

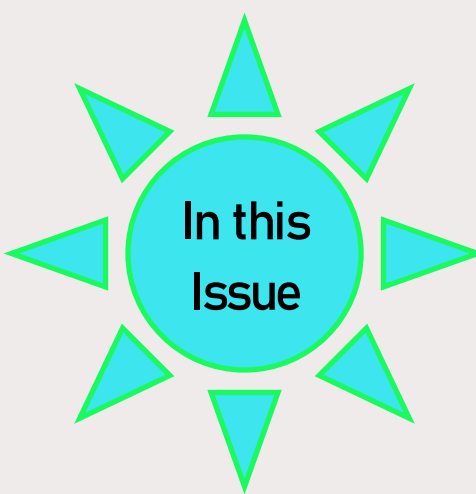
4th JPRISM II Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting (JCC) for Palau, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) & Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI)



JPRISM II Project Office

The 4th JCC meeting was held virtually for the Micronesian Region (Palau, FSM and RMI) on May 20, 2021. The meeting provided a platform to share the progress of Implementing JPRISM II in each country and discuss what more can be done to strengthen and improve current practices.

The newly appointed Chief Advisor, Mr. Mimura Satoru provided the welcoming remarks congratulating the countries for their collaborative hard work since the commencement of the project and expressed his appreciation to the JICA Experts team for their remote assistance to the countries amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. *Continued next page.*



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The most common issue the countries faced was a solution to handling PET Bottles in country - some countries such as Palau already have some Recycling activities in place to tackle this problem while other countries are steadily building a ladder to catch up.

There was a clear enthusiasm and show of commitment from the country counterparts to find solutions to the challenges they each faced in their respective countries.

Experiences were shared across the region regarding securing funds for landfills, procurement of machinery to conduct daily Solid Waste Management Activities. Some wonderful progress was shared by Palau, including a new Landfill and a new Glass Center in Koror State for glass recycling. Representatives from other donors and agencies like Asian Development Bank, SPREP, PacWaste Plus, Committing to Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP) as well as the Embassy of Japan attended the event. It was great to see a lot of progress in all countries and a big congratulations to all the project directors, managers, and officers for the collective efforts to make it this far.

Country Progress: FSM-National

Other Issues and Challenges

Issues and Challenges - No.1

Formulation of the National Waste Management Strategy

- Include both solid and hazardous wastes
- Need to consult with state representatives

The First SWM Workshop held in Sept. 2017

The Second SWM Workshop held in Sept. 2019

Country Progress: FSM-Kosrae

Other Issues and Challenges

Issues and Challenges - No.1 IMCS

- IMCS was launched in Feb. 2020 for all four municipalities.
- Collection rate increased by 30%.
- Municipalities cover the cost of fuel for compactor truck based on population.

Issues and Challenges - No.2 Final disposal

- As a result of successful implementation of IMCS, the disposal volume is increasing, DT&I shall improve the disposal site, e.g. by expanding the disposal space and raising the access road.

Issues and Challenges - No.3 Container Deposit System

- The CDS operation is suspended for more than a year due to Covid-19. KIRMA is discussing with Ms. Maria (Micronesia Eco Inc.) on an email basis to open a recycling center on behalf.

Country Progress: FSM-Yap

Other Issues and Challenges

Issues and Challenges - No.1

collection improvement in the entire Yap main island

- Currently, the FY2022 budget is under hearing at the State Legislature and other relevant authorities.
- Collection improvement will be reconsidered and planned once again after the budget for it is approved.

Issues and Challenges - No.2

Final disposal

- In order to secure the disposal capacity, it is necessary to plan for improvement of the existing disposal site.

Issues and Challenges - No.3

Container Deposit Scheme

- Expansion of target items
- Recycling of PET bottles

Country Progress: FSM-Chuuk

Other Issues and Challenges

Issues & Challenges-1

The final disposal site

- Interim marina dumpsite is over-used.
- Mid-term solution is to re-use the dump site previously used in Neuo.
- Need for a new final disposal site, and EIA is just finished for the site in Nepcos.

Issues & Challenges-2

Collection

- Regular collection is provided by the new four-ton compactor truck.
- One of the two four-ton compactor truck donated by the GOJ is now under repair with support from J-PRISM expert / private mechanic.

Issues & Challenges-3

CDL

- Contract-out for a private operator (partial operation) until the law is amended.
- Contract-out for a private operator (full operation) after the law is amended.
- Need amendment and seed money

Country Progress: RMI-Majuro

Existing Baitkan Dump Site as of Feb 2020

First dumping of waste in March 3, 2021

Lagoon side May 3

Oceanside Extension 970 linear feet

Oceanside 210 Linear feet March 2021 Image

Sustainable operation of Container Deposit Scheme

Country Progress: FSM-Pohnpei

Pictures:

Final disposal site as of June 2019

Recycling shed under construction as of May 2021

Similar press machine is under procurement

Country Progress: Palau

Pictures: Landfill Operation

M-Stock Disposal site as of Dec. 2020

Arali Drosspot site as of Dec. 2020

New Landfill site in Aitdik as of May 2021

Weigh-bridge installed on the new landfill site

Ribboncutter in operation as of May 2021

Solomon Islands Recycling & Waste Management Association (SIRWMA) 's Executive Members for 2021

Debra Kereseke

Chief Environment Officer (MECCDMM)

The Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECCDMM) through the Environment and Conservation Division has supported facilitation of the Solomon Islands Recyclers Waste Management Association's (SIRWMA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 26th of May 2021, at the Honiara City Council Education Conference Room. SIRWMA has been formulated to promote recycling activity in the Solomon Islands in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, Honiara City Council and JPRISM II Project funded by JICA. This was its first AGM after it was formally launched on November 2019 and during the AGM the Association elected its new executive members consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two ordinary members. Also the former executive presented the Association's Annual and Financial Report and the Annual Work Plan for 2021.



SIRWMA Executive 2021: (Front left-right) Mr. Lindsay Teobasi (President) and Mr. Judah Suimae (Vice President) (Back left to right) Ms. Lorraine Rini (Treasurer), Mr Joe Kelesi (Secretary), Mr Sebastian Ilala (member) and Mr. Christian Siota (member).



A total of twelve members attended the AGM and two affiliated members (Ministry of Environment and Honiara City Council)

Private sector recyclers are playing an important role in recycling in Solomon Islands. It is necessary to develop a suitable institutional system, incentives, and facilities that will support the recycling business and increase the recycled waste amounts domestically and exported for recycling abroad. It is now vital that the recyclers identify the issues that are obstructing their work and for the governments and related organizations in foreign countries to work closely to resolve these issues.

This association will facilitate discussions on the issues between recyclers and governments, international aid organizations and shipping companies.

The objectives and functions of the association are as follows;

- To promote appropriate and best waste management practices for the protection of Solomon Island's Environment
- To work towards a 'Clean, Green and healthy 'Solomon Islands by promoting and implementing Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Return (4Rs) principles.
- To represent the voice of Waste Management and Recycling advocates in Solomon Islands for a cleaner environment
- To support research and investigation for the collection and provision of waste management and recycling information and data in Solomon Islands
- Government and other stakeholders must fully support and recognize the association in terms of financial or political will to help promote recycling industry.

Current members of the association include industrial waste producers and recyclers. Membership is open to any interested individuals or organizations in the recycling sector. There is an application form for anyone who is interested to become a member of the Association which can be collected from the Director Waste Management and Control Division, Honiara City Council.

Expansion of Solid Waste Collection Services to Rural Areas in Fiji

Workshop with DLG and 13 Councils on extending waste collection services to the Rural areas

12 May 2021

J-PRISM II G2 JICA Expert Team

*Junji Anai [JICA Expert]
Co-author, Laisani Lewanavanua
[Senior Technical Assistant]*



The workshop on the concept for the expansion of solid waste collection services to rural areas in Fiji was successfully held on the digital platform on 12 May, 2021.

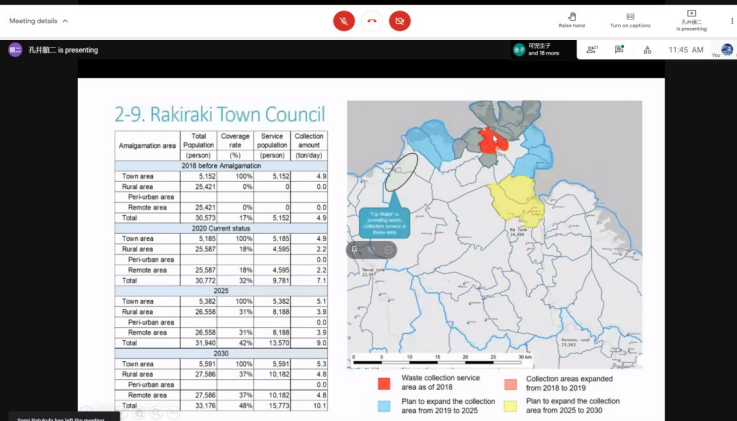
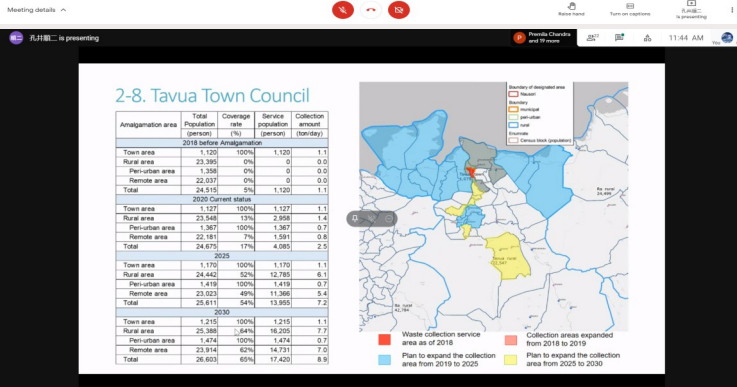
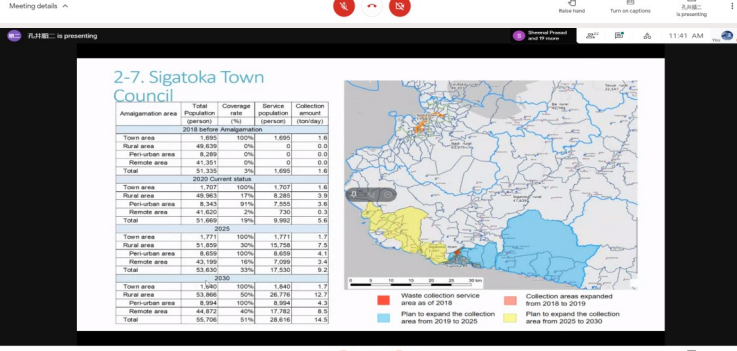
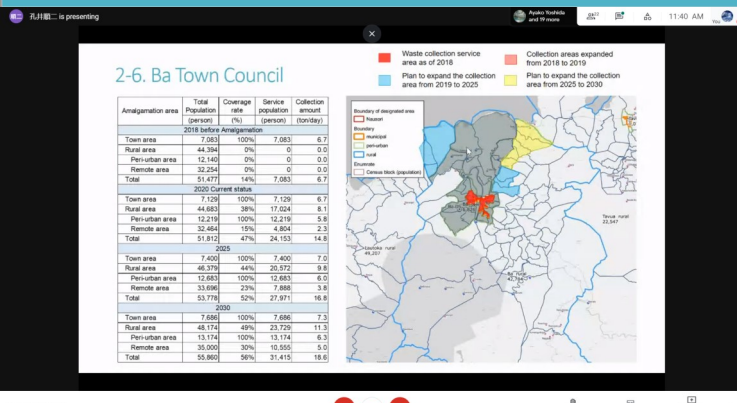
The workshop was attended by the Director of Local Government and representatives of municipal councils including Chief Executive Officers, Health Inspectors and Environment Officers. The JPRISM II Regional office representatives and the JICA Fiji officials also participated in the virtual workshop.

The aim of the workshop was to present and critically dialogue on the proposed collection coverage targets and financial strategy for the provision of solid waste collection services to households living outside cities/town boundaries where there is non-existence of collection fee scheme.

During the workshop, JICA Expert for JPRISM in Fiji highlighted that “under the Councils proposed plan to expand waste collection services, a majority of the population will have access to the service by 25 years and more than a third of the population living in the rural area will have access to the service by 2030. In 2020, through the financial support of the national government, the amount of waste collected in the rural area is about 54 tonnes per day, which will increase to 87 tonnes (1.6 times) in 2025 and 116 tonnes (2.1 times) in 2030 as the Councils expansion plans are realised”.

The Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for the Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries Phase II (JPRISM II) is a five-year project initiated in 2017 and anticipated to be completed by 2022. The region wide project is targeting “Human and institutional capacity base for sustainable solid waste management in the Pacific region is strengthened through implementation of Cleaner Pacific 2025”.

In Fiji, there are two project outputs. The expansion concept is a component of the Waste Management Master Plan development underway for the 13 Municipal Councils under Output 1.



New Glass Craft Center for the Koror State Government, Palau

Katsuo Fuji
Consultant
Solid Waste Management Office, Koror State Government

The Recycling Center of Koror State Government, Palau completed a new Glass Craft Center, which has started using renewable energy to plan and recycle all the utilities (Electricity, Gas) used from the recovered Glass Bottles generated by Container Deposit Levy (CDL) project. It is a large facility meant for Recycling.

In addition to the reuse (Recycling) of Glass Bottles collected by CDL, this project will use Waste for Energy such as electricity from waste plastic and gas from a biogas plant (to be installed) planned 2018 as a significant recycling project by Koror State Government.

The project concept fosters sustainable new industries from Recycling (souvenir industry, tourist spots), and the start was in May 2015.

At first, we started with the aim of training Palauan Glass specialists in a tiny Glass Studio.

With the support of dispatching Glass experts by JICA volunteers, the purpose was successful, and now many skilled Palauan Glass Instructors have grown up.

For this reason, Koror State Government plans to establish a new Glass Craft Center in 2018, and its facility scale (Blown Glass Division, Stained Glass Division, Burner Work Division, Sand Blasting Division) covers all the Craft Glass Divisions. The scale of the facility is the largest in the Orient.

In the future, these facilities will be planned to aim to become a significant tourist attraction along with the Rock Island Tour of tourism in Palau, and at the same time to contribute significantly to the development of the sustainable Glass Industry.

Since 2018, the construction cost had been \$ 400,000 a year, for a total of about M \$ 1.3, covered by the State budget.

JICA plans to provide ODA support through "Grassroots Technical Support" for three years from 2021 to support the operation of the new Glass Center.



Inter-Municipal Collection System (IMCS) in Kosrae, FSM has been Prevailed

Koji Kusunoki & Shinsuke Okamoto
JICA Experts

- *Background of IMCS*

Prior to the introduction of IMCS, waste collection services were provided by each of its four municipalities in the state. However, some municipalities were unable to provide the collection services due to financial constraints, and even for the municipalities which provided the collection service had difficulty in keeping regular collection services because of frequent break down of their aging collection vehicles. As a result, illegal dumping of waste became common scene along the coastal road, and it became clear that improving waste collection is an urgent issue in the State.

- *Preparation and commencement of IMCS*

Following the Japanese government's approval to provide a 4-ton compactor truck, relevant bodies have started to gather and discuss how efficiently and economically carry out their waste collection services utilizing this 4-ton compactor truck. After nearly a year of discussions and preparation, the IMCS was launched in February 2020 under the operational management of Department of Transportation & Infrastructure (DT&I), with the support of Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority (KIRMA) and financial contributions from the four Municipalities and the State.

- *Monitoring of IMCS implementation*

The implementation data, i.e., collection schedule, collection time, distance traveled, fuel consumption, etc., have been monitored, recorded and managed by DT&I. Following is the results from the first eight (8) months (February to September 2020) of the operation.

The annual fuel cost could be estimated as about \$2,700/year, which was lower than the fuel and maintenance cost combined in the plan. The fact that the new vehicle did not require repairs or replace any parts played as a lowering factor. It should be noted that each municipality's contributions are paid in goods (diesel fuel), and although there have been some delays in payment, each municipality has been performing their duties according to the plan.

In addition, based on the number of trash-bins counted by the drivers, it was confirmed that the amount of waste collected was increased by 30% compared to the amount collected during the baseline survey in 2017. It can be concluded that IMCS is operated and managed smoothly thanks to the efforts of all the relevant agencies in State of Kosrae.



Ceremony for the start of IMCS (2020 Feb)



More than a year after its inception, the IMCS is still operating properly. (2020 May)

Farewell Message from JPRISM II Expert in Papua New Guinea

Makoto Tsukiji
JICA Expert



My first step into the J-PRISM project was in June 2012, and I have been engaged in the Phase-II as a member of J-PRISM PNG over the past four years (2017-2021). About a decade has passed since I joined J-PRISM. Time flies! When I close my eyes, various memories and sceneries in the Pacific always come and go in my mind. I can always see my wonderful friends, colleagues, partners, beautiful oceans, kava, betelnuts, disposal sites such as Baruni, Raniolo, Ranadi, Bouffa, Tafaigata, M-Dock ..., and even my ex (!?) in my mind. Please let me thank all of you, my friends and colleagues in the Pacific that I was very lucky to be able to have met you, walked around with you, talked with you, drunk with you and worked with you on the ground in the Pacific. I never forget your beautiful smiles which are all my treasures.

Whenever I visit a disposal site, I always remember the word from one of my colleagues saying that a landfill is a microcosm of the country. At that time, I always think why not making the country change from the landfill site! Please let me show one of most impressive photos in my J-PRISM time, below.



She was picking recyclables with her baby in the smoke-filled, and glass and scrap littered area in the Baruni disposal site. I took the photo in 2012. Many women and children there are involved in waste picking to earn their living by collecting recyclables. Some are picking even food waste for pig farming. They are contributing a lot for promotion of 3Rs. My PNG colleagues established "3R HEART INITIATIVE" that stands for 3Rs for Health, Environment, Attitude, Resource Efficiency and Thoughts. The ambition of 3R HEART INITIATIVE is to protect the health of children, to ensure educational

opportunities for all, to improve the working conditions for women, to promote a change in the way of thinking and behavior for all, and to create an environment where children can study and live toward their dreams, through 3R activities.

The baby in the photo would become around 10 years old now. The disposal site has been dramatically improved over the past decade owing to the great efforts of PNG colleagues. I hope the 10-year-old kid is running around outside energetically filled with his smile, hope, and dream with his family. I believe this is the ultimate purpose of J-PRISM and I am proud that I could have joined the project together with my colleagues in the Pacific to achieve this. Again, thank you so much, to all of you, for the great support and assistance to me as well as your vital involvement in the J-PRISM activities. I trust you are all in good health and wish you continued success. Lukim yu somewhere in the Pacific!

Message from the Project Office

Since April 2020, JPRISM II's Japanese Project Office staff have been working remotely from Japan, when JICA recalled all its volunteers and experts back to Japan due to the Covid-19 outbreak. The Project Office is happy to announce that all four of them have arrived safely in Samoa and will continue to work with our nine countries to implement activities as planned, so if you need assistance, feel free to contact us. We wish you a blessed journey as we navigate the second half of the year 2021!!



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