









PacWastePlus and ISLANDS Webinar (Pacific Time Zone)

Opportunities for Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to undertake peer-to-peer learning on the implementation or expansion of a Sustainable Financing for Waste Management scheme, and the launch of the <u>Sustainable Financing for Waste Management in the Pacific</u> community of practice on the Green Forum.

Introduction

PICs are faced with the increasing issue of low-value recyclable materials filling dumpsites and building up in stockpiles. When burned these plastics produce dioxin and furans, contaminating the environment and posing a threat to human health.

Consumer items such as beverage containers, electronic items, and vehicles are imported into PICs but there are currently limited financially viable options for their end-of-life (EOL) collection, processing, and export. Pacific countries are increasingly viewing Sustainable Financing Fee and Deposit (ARFD) schemes as a key part of the solution to the issue. These schemes, also known as Container Deposit, Product Stewardship, Waste Levy, etc, provide a self-financing ability to enable the collection and export of recyclable items.

Sustainable financing works by calculating the "true cost" of the collection, processing, and export of recyclable items, and applying this 'fee' upfront, upon import or manufacture of the item. An additional 'deposit' is added to the sale of the product, which is returned to individuals when the product is returned for recycling, incentivising recycling behaviour.

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Countries implementing a Sustainable Financing generally follow a similar 21-Step Pathway, including steps such as:

- identification of the need for scheme
- undertaking a feasibility study
- obtaining political support
- undertaking stakeholder consultation
- completing legislative drafting
- implementing customs and finance systems
- constructing facilities
- delivering communications and awareness
- undertaking monitoring, evaluation, and auditing.

This webinar, developed by the EU funded <u>PacWastePlus</u> Programme and the GEF funded <u>Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States</u> (ISLANDS) Programme, will provide a peer-to-peer learning opportunity for countries implementing or expanding a Sustainable Financing scheme to learn from each other as they travel along the 21-step pathway.

This webinar will also serve as an opportunity to showcase how PacWastePlus and ISLANDS will facilitate an ongoing learning opportunity through the <u>Green Forum</u> – a new collaboration space for stakeholders in the green economy.

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Event Overview

Objectives

The objectives of this event are to:

- Provide a peer-to-peer learning platform for countries implementing or expanding a Sustainable Financing scheme
- 2. Hear from three countries who are at various steps on the 21-step pathway:
 - Cook Islands: Gaining Political Support / Using a Multi-agency Approach
 - Vanuatu: Establishing and Managing a Working Group
 - Niue: Completing a Legislative Assessment
- 3. Provide an open floor, question and answers session for countries to raise comments and questions with PacWastePlus, ISLANDS and each other
- 4. Introduce resources available
- 5. Introduce the <u>ISLANDS</u> and <u>Sustainable Financing for Waste Management</u> in the <u>Pacific</u> communities of practice on the Green Forum.

Partners

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP)

Date and time

28 July 2022: 13:00 to 14:00 (Samoa) (02:00–03:00 CEST)

Target audiences

The main target audiences are government representatives from PICs focused on implementing or expanding a Sustainable Financing scheme.

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Agenda

13h00-13h05 Welcoming Remarks

Speaker: Bradley Nolan, SPREP Melanie Ashton, ISLANDS

13h05-13h10 Introduction to the 21-step Pathway and Spotlight Sessions

Speaker: Hilary Boyes, PacWastePlus

13h10-13h15 Spotlight Session 1: Gaining Political Support / Using a Multi-

agency Approach

Speaker: Jaime Short, Infrastructure Cook Islands

13h15-13h20 Spotlight Session 2: Establishing and Managing a Working

Group

Speaker: Ionie Bolenga, Department of Environmental

Protection and Conservation, Vanuatu

13h20-13h30 Spotlight Session 3: Process to develop a policy and legislative

framework for Sustainable Financing **Speaker:** Annika Lane, BECA New Zealand

13h30-13h35 Introduction to the Green Forum

Speaker: Clara Mottura/Melanie Ashton

13h35-13h55 Q & A

13h55-14h00 Closing reflections

Speaker: Edward Nicolas, GEF ISLANDS

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Contacts

Bradley Nolan
Programme Manager
PacWastePlus Programme
Email: bradleyn@sprep.org

Melanie Ashton

Project Coordinator and Private Sector Engagement Specialist Coordination, Communication and Knowledge Management Project (CCKM) GEF ISLANDS

email: mashton@ggkp.org

Edward Nicholas Project Manager ISLANDS Pacific Child Project Email: edwardn@sprep.org

Hilary Boyes Technical Officer-Resource Recovery PacWastePlus Programme

Email: hilaryb@sprep.org

Background

About PacWastePlus

The Pacific – European Union (EU) Waste Management Programme, <u>PacWastePlus</u>, 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. 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.*

About ISLANDS

The Global Environment Facility Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (ISLANDS) Programme supports 33 Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) across the Caribbean, Indian and Pacific Oceans to safely and sustainably manage chemical and hazardous waste. A global project connects and facilitates SIDS-SIDS learning across and between project regions including through dedicated communities of practice on the Green Forum.

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