



Mid-Term Evaluation Brief /2023

PacWaste Plus (PWP) is a regional programme working with Pacific Island States to improve their solid waste management practices. Funded by the **European Union**, PWP is implemented by the **Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)**. Between January and August 2023, **NIRAS** conducted a mid-term evaluation of PacWaste Plus, producing a series of findings, conclusions, and recommendations to improve the programme implementation.

Samoa



Country project focus:



e-Waste
Management

Local actors involved:

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), Samoa Recycling & Waste Management Association (SRWMA), Ministry of Finance, Customs Authority, and Samoa Tokelau Association of Recyclers (STAR).

Good practices

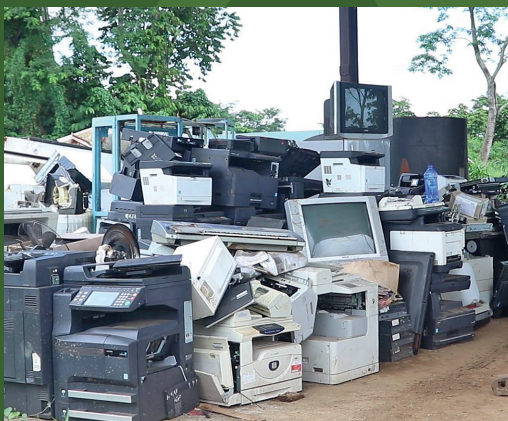
Exploring synergies with projects and programmes financed by other institutions than the European Union is a way to increase the impact of interventions and ensure a more sustainable and coherent approach to waste management in the Pacific region. In Samoa, coordination with the Global Environment Facility's *Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (GEF ISLANDS)* has been particularly good. While PacWaste Plus will support the construction of an e-waste dismantling and storage facility, GEF ISLANDS will support the construction of an e-waste learning centre to provide electronic repair training to the community. Both programmes coordinate by organising joint meetings with MNRE, and since 2022, they share a National Officer hired specifically to assist both projects.

Main results achieved:

- A stocktake of existing waste legislation and an assessment of legislative frameworks were completed.
- An asbestos management brief was completed.
- An Advance Recovery Fees & Deposit (ARFD) Feasibility Study was completed, covering several waste streams, including e-waste.
- A National Consultation was facilitated to gather input from relevant stakeholders.
- The location of the e-waste dismantling site was selected.

Lessons learned:

- The Government of Samoa has established a separate division within the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to focus solely on Waste Management. This will allow the specialisation of solid waste management experts, avoiding overload caused by minimal human resources.
- Implementing sustainable financing mechanisms such as ARFD will fund the recycling of end-of-life electrical and electronic products, among others. It can potentially increase the financial independence of the country's waste management systems.
- Although solid waste management responsibilities fall within governments, civil society and private sector are important actors to involve, as they can engage in awareness raising, urban cleaning, and technology development.



Next steps:

- Design and implement an e-waste "Take Back system".
- Build and operate an e-waste dismantling and storage facility in Tafa'igata.
- Design and implement an e-waste monitoring system.
- Facilitate training on Safe dismantling and handling of e-waste.
- Continue the implementation of awareness programmes for local communities.