



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.

Marshall Islands

ORGANICS PROJECT

Improving Solid Waste Management in Majuro:
Diversion of 40% Waste from Landfill

Marshall Islands Project Summary

THE ISSUE

The overflowing Jable–Batkan dumpsite in Majuro is the urgent problem for waste management faced in the Republic of Marshall Islands.

This dumpsite has long exceeded its design capacity with waste now pushed up to 17m high against a seawall on the ocean side of the atoll.

THE SOLUTION

The priority for RMI is to reduce waste disposal at the dumpsite, focusing their PacWastePlus investment to divert the largest two components of waste - organics (17%) and paper/cardboard (22%) - from disposal and instead be processed into beneficial resources—compost and fire briquettes.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. System in operation collecting organics and paper/ cardboard from households and businesses
2. Facilities and equipment for diverting organics and paper/cardboard and processing into resource
3. Communities effectively participating in the organics and paper/card programs

Data & Education

- Waste Audit
- Regional Data Collection Monitoring and Reporting Framework
- Data Collection for Sustainable Financing
- Waste Profiling
- Education and Awareness Support
- Waste Management Decision Tool
- Research Documents approved by the Research Advisory Group
- Organics management guidance documents

Legislative Environment

- Legislative & Regulatory Stocktake and National Option Paper
- Pacific Standards on Organic management
- Legislative Support for Sustainable Financing
- Feasibility Study for Sustainable Financing
- Support for progressing asbestos importation ban
- Asbestos management guidance documents

On-Ground Activities

- Heavy equipment for processing organics and paper/cardboard
- Upgrade to water supply at the organics facility
- Training for composting and paper/ cardboard processing
- Cardboard collection cages
- Specialist equipment for composting
- Education and awareness - outreach, social media, and signage

Capacity Building

- Capacity Needs Analysis
- Sustainable Financing study tour to Australia
- Capacity building: Education and Awareness Training, Healthcare Waste Management, Hazardous Materials Management, Organic Management, Schools Education Curriculum, Sustainable Financing, Waste Auditing



In response to the national emergency declared at the overcapacity Majuro dumpsite, a targeted, high-impact waste diversion project was implemented to address the two largest contributors – organic material and paper/cardboard.

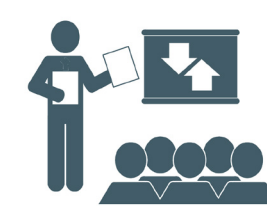
The initiative aligned stakeholders, strengthened capacity, provided heavy equipment and technology, and upgraded composting systems, to convert waste into valuable products – compost and fire briquettes - for use by local communities and businesses. Education and awareness programs supported behaviour change and fostered a circular economy approach.

We have the equipment now to divert almost 40% of our waste from the dumpsite, this project is helping us shift toward a circular economy. Instead of dumping waste, we're turning waste into resources that supports our local growers and businesses . It's not just about reducing landfill—it's about creating value and resilience

Jackie Lakmis, MAWC Operations Manager

2 sites using best practice waste management and segregation:

- Laura Organics
- Landfill / Recycle Centre

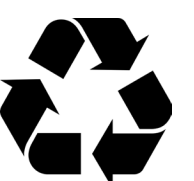


10 training courses delivered increasing capacity of RMI to safely manage healthcare waste, hazardous waste

and hazmat, organics, waste auditing, schools curriculum, and equipment operation and maintenance

168m³/50 tonnes

per month of organic material diverted from landfill



4,000 households in Majuro provided organic materials collection

100%

of wholesale suppliers provided paper and cardboard collection



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.