staff and other stakeholders trained in effective processing, dismantling and export of electronic waste through on-the-job training during clean-up and export of legacy electronic waste.
- In combination with DFaT and GEF ISLANDS, have other legacy waste items (cans, bottles, vehicles, etc) cleaned-up and removed from Niue.
- Have clear and effective communications provided to communities to enhance participation in effective electronic waste management, including in the sustainable financing system.
- Have a Recovery and Recycling industry which provides equal opportunity employment for women and men, and those that have a physical or mental disability.



How will we Measure?

- New "Niue Waste Management Strategy & Action Plan" approved and built into standard DOE operations.
- New "Advance Recovery" legislation approved, adopted and running effectively, achieving a recycle rate of 40% year 1; 50% year 2; 60% year 3.
- Customs system operating effectively, capturing 65% of target items in year 1; 80% year 2; 100% year 5
- Percentage recycling i.e. # items imported.
- Number of items collected and exported.
- 50% year 1; 70% year 2; 90% year 5
- Monitoring social data of who is utilising system and providing changes if necessary.
- Tools and equipment (TBD) installed, operational and running effectively, including the enactment of a maintenance plan and achieving less than 10% down-time.
- ~70m2 of legacy items collected, processed, and exported from Niue.
- DOE staff trained in effective electronic waste dismantling and export, achieving a recycle rate of 40% year 1; 50% year 2; 60% year 3.
- Number (TBD) of items collected, processed and exported from Niue.
- Percentage reduction in electronic waste items (TBD) dumped in stockpiles or disposed at dumpsites (using a mini-audit): 70% year 1; 80% year 2; 90% year 5.
- DOE recruitment process to offer equal employment opportunity for all.



Republic of Palau – Improving the Management of End-Of-Life Tyres



Palau currently has a high volume of End-Of-Life Tyres (EOLT), including shredded tyres, stockpiled at the M-Dock.



Exporting of EOLT out of Palau for Environment Sound Management is **very expensive**.



Palau choses to utilise the PacWastePlus investment to establish a programme that will repurpose EOLT in-country.



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Empower local authority to draft a legislation that allow for the management of End-Of-Life Tyre.
- Introduce a national EOLT repurposing programme that effectively manage existing EOLT stockpile and future EOLT generated in Palau.
- Training for Enforcement Officers and Awareness to Tyre Retailers



How will we Measure?

- Management Structure for EOLT management established in the country
- Policy Note for Legal Drafting supplied to Government's Legal Drafters
- Equipment Procured and facility set up to effectively process EOLT for reuse in the infrastructure industry.
- Training Facilitated for local offers, Training Manual Produced

Papua New Guinea – Environmental sound management of Hazardous Waste: Asbestos, E-waste, and Healthcare waste



Hazardous waste management is a challenge in Papua New Guinea where exposure to toxic substances and chemicals have adverse impacts on public health and the environment.



We seek with this project to provide a holistic approach to hazardous waste management through the development of:



National Strategies and Regulations

Build



To help PNG achieve environmental, economic, social, and health benefits.



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Established a Strategic Plan for long-term management of ACM in PNG.
- Established a Code of Practice for the safe handling and disposal of ACM in PNG.
- Established a National E-waste Management Strategy.
- Established a Healthcare waste management policy and guideline.
- Have trained Customs officials who can identify and capture Asbestos prior to it entering the country.
- Have trained individuals with relevant skills to safely execute asbestos abatement (safe handling and disposal).
- Have trained CEPA & other officials certified to provide specialised e-waste dismantling training.
- Establish legislation to ban importation of new ACM into PNG eliminating long-term health and pollution risks.



How will we Measure?

- Completed baseline assessment of asbestos in PNG.
- Strategic Plan for the management and removal of Asbestos developed and adopted.
- Code of Practice finalised and adopted.
- Completed feasibility study of the potential for e-waste recycling and recovery fees.
- Strategic Plan for the management of e-waste developed and adopted.
- Policy adopted and Asbestos ban legislation adopted.
- Number of Customs staffs provided with relevant resources and training with no occurrences of ACM entering country.
- Number of individuals trained in ACM handling and disposal and officials certified to provide dismantling training.

RMI – Combined PWP / GEF ISLANDS Project (TBC)

The overflowing Jable–Batkan dumpsite in Majuro is the urgent <u>problem</u> for waste management faced in RMI. A new temporary (18-month) landfill is currently under construction on the adjacent reef flat which will solve this immediate problem. However, the <u>core issue</u> for waste management in RMI is the lack of viable options for recovery/recycling and the few circular solutions for waste management in place. The EPA understands that if a solution to the core issue is not found they will be faced with the same problem when the temporary landfills also reach capacity.

As a combination GEF ISLANDS / PWP project, the RMI seeks to design two main programs to provide solutions to divert waste from landfill

1. Bulky and Electronic Waste – process and export

- Building on the success of the CDL, develop legislation for a "Products Stewardship Scheme" (PSS), which will provide self-sustainable funding for collection, processing and export of targeted bulky, electronic and hazardous items
- Undertake site work, procure equipment, deliver relevant training, and provide technical assistance to collecting/ exporting target items.

2. Paper/cardboard and Organics – diversion from landfill

- Review current/ previous practises for:
 - o managing paper/card currently 20% of waste to landfill
 - managing organics currently 34% of waste to landfill
 and implement findings/solutions identified to remove from landfill.

The success of these two projects would result in 65% less waste to be disposed into landfill.



At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Have a PSS approved to provide long-term funding for effective management of bulky and electronic items (i.e., ULABs, oils, tires, e-waste & bulky wastes – Phased in over 5 years as required by EPA / MAWC).
- Have an updated and digital Customs systems in RMI; with Customs staff trained in its use and effectively identifying PSS items and collecting the Fee / Deposit.
- Have previous waste paper/cardboard-firebricks processing facility reinstated to divert 20% of waste away from landfill.
- Have organics facility at Laura operating at full capacity to divert 34% of waste away from landfill.



- New PSS legislation approved, adopted and running effectively, achieving a recycle rate of 50% year 1; 70% year 2; 90% year 5.
- Customs staff trained in effective operation of the PSS, capturing 75% of target items in year 1; 90% year 2; 100% year 5.
- Firebrick facility reinstated processing waste paper/cardboard and achieving less than 10% down-time.
- Percentage reduction in paper/cardboard disposal at the dumpsite (using a mini-audit):
 75% year 1; 80% year 2; 90% year 5.
- Percentage reduction in organics disposal at the dumpsite (using a mini-audit): 75% year
 1; 80% year 2; 90% year 5.

Samoa - Improving E-Waste Management

Samoa project aims to improve the sustainable management of e-waste in Samoa through the following key outputs/activities:

Current situation E-waste mostly ends up in landfills or are dumped illegally causing environment and health concerns. Future situation



Increased community awareness program: Develop National Education & Awareness (i.e. strengthen environmental a

Awareness (i.e. strengthen environmental and health impact of improper E-Waste disposal & the new collection system for E-Waste

Strengthening policy & legislation: Develop E-waste Policy & Regulation.

Training on e-waste dismantling (i.e. support circular economy & job creation).

Establish dismantling and storage facility for safe handling, storage & proper disposal.



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- E-Waste Legislation and Policy established for the sound management of e-waste in Samoa.
- E-Waste treatment facility established for the dismantling and safe storage of E-Waste.
- Improved knowledge on e-waste safe dismantling.
- Employment created through the introduction of the e-waste management programmes provides equal opportunities for all Samoans.
- E-Waste Management Programme (including collection) is fully operational.



How will we Measure?

- Legal framework enacted / Policy endorsed by the Honourable Minister for Environment.
- Facility Commissioned and handed over to MNRE.
- Refresher training on safe dismantling and handling is facilitated by MNRE on a quarterly basis.
- Hiring process for the e-waste management operation is done through an Open Merit Recruitment system.
- Landfill audit recorded no e-waste disposed at the Tafaigata landfill.

Solomon Islands – Introduction of Resource Recovery Programme that diverts Organic and Recyclables from landfill



Current Situation

63% of Solomon Islands waste stream are made up of **organic waste** while **recyclable** make up an estimated **30%**.



These items are either landfilled, burnt, or dumped into the environment.
Landfilling organic wastes and recyclables take up critical landfill airspace, generates methane gas and leachates.

Future Situation

The project will establish a resource recovery programme in the Solomon Islands that effectively divert organic and recyclable waste from landfill through the following:

- 1. Introduce an organic processing programme in Honiara Market, construct an organic processing facility, establish a marketing strategy.
- 2. Introduce an Advance Recovery Fee & Deposit system and legislation in Solomon Islands to improve recycling rate in the country.
- 3. Establish a recyclable collection centre in Gizo.



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- All Organic waste generated at the Honiara Market is diverted from landfill.
- Organic Processing facility established in Honiara.
- Design an ARFD system that is economically viable for Solomon Islands.
- Technical Guiding Note to assist in the drafting of an ARFD legislation.
- Construct a Recyclable Collection Station in Gizo.



How will we Measure?

- Random audits confirm that all of Honiara Market Organic waste is taken to the Organic Processing Facility.
- Facility commissioned and handed over to Ministry of Environment Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology.
- MECCDDM agrees with the final report recommending ARFD system for Solomon Islands.
- Technical Note submitted to the Office of the Solicitor General Office.
- Facility commissioned and handed over to the MECCDMM.

Tonga - Asbestos Removal and Management in Tongatapu

Current Situation

Previous asbestos survey from the PacWaste Project covered Tongatapu and Vava'u. Based on the 1,600 residential properties surveyed, 30 buildings were suspected of containing ACM. Lab analysis confirmed asbestos present at 12 of the 17 sites, and 7 locations were remediated in the remediation component of the PacWaste Project.



Following Tropical Cyclone Gita in 2018 and Harold in 2020, many buildings were damaged in Tongatapu, heightening the risk from asbestos debris.



We seek to ban the importation of new Asbestos, update the Code of Practice, train individuals on asbestos abatement, and execute ACM abatement work at several public buildings in Tonga.

At the end of the project, we seek to have:



Outcomes

- Establish legislation to ban the importation of new ACM into Tonga eliminating the long-term health and pollution risks.
- Update the Code of Practice for Asbestos in Tonga.
- Have trained Customs officials who can confidently identify and capture Asbestos prior to it entering the country.
- Have trained individuals with relevant skills to safely execute asbestos abatement (safe handling and disposal)
- Have a Strategic Plan for long-term management of ACM in Tonga.
- Executed ACM abatement work.
- Disseminate information and raise awareness through consultation with information on how to live safely with Asbestos to reduce exposure and incidents of illegal dumping protecting against possible health risks.



How will we Measure?

- Asbestos ban legislation or regulation approved by parliament.
- Code of Practice finalised and adopted.
- Number of Customs staffs provided with relevant resources and training.
- No occurrences of Asbestos entering the country.
- All individuals and staff trained.
- Number of individuals trained in ACM handling and disposal.
- Strategic Plan for the management and removal of Asbestos developed and adopted.
- Number of buildings where asbestos has been abated in Tongatapu.
- Number of factsheets distributed.
- Number of consultations conducted.

Tuvalu - Asbestos Ban and Assessment in the Outer Islands

The 2015 PacWaste Asbestos Assessment completed an analysis of buildings on Funafuti and estimated 18% of our buildings contain Asbestos.





Current situation

We currently **do not know the location of the Asbestos** in our outer islands.



Future situation

We seek to ban the importation of new Asbestos and complete an assessment to identify the location and quantity of the Asbestos so we can make a plan for its removal (which will be completed by another donor), and ultimately clean Tuvalu from Asbestos.



At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Establish legislation to ban the importation of new ACM into Tuvalu.
- Have trained Customs officials who can confidently identify and capture Asbestos prior to it entering the country.
- Have Asbestos identified and marked on buildings in the outer islands of Tuvalu and a report developed providing the Government of Tuvalu with options and costings for its removal.
- Have a Strategic Plan for the management and removal of Asbestos endorsed by Tuvalu Government.
- Have households on outer islands provided with information on how to live safely with Asbestos to reduce exposure and incidents of illegal dumping – protecting against possible health risks.
- Have Kaupules and other stakeholders on outer islands provided with information and minimum safety standards to handle asbestos (i.e., post disaster event) to reduce exposure and protect against possible health risks.



How will we Measure?

- Asbestos ban legislation approved by parliament.
- All Customs staff provided with relevant resources and training.
- 0 occurrences of Asbestos entering the country.
- 95% of buildings in outer islands reviewed for Asbestos and a report of findings submitted.
- Strategic Plan for management and removal of Asbestos developed and approved by parliament.
- Awareness / Information session held with communities in all nine outer islands.
- 0 incidents of incorrect/unsafe handling or illegal dumping of Asbestos identified.
- Kaupules and stakeholders provided with relevant resources and training for handing of Asbestos when necessary (until it is removed).

Tuvalu – Expansion of the Waste Levy to Outer Islands



Funafuti has been operating the "waste Levy" since August 2019.



Current situation

Currently the outer islands do not have facilities to be involved so all "waste levy" items are going to the dumps (currently making up >20% of waste in the dumps).



Future situation

We want to build small waste levy sheds "depots" on each island (attached to the new tractor sheds) so all our communities can:

- 1) claim their Waste Levy refunds (social/economic benefits)
- 2) have a cleaner environment (environmental benefits)
- 3) have equal access to waste facilities so recyclable items can be transported back to Funafuti (and onwards) for recycling



We will prove success by measuring:

- Have the operation of the Waste Levy and improved waste management written into island by-laws so all stakeholders are aware of best practises for waste management in all islands of Tuvalu.
- Have facilities and equipment to allow for effective collection and processing of Waste Levy items on each outer island.
- Reduce Waste Levy items disposed at the outer island dumpsites to reduce land, water and air pollution.
- Have the Waste Levy system on outer islands operating effectively, collecting and processing items and selffunding their transportation back to Funafuti (and onwards) for recycling.
- Have all households participating in the Waste Levy to generate income through redemption of product.
- Have a Recovery and Recycling industry which provides equal opportunity employment for women and men, and those that have a physical disability.
- Have the Waste Levy system on outer islands operating with self-funding transportation back to Funafuti (and onwards) for recycling.
- Have all households participating in the Waste Levy to generate income through redemption of product.



At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Updated waste management section in the by-law of each outer island islands.
- Waste Levy depot, with equipment, installed on seven outer islands (Vaitupu funded by other donor).
- Percentage reduction in waste disposed to island dumps (using a mini-audit): 50% year 1; 70% year 2; 90% year 5.
- Percentage recycling # items (cans, bottles and batteries) collected / # items delivered.
 - o 50% year 1; 70% year 2; 90% year 5.
- Percentage households involved in Waste Levy on each island:
 - o 50% year 1; 70% year 2; 90% year 5
- DWM recruitment process to offer equal employment opportunity for all Tuvaluan people

Timor-Leste – Healthcare Waste Management Project



Timor-Leste currently has several hospitals that have healthcare waste incinerators on-site, but none are functioning properly.



Waste segregation in hospitals is not effectively managed. In many cases wastes are either burnt in open pits adjacent to the hospital wards or transported to municipal waste



We seek to implement several interconnected components for the improved long-term management of healthcare waste in Timor-Leste.



At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- · Hospitals effectively budgeting and funding necessary costs to manage healthcare waste in perpetuity.
- Pollution from inappropriately managed healthcare waste at all hospitals and clinics is eliminated.
- Site contamination caused by open burning of healthcare waste at hospitals is removed.
- 100% of healthcare waste generated from hospitals and clinics is managed in accordance with the adopted legislative framework.
- Healthcare workers and waste industry workers eliminate exposure risks from healthcare waste by employing industry best practice.



- Health care waste management plans (with budgets incorporated) for five hospitals are adopted.
- Assessment report on healthcare waste disposal options other than incineration completed.
- Monthly Progress Reports providing data on the volume of contaminated soils removed/disposed.
- Number of hospital WM personnel surveyed that agree they have sufficient equipment to properly handle and contain health care wastes during transport to disposal.
- Number of hospital personnel surveyed that agree they have sufficient PPE to execute their work in hospital.
- Number of hospital personnel that confirm that healthcare waste is managed in accordance with the waste management plans.

Vanuatu – Waste Recovery Program



Current Situation

Currently in the Port Vila, Efate in Shefa Province of Vanuatu there are few options for the collection and management of



The two key barriers identified for the development of recovery programmes in Vanuatu are lack of finances and lack of expertise / resources.

As such waste received from markets and households is generally disposed at the main Bouffa landfill, stockpiled on vacant land, burnt or dumped into water bodies such as lakes, rivers and the ocean - resulting in environmental pollution and health risks.

Future Situation

This project, therefore, seeks to develop two interrelated programmes to provide 1) financial opportunities through the implementation of a Sustainable Financing System; and 2) a package of well-promoted resources (userfriendly brochures and short videos) to enable communities in Vanuatu to implement their own practical solutions to divert target waste streams (recyclable and organic) from dumps/landfill.



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Have a sustainable financing mechanism (Advance Recovery i.e., CDS/PSS/ ARFD) in place to provide long-term funding for effective collection and recycling of selected items (Phase I = beverage containers).
- Have Customs staff able to effectively identify Advance Recovery products and collect the Fee / Deposit.
- Have the Advance Recovery scheme operating effectively in all of Vanuatu with appropriate facilities, equipment, education materials etc provided to all provinces.
- Have an organics facility in operation at the PVCC Yard with appropriate composting facilities, equipment and training processing organics from markets in Vila.
- Have five pilot project established achieving 'best practise' community waste management initiatives
 (i.e., composting, collection of CDL items, anti-littering, and anti- burning, (plus collecting of waste from
 river for two Tagabe communities*).
- Have the learnings from the pilot facilities shared with all of Vanuatu through a variety of "Toolkits" (brochure and video) which will guide the design, construction and operation of facilities.



How will we Measure?

- New "Advance Recovery" legislation approved, adopted and running effectively, achieving a recycle rate of 40% year 1; 50% year 2; 60% year 3.
- Customs system operating effectively, capturing 70% of target items in yr 1; 80% yr 2; >90% yr 5.
- Phase I of the Advance Recovery program (beverage containers) operating effectively, achieving 50% recycling in yr 1; 70% yr 2; >80% yr 5.
- An organics facility constructed and operating effectively.
- reducing organics disposed at the landfill of: 50% yr 1; 70% yr 2; 90% yr 5
- Five pilot communities successfully achieving 'best practise' waste management though operation of organics facility, recycling, completing litter-clean up, collection of river waste*.
- "Toolkits" developed and shared with all Provincial Governments / Area Councils and other stakeholders in Vanuatu.
- Additional compost and recycling facilities designed and operating successfully utilising the Toolkit.

Questions from Session 3

Question / Comment	Raised by	Response
A question for the Cook Islands proposal, please clarify shipping arrangements for transportation of recyclables.	Ionie Bolenga	Design of Cooks ARFD system is still in development, however shipping is an important component – both from outer islands to the recycling centre on Rarotonga and to overseas markets. The Cook Islands are looking into having a "logistics contractor" as part of ARDF (Contract managed by government). The shipping company who wins this contract will ship the ARFD items and will be paid from the ARFD Special Fund. We need to set our ARFD Fees to ensure this expense is covered by the scheme.
A question for Cook Islands on whether the waste from tourism industry will also be addressed in the proposal.	Andreja Vidal	Good question. In fact, one of the reasons the Cook Islands see the ARFD concept as the preferred scheme for funding waste management over items such as land rates and pre-paid bags is due to the disproportionate effects from tourism. ARFD systems incorporate aspects of a polluter pay scheme and, as such, it is the very people who purchase, say, a plastic bottle have now paid for its recycling. The Ministry of Tourism are supportive of the ARFD in the Cook Islands and appropriate messaging/posters etc will be developed so tourists understand the scheme and how they can claim their deposits back (or donate them to a cause in the Cooks).
A comment meant for larger group and for the record. What is everyone doing to address PET plastic bottles we collect these and pay out refund, but we cannot ship them out. No one is buying these. Can PacWastePlus assist in identifying markets to export PET. Land is limited, the volume of PET bottle stockpiles is increasing. This is an issue across the region and warrants some real attention from technical groups.	Moriana Phillip	Thank you Moriana for your comments/queries - they are noted. The recent Moana Taka publication provided a list of companies who received a shipment of PET from the Pacific in 2019. This is a good resource as a starting point. We have an EOI out for recyclers in the Asia-Pacific region to identify additional receivers, and are seeking to release a second EOI that will identify technology suitable for the Pacific able to manage/recycle waste types in-county.
Question for Fiji, are there targeted informal settlements (if yes, how many and based on what) or will it be a national scale approach for all informal settlements in Fiji?	Ionie Bolenga	Yes, Fiji's Ministry of Environment have identified fifty (50) communities across the three divisions in Fiji as project sites. The Ministry has chosen to combine funding from GEF ISLANDS and PacWastePlus to improve waste management in these informal settlements.
Glad to see that from the country projects, not only is the focus on the removal of asbestos and ACM, but also developing legislation and strategic action plans, because they are very important measures to ensure sustainability long-term.	Andreja Vidal	Thank you Andreja, the team has been working hard to ensure sustainability components, particularly around legislation, are built into every project.
What is EU doing to ensure that recovery costs are considered and built into projects that bring into the region batteries through renewable energy projects. In RMI alone we estimate that 7,000-12,000 batteries were shipped out into the outer islands with no way	Moriana Phillip	Advance Recovery Fees and Product Stewardship Schemes can help with this issue – applying the "Advance Recovery Fee" on each solar panel and battery which will provide funding for its eventual dismantling and export.

Question / Comment	Raised by	Response
of recovery. This is very concerning as you know batteries are very toxic		In advance of ARFD legislation, this is perhaps something that can be discussed with donors constructing renewable energy projects.
Are there any field identification methodology to identify and confirm ACMs?	Aliimuamua Setoa Apo	There are some tools I am aware of that can be used to suggest the presence of ACM in the field. To define what type of asbestos requires a scanning electron microscope. We can talk more, but generally you are most successful defining the presence of ACM thorough understanding the materials in question (roofing, lagging, paneling on homes, etc.) and understanding where the materials are produced. I also would refer you to our recent PWP publication on disaster waste guidance on removal of asbestos. some good photographs of what ACM look like.
With regards to Kiribati asbestos project. Prior to the disposal, the ACM from Tonga project will be appropriately wrapped and buried in the Tapuhia landfill in Tongatapu which is registered for asbestos disposal. However, in the case of Kiribati, the sea-level is close to the ground level, what would then be the appropriate method of ACM disposal in this case? That is good to know that ACM removed in these countries will be shipped off island. Perhaps in future, ACM can be easily allowed for all countries to transport and dispose of it in Australia and New Zealand.	Mafile'o Masi	Unlike Tonga, for Kiribati and Nauru asbestos projects, the plan is to dispose ACM off island, by way of shipment to either Australia or New Zealand. Clearly there is an opportunity here to think about disposal in a holistic way – and we must evaluate the best option based on the context of each country working in this waste stream.
Interesting learning about Niue's project, wondered if Niue can share some photos and ideas on how they will be executing their in-country project so we can learn.	Zitu Fernandes	Learnings from some of the country projects will also be addressed in the regional projects as well, which will be covered in the following presentations by the technical officers. Details of progress to implement country projects will be distributed to all during implementation, one of the key reasons we will be seeking quarterly updates on activities.
Country projects that are similar or are working within the same waste stream should be shared so we can learn from each other while developing or finalising projects.	Seumalo Afele Faiilagi	Yes there is an opportunity for countries to "cross-pollinate" and learn from each other. As Hilary mentioned, the regional projects too will share similar learnings in which all countries can adopt. Once all the projects have been designed and the EU has approved it, where projects are similar, we will look to pull together those pool of countries – and learnings feeding it back to the regional work as well. But rest assured, as the Officers help you design your projects, they are also pooling ideas from other countries of similar arrangements.
For Tonga's asbestos project will it only focus on Tongatapu, what about the other islands?	Seumalo Afele Faiilagi	Tongatapu is the first point of entry, it's the main island e most of the population resides there which presents the greatest risk to a larger population than the outer islands. In addition, previous PacWaste Project produced baseline asbestos survey on Tongatapu – which will be utilized also under this PWP project. However, the public awareness and consultation of the asbestos ban will be undertaken at the national level – asbestos abatement work will only be undertaken on Tongatapu.

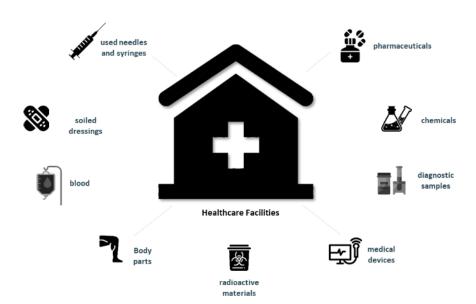
SESSION 4: REGIONAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

The PacWastePlus Technical Officers, and project partner presented on the planned regional project activities that will provide value to all participating countries.

The following pages provide summary detail of the planned projects, whilst the full presentations are attached in *Appendix A*.



Regional Projects - Healthcare Waste



The absence of proper health care waste management puts human health at risk.

Significant improvements can however be achieved by promoting proper healthcare waste management options that include national and local, hospital level healthcare waste management plans and policies.



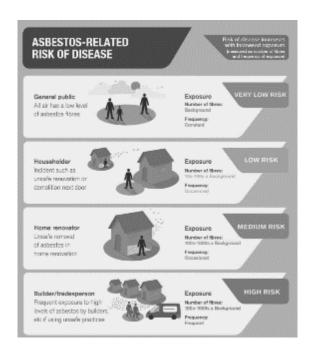
At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Literature review and options assessment to determine if other technologies, besides incineration, can and should be utilized for healthcare waste volume reduction and treatment.
- Deliver a series of train the trainer sessions following up on the PacWaste work on healthcare waste handling, storage, and disposal.



- Completion of report defining HCW management disposal options
- Number of participants & trainers

Regional Projects - Asbestos



Asbestos is a known carcinogen and can cause other disease and serious health conditions.

Helps meaningfully engage in the management and ban of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) with the goal of removing from Pacific Island Countries this risk to human health and the environment.



At the end of the project, we seek to have:

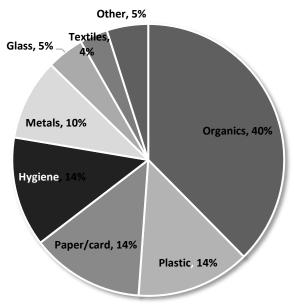
- Literature review and options assessment to determine if other technologies, besides incineration, can and should be utilized for healthcare waste volume reduction and treatment.
- Deliver a series of train the trainer sessions following up on the PacWaste work on healthcare waste handling, storage, and disposal.



- Completion of report defining HCW management disposal options
- Number of participants & trainers

Regional Projects - Organics





Combined data from 13 waste audits in the Pacific found that approximately 40% of waste disposal to our landfills and dumps is organics. When disposed in landfill or dump ("anaerobic" environment), organic material can release toxic leachate and generate methane gas.

In country Solutions exist at any scale to convert this "waste" to a valuable nutrient rich product – compost. Fiji, FSM, Solomon Islands, & Vanuatu (and RMI – TBC) have chosen organics as their country project.

This regional project will:

- 1. review these countries as pilot studies (and review existing successful and failed organics projects in the region), and
- 2. conduct additional research, on social, traditional knowledge, and technical factors and develop a package of resources any stakeholder can use to design a successful organics facility.

Resources will include tools to:

- develop business case no one-size-fits-all so resources would guide you to look at YOUR context (inputs/feedstock and desired outputs) and understand how to design a successful facility
- design and construct facility
- operate facility manuals, checklist
- communicate successfully with your communities

The outcome of this regional project will be for all countries to have the resources needed to design and implement their own organics' solution.



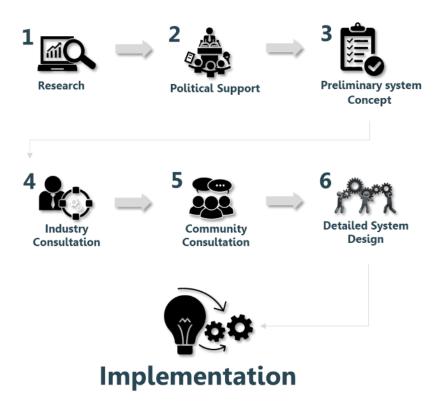
At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Have an understanding of all existing and failed organics projects from around the Pacific, including a review of legislation and contracts for current organics management
- Have an understanding of social factors for composting and where barriers might lay
- Have an understanding of traditional knowledge factors to understand what our ancestors did with their
 organic materials and understand opportunities to return to some of those methods
- Have an understanding of technical components and complete research reviewing sources of organic materials in the Pacific (such as sugar cane by-product, fish processing by-product, chicken manure, dry litter, seaweed, coral sand, paper/card waste) and how they may be used in our composting projects
- Have a high-level understanding of feasibility, economics, construction, design and operation of new organic facilities through the completion of Pilot investigations
- Provide publications to all countries, such as on:
 - Traditional knowledge for Organics (and how it can improve home composting), Results from
 the audits, technical review, and organics pilot feasibility studies (and why/how (high-level) to
 implement municipal compost facilities, Results from pilot studies and detailed information on
 how to design your facility (Using the Decision Support Tool), to provide an understanding of
 composting and organics management
- Provide a Decision Support Tool to all countries, to assist with the following:
 - develop a business case
 - design and construct facility
 - operate facility manuals, checklist
 - communicate successfully with communities provide for enabling legislative definitions, contract terms etc)
- Complete online training on how to design and implement your own successful organics facility, guiding through the Decision Support Tool



- Investigation complete in 15 countries and findings compiled
- Research complete and findings compiled
- 100% of pilot facilities operating effectively, processing # tonnes of organic materials in yr 1; # yr 2; # yr 5
- Reduction of organics disposed in landfills of pilot countries: 50% yr 1; 70% yr 2; 90% yr 5
- Review of pilot studies complete and findings compiled
- Publications provided to all Focal Points and other stakeholders
- Resources provided to all Focal Points and other stakeholders
- · Additional compost facilities designed, constructed and operating successfully utilising the resources
- Focal Points and other stakeholders have increased understanding for implementing organics solutions

Regional Projects – Advance Recovery Fee and Deposit Regional Program



The purpose of the regional project will be to raise awareness of ARDF systems and guide decision-makers through the operational, financial, and legislative factors to design and implement their own successful Sustainable Financing System.

Small Island Developing States globally are faced with the increasing issue of stockpiles of recyclable materials. In the Pacific this is due in part to:

- Our Geographic spread and isolation both within and between countries
- Economic constraints, including economies of scale and expensive transportation
- Increasing amount of imported materials and packaging

Without a regular funding mechanism, it is difficult for the pacific countries to implement any sustainable scheme to export or recyclable items. As such relance is generally on disposal of recyclable items to landfill, comprising up to 20%, or dumping on vacant land.

From success of current systems in place (Palau, Kiribati, FSM states, RMI, and Tuvalu), Countries are looking to Advance Recovery Fee and Deposit (ARFD) systems as a solution to provide the funding mechanism to collect and process recyclable materials (either in-country or to send to overseas recycle markets)

Cooks, RMI, Niue, Sols, Samoa, Vanuatu, and Tuvalu have chosen ARDF as priority or secondary priority of their PWP country project. Nauru and Kiribati are also utilising PWP legislative support outside the Country Projects (KRA 2). This regional project will review these countries as pilot studies (and review other documentation and existing ARFD projects in the region) to develop:

- publications and awareness materials
- a Decision Support Tool
- online training



At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Have an understanding of all existing and failed organics projects from around the Pacific, including a review of legislation and contracts for current organics management
- Have an understanding of social factors for composting and where barriers might lay
- Have an understanding of traditional knowledge factors to understand what our ancestors did with their organic materials and understand opportunities to return to some of those methods
- Have an understanding of technical components and complete research reviewing sources of organic materials in the Pacific (such as sugar cane by-product, fish processing by-product, chicken manure, dry litter, seaweed, coral sand, paper/card waste) and how they may be used in our composting projects
- Have a high-level understanding of feasibility, economics, construction, design and operation of new organic facilities through the completion of Pilot investigations
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- Complete online training on how to design and implement your own successful organics facility, guiding through the Decision Support Tool



How will we Measure?

- Investigation complete in 15 countries and findings compiled
- Research complete and findings compiled
- 100% of pilot facilities operating effectively, processing # tonnes of organic materials in yr 1; # yr 2; # yr 5
- Reduction of organics disposed in landfills of pilot countries: 50% yr 1; 70% yr 2; 90% yr 5
- Review of pilot studies complete and findings compiled
- Publications provided to all Focal Points and other stakeholders
- Resources provided to all Focal Points and other stakeholders
- Additional compost facilities designed, constructed and operating successfully utilising the resources
- Focal Points and other stakeholders have increased understanding for implementing organics solutions

Regional Projects - Disaster Waste







Partnership



The Disaster Waste Regional Project will build on past initiatives of the JPRISM II project by assisting Pacific Countries effectively implement the Regional Disaster Waste Guideline.

The project is aimed to enhance countries resilience to disaster through the improved management of disaster waste. The project will develop Partitioner Guidelines that will serve as Addendum to the Regional Disaster Waste Guideline and guide, post disaster response works in the country.

The project will be implemented in a pilot country with learnings captured in guidelines for implementation by other countries.



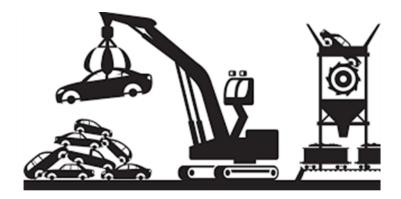
At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Empower countries to draft National Disaster Waste Management Plan.
- Empower Countries to establish Waste Management Cluster within National Disaster Management Office to allow for mainstreaming of waste management into national preparedness and post disaster planning.
- Empower countries to facilitate on-going trainings for waste management workers and first responders on the effective implementation of the National Disaster Waste Management Plan.



- National Disaster Waste Management Plan established in the pilot country.
- Participating countries provided with guideline on drafting National Disaster Waste Management Plans.
- Waste Management Cluster established in the pilot country.
- Participating countries provided with guideline on establishing a Waste Management Cluster within the National Disaster Management Office.
- Training on the implementation of the National Disaster Waste Management Plan facilitated in the pilot country.
- Participating countries provided with Training Manuals.

Regional Projects – Bulky Waste (End of Life vehicles)









Legislation

Capacity **Building**

Vehicle Dismantling Guideline

Without proper processing, scrapping, and recycling, End of Life vehicles (ELV) are abandoned, landfilled, or stockpiled at poorly managed scrap yards.

ELV contains hazardous components that have environment and health impacts.

This project will seek to build in-country capacity to improve management of ELV.



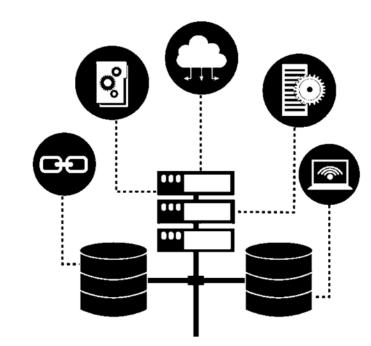
At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Empower countries to draft legislation to allow for the effective collection, dismantling, management, and disposal of End-of-Life vehicles.
- Provide guidance to country on the safe dismantling and handling and storage of ELV
- Empower countries to facilitate on-going trainings for local workforce on safe handling and dismantling of ELV



- Countries supplies with Policy Note for the drafting of ELV Management legal frameworks
- Countries supplied with the Guideline on Safe Dismantling and Handling of ELV
- Countries supplied with Training Manual to help facilitate future training to mechanics in the country.

Regional Projects - Regional Data Management Project



This project is designed to support regional and national decision making through the provision of relevant accurate data.

The project will analyse the outcome of all the National Audits in the region, outcome of the Capacity Building and Legislative Review funded by PacWastePlus Programme.





At the end of the project, we seek to have:

• Establish a Report on existing efforts on waste management in the region against the targeted outcome highlighted under the Clean Pacific 2025



How will we Measure?

We will prove success by measuring:

• Country Profile established

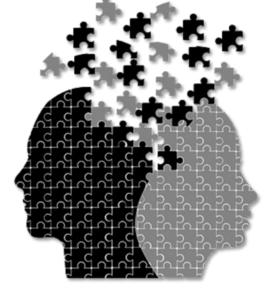
Regional Projects – Behaviour Change (3 Pilot Projects)



Enhancing awareness of the public on the focus issue



Encouraging the public for their involvement in the issue by being part of the solution





Contributing positively towards the achievement of your national strategies' objectives.



Guiding the national delivery of initiatives to promote and encourage positive changes in the issue in question Shifting Community Behaviour – community attitude and behavior, their relationship to waste, their relationships to each other, to their past, to their religion or beliefs, social norms and how it can contribute towards sustainable waste management.

Projects to be implemented in pilot countries. Three pilot projects (Pilot MAY occur on a priority project. A selection criterion will be developed to select country and project action.

From the learnings of the Pilot project, replication of successfully implemented projects across the region.



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Empowered and involvement of communities by being agents of change for providing innovative simple solutions for sustainable waste management
- Provide an opportunity for various country-based stakeholders to work together in a meaningful manner to enhance action on waste management
- Technical assistance and funds available to three countries for development of collaterals and social marketing strategies



How will we Measure?

- Changes in behaviour in communities selected for the pilot projects
- Reduction in particular waste types being targeted
- How easily it pilot project can be replicated in other countries

Regional Projects - Schools Curriculum Development



Emphasise the important role that schools play as a waste generator as well as an educational agent sensitising the future generations on waste management.

This regional project looks at sustainably incorporating waste education into core schools curriculums.

Mainstreaming into existing school subjects for:

- Early Childhood education-problem based activity
- Primary school education-problem based activity
- Secondary school educationculturally responsive
- Tertiary school education-culturally responsive
- Special needs school education



Outcomes

At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Empowered teachers by providing technical knowledge on waste and waste management
- Create awareness on various waste streams amongst students by enhancing their understanding of waste management
- Spread waste management education wide across schools in the region by developing a comprehensive approach
- Provide capacity building training to teachers



- Changes in behaviour in communities selected for the pilot projects
- Reduction in particular waste types being targeted
- How easily it pilot project can be replicated in other countries

Regional Projects - Regional Course Development



TRAINING

COMPETENCE

LEARNING

ABILITY

GROWTH

ADVANCED

TRAINING

KNOWLEDGE

This regional project seeks to develop a sustainable capacity building program for waste management in the Pacific based on country needs.

The project has commenced with:

- Stocktake of Available Tertiary and Vocational Courses
 - assessment completed by USP (report circulated)
- National Capacity Needs Assessment
 - assessment completed by USP (country reports and final synthesis reports under review)
- Development of a sustainable capacity building program for waste management in the Pacific
 - next stage of works



At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- Enhance capacity of and involvement of communities by being agents of change for providing innovative simple solutions for sustainable waste management
- Provide opportunities for nominated representatives from countries to access required training and capacity building on waste management



- Number of specialised courses developed based on country needs
- Number of quality trainings provided to countries
- Number of people trained in various waste management fields

Regional Projects - Wastewater



Sewage sludge

- Regional Review of sewage sludge management practices and the development of practical guidance materials
- Typical management pathways
- Enabling environments and service delivery options
- Barriers and opportunities for action



At the end of the project, we seek to have:

- A regional strategic assessment of the status of liquid-waste management to identify priority areas for intervention
- Discharge information and hotspots
- Policy settings and barriers/opportunities for action
- Support for progressing and directing investment
- Typical management pathways
- Enabling environments and service delivery options



- Number of policies based on country needs
- Number and amount of direct investments
- Percentage improvement in wastewater management

Questions from Session 4

Question / Comment	Raised by	Response
Regarding the recruitment of National Officers, I raised this issue with Joshua due to the 50/50 workload that the Officer will be undertaking for both PWP and GEF Islands in-country. For Tonga, I think this may delay implementation work because the PWP activities will be undertaken in Tongatapu and the GEF Island actions in Ha'apai and 'Eua. He or she cannot be in 2 places at one time. Joshua said he will discuss this with you but mentioned if this arrangement can be dealt with at the country level. But I think we need to discuss first with you, but if its approved already – then that is fine, just wanted to raise this concern in advance.	Mafile'o Masi	Your request is noted . Please book a time for trilateral discussion so we can discuss further.
Regarding the Regional Disaster WM project Is this work complementary to J-PRISM II? Because J-PRISM are the experts in this area, and they have covered some of the work in Tonga, now looking into developing the National Disaster WM Plan, so I hope that this project will not be duplicating activities.	Mafile'o Masi	PWP wil work very closely with our partners at J-PRISM II, GEF Islands, PRIF and ADB, as well as regional projects such as the SWAP and POLP. The PWP and the WMPC are linked up with all projects working in this space for the sole reason of avoiding duplication of work, instead to fill the gaps and enhance current actions. We know that JPRISM II is working in the space of disaster Waste Managament in Tonga, hence the PWP will be looking to assist other countries not participating in JPRISM II. The main objective of the Regional Disaster Waste is to build in-country capacity to implement the Regional Disaster Waste Guideline produced through JPRISM II.
With regards to disaster waste management work, Samoa is currently drafting the National Disaster WM Plan in line with the regional guideline developed by JPRISM II. Once the plan is completed and approved by cabinet, it will be implemented by our Disaster Response Office.	Aliimuamua Setoa Apo	PacWastePlus Programme Management Unit would be able to provide comments to the draft report if needed.
Regional projects will support and build national processes and systems currently in place. It will also identify missing links in our country activities, for example, current partnership with private sector on green waste for sustainable agriculture can learn from the regional organics project. In terms of disaster waste work, we will not duplicate but complement the work by J-PRISM II in-country. About wastewater, we will need to bring in Samoa Water Authority to discuss opportunities under this regional project. For bulky waste and EOL vehicles — we look forward to seeing how the projects will be carried out and assess opportunity for national implementation.		PacWastePlus Programme encourages partnership with relevant authorities in country to ensure effectiveness of programme intervention. All Participating Countries will be updated on progress of the Regional projects through the programmes quarterly newsletter (The Connection).
Given the economic impact we are faced today, I am keen to know your (PWP) thoughts regarding	Isoa Korovulavula	Cannot speak for the countries, but for the EU and PWP the focus has always been to ensure

Question / Comment	Raised by	Response
government priority for waste management initiatives, given that there will be competing issues/priorities due to COVID-19. The problem may not only be in trying to get projects off the ground but in terms of advocacy, the total general health of the population, how far we can move on with this within the government system – something to think about.		long-term sustainability in terms of how country activities are being delivered and securing funding around this. Now and again its worth contemplating all the things you raised but reflecting on the crisis we are in – sometimes a crisis provides for an opportunity as it gives urgency to issues.
Will there be a separate application from countries for the pilot project of behaviour change?	Teniti Aro Taam	Thank you for your question. Countries may need to apply separately for the behaviour change pilot project. We will keep everyone updated on the application/selection process.
Samoa is very much interested in the Regional Course Development project given that our National University is now offering courses on Waste Management under the Faculty of Science program.	Fiasosoitamalii Siaosi	We note your interest and will continue discussions on this as we progress.
Thank you Bradley, for the availability of the \$30,000 for legal support. We take note on that. Will get back to you on that soon. Best regards	Gregorio Ferreira da Silva	Thank you
Thank you to PWP /SPREP/EU for the opportunity. FSM stands to benefit and support your efforts.	Patti Pedrus	Thank you
Thank you PWP Team	Ionie Bolenga	Thank you
Thank you PWP! Will be in touch;) Thank you SPREP team and EU for your support.	Grace Garabwan	Thank you
Thanks everyone. Great updates we look forward to working closely with the PWP Team. Tenkiu tumas	Debra Kereseka	Thank you
Amen Thank you PWP team	Teniti Aro Taam	Thank you
Thank you Bradley and the PacWaste Team for having ORAO/PIFS as part of the PSC Meeting.	Rose Kitua	Thank you
Thank you PacWastePlus family.	Isoa Korovulavula	Thank you
Thank You ALL	Epu Falenga	Thank you
Regards to everyone	Fiasosoitamalii Siaosi	Thank you
Thanks Bradley and your team for all the support provided so far. Thanks to EU and SPREP for this excellent opportunity. Best regards	Veari Kula	Thank you

SESSION 5: MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was closed with some short housekeeping issues where Countries were:

- invited to email through any further questions they may have for response through the country report
- Reminded they would be contacted to provide some input or quotes into media and promotion of the meeting
- The process for booking and participating in the tri-lateral discussions.

Mr. Anthony Talouli and Ms. Andreja Vidal provided some closing words of encouragement, prior to the meeting being officially closed via a prayer provided by Mr. Epu Falenga of Tuvalu.



Appendix A

The full 2021 Steering Committee Meeting presentation can be accessed from:

https://cloud.sprep.org/owncloud/index.php/s/zPPflO9gFhBrr2e

Password: SCM2021

