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# .005 Pacific Year of Action gainst waste

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### Take steps to a cleaner Pacific!

#### Top ten steps to reduce waste in your home

- 1. Think before you throw recycle where you can
- 2. Take your own bags to the shop/supermarket.
- 3. Set up a compost heap more than 50% of the waste we generate is organic. Return it to your garden to make rich fertiliser for plants and food.
- 4. Choose products with less packaging
- 5. Choose longer lasting alternatives instead of buying foam cups and plates
- 6. Sort your rubbish and recycle where possible
- 7. Share your household tips with your neighbours
- 8. Teach your children about waste minimisation
- 9. Encourage community groups and schools to adopt waste minimisation principles
- 10. Reuse as much as possible.

#### Say "no" to plastic bags



It seems as though every time we go to a shop we are given a plastic bag... that we usually throw away! And when these bags end up in the ocean... they can harm wildlife, like turtles, who think they are food.

The next time you go shopping, take a cloth bag or basket to the shops, and say "no" to plastic.



The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is an intergovernmental organisation that works to protect and improve the Pacific islands' environment, and promote sustainable development and cooperation.

SPREP is based in Apia, Samoa.

#### Ten steps to reduce waste in your work place

- 1. Think before you print print only when necessary
- 2. Print on both sides
- 3. Choose and buy recycled paper if possible
- 4. Use scrap paper for taking notes or messages
- 5. Measure the amount of paper being used in the office and try to cut down on use. Measure your success.
- 6. Encourage recycling where possible. Encourage your office to set up a recycling scheme. Find out about local recycling services.
- 7. Introduce a 'no disposables' policy into your work place, encourage people to bring their own cups and plates
- 8. Recognise office champions
- 9. Consider establishing a 'Green Office' policy
- 10. Promote your good work! Take action to help the environment and share your success with others.

#### 2005 Pacific Year of Action Against Waste

The 2005 Pacific Year of Action Against Waste is a SPREP initiative that aims to strengthen, promote and initiate activities to reduce levels of solid waste.

SPREP is working with Pacific Islands to support their national campaigns that focus on changing attitudes and behaviours towards solid waste at the community level, whilst strengthening capacity at the national level.

On a regional level, SPREP is working with countries to finalise a Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy, and strengthen the links between community, governments, and industry bodies to implement this strategy.

A key component of the Year of Action is SPREP's International Waters Project, that is working with 14 Pacific Island countries to find practical ways to strengthen environmental management in three key areas: coastal fisheries, waste reduction, and freshwater protection.

Contact: