



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.

# Palau

## BULKY WASTE PROJECT

### Implementing a End-of-Life Tyres Repurposing Programme



## Palau Project Summary

### THE ISSUE

Improper management of end-of-life tyres poses significant environmental and public health risks. Discarded tyres can leach harmful chemicals, including heavy metals and toxins, into soil and water sources, contaminating ecosystems and drinking water.

Tyre stockpiles also serve as breeding grounds for disease-carrying pests and present fire hazards that release toxic smoke, contributing to air pollution and long-term ecological damage.

### THE SOLUTION

Niue focused their PacWastePlus investment to support Design and implement a End-Of-Life-Tyres repurposing programme in Palau to beneficially recover and recycle tyres to eliminate negative environmental and health impact from mismanagement of this material. Process tyres are utilised in local infrastructure projects such as road making and synthetic landscaping.

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. Provide guidance on the introduction of sustainable legislative environment in Palau that provides for the environment sound management of End-of-Life Tyres
2. Impement effective resource recovery programme in Palau through efficient infrastructure .
3. Build capacity of local business, and community on End-of-Life Tyres management programme.

### Data & Education

- Waste Audit
- Regional Data Collection Monitoring and Reporting Framework
- Development of National Waste Analysis Report
- 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
- Asbestos Management Training – Awareness, Identification and Abatement.
- 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 End-of-Life Management
- Procurement of End-of-Life Processing Equipment
- Developed Standard Operating Procedure for End-of-Life Tyre Recycling Facility
- Community Waste Audits

### Capacity Building

- Capacity Needs Analysis
- Sustainable Financing study tour to Australia
- Build Capacity of Government Staff and Stakeholders: Asbestos Management, Behaviour Change Programme Development, Disaster Waste Management, E-Waste Management, Education and Awareness Training, Healthcare Waste Incinerator Maintenance and Operation, Healthcare Waste Management, Hazardous Materials Management, Schools Education Curriculum,



The Government of Palau adopted a systematic change and improvement to the tyre industry and construction industry through the introduction of a national End-of-Life- Tyre repurposing program to utilise waste tyres in local infrastructure projects.

This initiative included the development of importation standards to ensure only durable and long-lasting tyres enter the local tyre market, reducing the frequency of tyre disposal. Engineering standards for utilising end-of-life-tyres into local infrastructure projects, such as constructing retaining walls and roadway.

The provision of large-scale plant equipment supported the processing of both newly generated and existing stockpiled tyres to mitigate environmental hazards and foster economic opportunities through the creation of value-added products.

The general community engaged in the work through participation in amnesty drives, enabling the free collection of end-of-life tyres, and through awareness in sustainable waste management practices via TV and Radio.

*We appreciate the assistance that has been provided by PacWastePlus to develop the End-of-Life Tyres project and are excited to commence work on the implementation of project activities in Palau.*

*Mr Calvin Ikesiil, Chief-Division of Solid Waste Management, Bureau of Public Works*

1 National Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy



1 End-of-Life Tyres Management Strategy

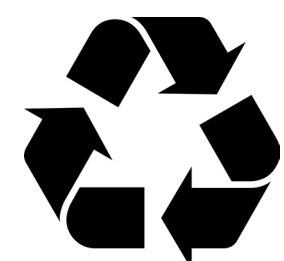
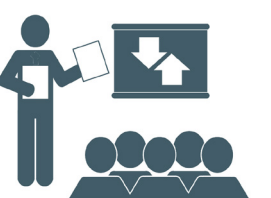


1 Tyre Recycling Facility with machinery receiving and processing End-of-Life Tyres

1 Public Private Partnership established for the operation of the Tyre Recycling Facility



7 training courses delivered increasing capacity of Palau staff to safely manage healthcare waste, hazardous waste and hazmat, waste data collection and reporting, schools curriculum, and equipment operation and maintenance



419 end-of-life tyres removed from local communities for reprocessing

## 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.