



This initiative is supported by PacWastePlus-a 85-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.

Fiji

ORGANIC PROJECT

Implementing Organic Processing Programme to divert materials from landfill



Fiji Project Summary

THE ISSUE

Fiji's rural communities often have constrained, unmanaged dumpsites which receive their waste, as formal waste collection services are not provided. Village Waste Audits confirmed that on average over 60% of waste to these dumpsites is organic. Organic material in dumps generate methane gas, leachates, odour, and attract vermin. Diversion of this material from the landfill provides multiple benefits for the community and environment.

THE SOLUTION

Design and implement an organic diversion programme in 25 rural communities to beneficially recover and use organic materials in composting. The implementation of village based composting systems will improve landfill management issues of methane and leachate generation, odour and vermin. The compost will be available for use on agricultural crops for food production.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. Implement organics processing systems in 25 communities.
2. All community members are effectively participating in the communal organic processing programme.
3. Build capacity through development and provision of resources and training materials.

Data & Education

- Waste Audit
- Regional Data Collection Monitoring and Reporting Framework
- Waste Profiling
- Education and Awareness Support
- Decision Support Tool for general Waste Management
- Research small scale technology, Multilateral Environment Agreement Booklet, End-of-Life Tyres Utilisation Option, Healthcare waste technology, Landfill management, Reusable diapers, GEDSI in Sustainable Financing, Waste to Energy, INC Factsheets series, project management tool, Human Rights issues in Waste sector, recycling markets, waste licensing and environmental monitoring,
- Organics management: DST/FOP handbook

Legislative Environment

- Legislative & Regulatory Stocktake and National Option Paper
- National iTaukei Waste Management Policy
- iTaukei Provincial Waste Management Bylaws
- Pacific Standards on Organic management
- National Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Strategy
- Standard Operating Procedures on Operation of Compost Facility
- Ban of organic material to landfill

On-Ground Activities

- Design of Communal Organic Processing Programme
- Constructed communal compost facilities
- Procurement of Equipment
- Community Waste Audits

Capacity Building

- Capacity Needs Analysis
- Sustainable Financing study tour to Australia
- Build Capacity of government staff and stakeholders in Education and awareness training, organic management, asbestos management, hazardous materials management, e-waste management, End-of-Life vehicle management, healthcare waste incinerator maintenance and operation, schools education curriculum, healthcare waste management, Use of Inform Portal, sustainable financing, Behaviour Change programme development, Disaster waste management

The iTaukei Affairs Board and the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs adopted a systematic and culturally grounded approach to improving waste management in Fiji's traditional villages. This included the development of a National Waste Management Policy and a model Provincial Waste Management Bylaw, drawing from established municipal frameworks while being tailored to the unique needs of iTaukei communities.

This legislative reform is implemented at the community level, through Village Waste Management Plans, which are underpinned in the 25 pilot villages through the construction of communal composting facilities, and the provision of necessary tools and equipment. These interventions address the significant volume of organic waste—estimated at 60% of the waste stream—and support sustainable agriculture by converting organic material into nutrient-rich compost, thereby reducing dependency on imported fertilizers.

Although direct project support was focused on 25 communities, the initiative's impact is significantly amplified through the empowerment of Provincial Conservation Officers whom are now equipped to extend the activities and village plans throughout villages in all Provinces, ensuring national adoption and long-term sustainability of improved practices across the iTaukei communities of Fiji.

The waste management training conducted in 2023 has empowered our community with the knowledge and skills to better manage our waste. Following the training, we have established the Environment Management Committee, our village headman directed all households to begin segregating their waste. We now have a designated composting station for organic waste, while plastic wrappers are creatively repurposed by our Women's Group to make bags and purses. This initiative has not only helped reduce waste but has also promoted community engagement and livelihood opportunities.

Leader, Qoma Environment Village Committee, iTaukei Affairs Board

The waste management implemented through PacWaste Plus Investment is aligned to one of the pillars of the iTaukei Affairs Board on sustainable use of the environment.

Manager Conservation Division, iTaukei Affairs Board

1 National Waste Management Plan for the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs



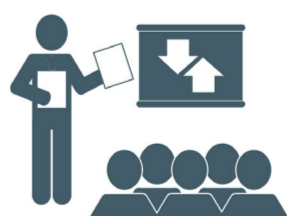
1 Model Waste Management Bi-Law for Provincial Council

25 Community Waste Management Plans



25 Compost Facilities receiving and processing organic materials

125 people across **25** communities actively implementing the village waste management plans



14 Provincial Conservation Officers trained to undertake Village Waste Audits

19 Government staff had trained in Organic Management

685 participated in Waste Management Training

About PACWastePlus

The Pacific – European Union (EU) Waste Management Programme, PacWastePlus, is a 85-month programme funded by the EU and implemented by SPREP to sustainably and cost-effectively improve regional management of waste and pollution.

Book Images: Ecomodelling