



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



PROJECT SNAPSHOT

PALAU

This initiative is supported by **PacWastePlus**-a 72-month project funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to **sustainably and cost effectively improve regional management of waste and pollution.**

November 2021

ISBN: 978-982-04-0995-8



BULKY WASTE PROJECT

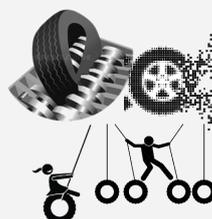
Improving the Management of End-of-Life Tyres (Resource Recovery system)

The absence of a local market for used tyres (whole or shredded) has resulted in the high volume of EOLT stockpiles in the country (13,739m³ of whole tyres, and 100m³ of shredded tyres). The Environment Quality Control Board of Palau (EQCB) will focus their PacWastePlus investment to establish a sustainable resource recovery programme in Palau to effectively manage the existing End-of-Life Tyres (EOLT) stockpiled in the country. The project will establish a legal framework to effectively regulate tyre importation, establish a national standard to ensure long-lasting tyres are imported for use in the country, provide for the development of a funding mechanism to ensure the sustainable collection and processing of the EOLTs, as well as guide the practical use of the currently stockpiled, and any newly generates EOLTs.

The sustainable resource recovery programme for EOLT is a mechanism to:



establish a self-financing mechanism that funds recovery and recycling of EOLT



repurpose EOLT to reduce and prevent further stockpiling in Palau

Palau seeks to utilise the PacWastePlus investment for the following activities:



LEGISLATION

Assistance for drafting and approval of legislation to empower the financially sustainable management of EOLT in Palau



TRAINING

Undertake training courses for officers to operate the EOLT management system, and to effectively enforce the new legislation



GUIDELINE

Develop a Standard Interpretation Guideline to guide officers on the enforcement of the new legislation



PARTNERSHIP

Establish effective partnership between government and private sector to strengthen the management of EOLTs



MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Establish a suitable management system that will capture and recycle all EOLTs in Palau



COMMUNICATIONS

Implementation of project education and awareness actions to identified stakeholders

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION



The Palau sustainable resource recovery programme for EOLT will be designed and implemented using options recommended from the PacWastePlus research project on “**Option for utilisation of Used Tyres in Atoll**”



The final report of this research project will be provided to the Palau, Solid Waste Management Division to choose suitable options to re-purpose Palau’s existing EOLT stockpile



Palau’s *National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2017 – 2021)* aim to manage waste properly through the implementation of 3R+R Programme and synergising efforts in waste management with different government agencies and stakeholders



Palau project will design and implement a programme to fund the collection and processing of EOLT



There is **opportunity for legislative reform** by expanding the scope of the current sustainable financing scheme to include other items such as EOLT



The project will assess the scope of existing legal frameworks in Palau and determine suitability and opportunity for inclusion of clauses to effectively manage EOLT



The project will build on existing recycling infrastructure to introduce in-country recycling of EOLT

CURRENT STATUS / MANAGEMENT OF PRIORITY WASTE

Current Situation:

Data collection and Education and Awareness

  A 2019 Waste Audit identified **13,739m³ of End-of-Life Tyres (EOLT)** to be stockpiled in Palau

 Project will undertake a mini waste audit to verify the quantity and status of EOLT in order to determine suitable repurposing option

There is currently no awareness programme educating the public on the impact of improper disposal of EOLT



(Data collection from targeted businesses and communities, education and awareness through community consultation, and implementation of a national education and awareness plan key aspect of behaviour change)

Policy & Regulation

 There is a sustainable financing legislation in place but is only limited to certain items

 There are no National standards in place for the importation of Tyres

 No specific legislation on management of EOLT



(Introduction of legal framework to allow in-country EOLT management)

On-Ground Activity

 EOLT are currently landfilled, stockpiled and illegally dumped

 Lack of proper infrastructure to allow for the repurposing of EOLT in Palau

 No collection services established for EOLT



(EOLT management system established)

Human Capacity

 Absence of suitably trained official to design and implement a suitable management programme for EOLT in Palau.



(Guidelines for management and implementation of EOLT management system)

GENDER EQUALITY, SOCIAL AND DISABILITY INCLUSION (GESDI) CONSIDERATIONS FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT IN PALAU



Equality in today's society requires sound waste management.

All people have the right to access waste infrastructure, participate in decision making and able to voice grievances, access information and awareness messages, and be protected from harmful effects of waste – on health, environment, culture and traditions.



Opportunities for Palau to provide for equality during the management of recyclables



Continue development of effective legislation to provide coordinated and equitable approach for waste management.



Include considerations regarding equality and inclusion in waste-related legislation and regulation



Consider additional bans and phaseouts of certain types of problematic or hazardous products



Provide for effective implementation, monitoring, and enforcement of waste-related legislation to protect vulnerable members of society



Mobilise additional resources for waste management including through an Advance Recovery Fee system



Enhance the availability and accessibility of information



Include additional Government departments, in particular labour, culture, women, and equality-related authorities and/or bodies, in waste-related decision making to identify and address potential inequalities



Provide waste management facilities for rural and outer island communities



Enhance efforts to protect waste workers



Utilise traditional knowledge and customs to enhance participation, environmental protection and stewardship

MAPPING PROJECT SUCCESS



LONG TERM OUTCOME



All End-of-Life-Tyres in Palau captured and diverted from landfill through the EOLT management system



MEDIUM TERM OUTCOMES



EOLT legal framework established providing confidence of the sustainability of EOLT industry in Palau



Pollution caused by inappropriate management of EOLTs is eliminated



National EOLT management programme supported by all tyre retailers and households



Businesses and communities are aware of the EOLT management system, and how to engage in the programme



SHORT TERM OUTCOMES



Strong and sustainable legislative environment in Palau that provides for the environment sound management of EOLTs



Active and engaged partnership between government and the private sector to effectively manage EOLTs



Effective resource recovery programme operating in Palau with efficient infrastructure support



Implementation of effective EOLT Management system national education and awareness program



OUTPUTS



Development, implementation, and enforcement of a legal framework that will establish a national standard on tyre importation



Establishment of a suitable management system that will capture and recycle all EOLTs in Palau



Development and adoption of a Standard Interpretation Guideline to guide officers on the enforcement of the new legislation



Local officers trained to operate the EOLT management system

Enforcement officers trained to effectively enforce the new legislation

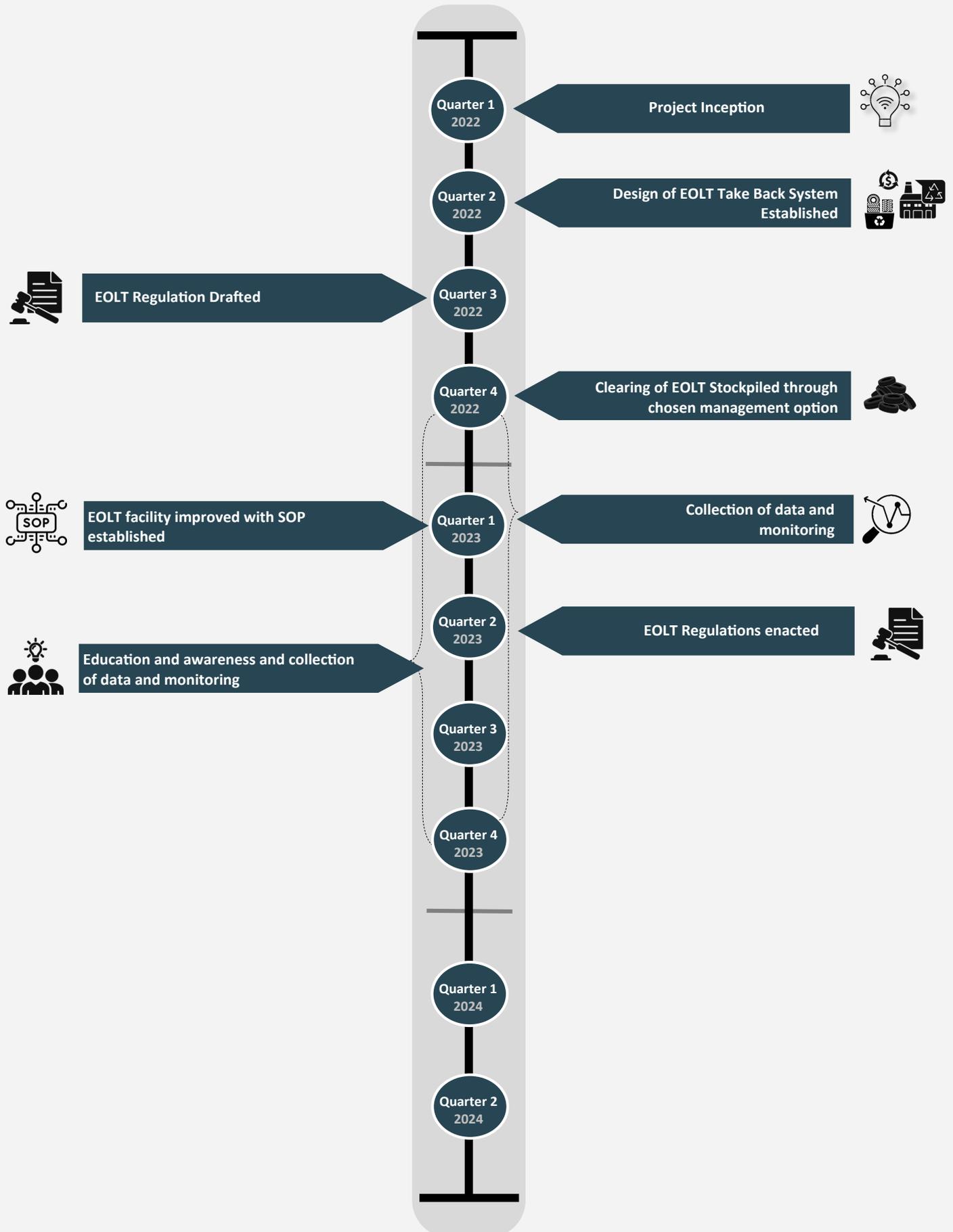


Establishment of Public Private Partnerships to strengthen the management of EOLTs



Implementation of effective national education and awareness program

ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINE



PACWASTEPLUS REGIONAL PROJECTS / ACTIVITIES AND WHAT PALAU CAN EXPECT



Health Care Waste Management

Palau will receive:

- Healthcare waste training [storage, treatment, and disposal solutions for healthcare waste]
- Assessment of the impact of the PacWaste Project healthcare waste activities
- Repair selected healthcare waste Incinerators in the region
- Work with development partners to implement a long-term plan for the sustainability of health care waste infrastructure
- Ongoing Technical Assistance



Asbestos Management

Palau will receive:

- A guidance and drafting note to assist with legislative reform to ban the importation of asbestos
- Template Code of Practice to guide the safe handling and management of asbestos
- Communication resources and materials to provide information on safe handling and management of asbestos
- Learnings from other country projects focused on asbestos
- Ongoing Technical Assistance



Organics Management

Palau will receive:

- Document providing technical analysis of how to compost common organic materials received in the Pacific
- Template Minimum Standard document to guide effective and safe composting
- Resources to guide organic facility design and operation
- Training on organic facility design and operation
- Ongoing Technical Assistance
- Learnings from country projects focused on organics management



ARFD / Sustainable Financing

Palau will receive:

- Communication resources and materials to provide information to stakeholders on the benefits of ARFD systems
- Resources and training to assist during ARFD system design and guide decisions support
- Learnings from other country feasibility studies and projects focused on ARFD
- Ongoing Technical Assistance



Disaster Waste Management

Palau will receive:

- Terms of Reference for the establishment of an Environment Sector Working Group (Cluster) within National Disaster Management Framework to ensure effective implementation of disaster Waste Management Response and Recovery
- Drafting/Guiding Notes on National and Community Disaster Waste Management Plans
- Disaster Waste Training Manual for use at both the National and Community level
- Learnings from country projects focused on disaster waste management
- Ongoing Technical Assistance



Regional Course Development

Palau will receive

- Development of a sustainable capacity building program for waste management in based on country needs
- Training through the adopted training courses, both vocational and tertiary



Schools Curriculum Development

Palau will receive

- School curriculum on waste management education (eight programme waste streams) incorporated in to existing school core subjects such as Maths, English and Science
- Primary school education-problem based curriculum
- Secondary school education-culturally responsive
- Tertiary school education-culturally responsive
- Training and capacity building opportunities for teachers



Bulky Waste Management

Palau will receive:

- Guiding document and a Decision Support Tool to guide on how to design and implement a national ELV management programme.
- Drafting/Guiding Notes on how to draft national legislation for the management of End-of-Life vehicles
- Safe Dismantling Training Manual
- Publications and awareness materials



Behaviour Change

Palau will receive

- Learnings of the community-based social marketing Pilot projects and replication of successfully implemented projects
- Ongoing Technical Assistance

ABOUT THE PACWASTEPLUS PROGRAMME

The Pacific – European Union (EU) Waste Management Programme, PacWastePlus, is a 72-month programme funded by the EU and implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to improve regional management of waste and pollution sustainably and cost-effectively.

About PacWastePlus

The impact of waste and pollution is taking its toll on the health of communities, degrading natural ecosystems, threatening food security, impeding resilience to climate change, and adversely impacting social and economic development of countries in the region. The PacWastePlus programme will generate improved economic, social, health, and environmental benefits by enhancing existing activities and building capacity and sustainability into waste management practices for all participating countries.

Countries participating in the PacWastePlus programme are: *Cook Islands, Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.*

KEY OBJECTIVES

Outcomes & Key Result Areas

The overall objective of PacWastePlus is “to generate improved economic, social, health and environmental benefits arising from stronger regional economic integration and the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment”.

The specific objective is “to ensure the safe and sustainable management of waste with due regard for the conservation of biodiversity, health and wellbeing of Pacific Island communities and climate change mitigation and adaptation requirements”.

Key Result Areas

- **Improved data collection, information sharing, and education awareness**
- **Policy & Regulation** - Policies and regulatory frameworks developed and implemented.
- **Best Practices** - Enhanced private sector engagement and infrastructure development implemented
- **Human Capacity** - Enhanced human capacity



Learn more about the Palau Project by visiting

<https://pacwasteplus.org/country-project/palau/>

For more information please contact:



The PacWastePlus team on pwp@sprep.org



Or visit - <https://www.pacwasteplus.org>

Disclaimer

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of SPREP and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

**Countries mentioned in this publication are as at November 2021*

(post project please email sprep@sprep.org)