



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.

# Samoa

## E- WASTE & RECYCLABLES PROJECT

Introduction of legal frameworks and material Take Back systems for E-Waste and Recyclables

### Samoa Project Summary

#### THE ISSUE

Improper management of electronic waste (e-waste) poses significant environmental and health hazards. Toxic substances such as lead, mercury, and cadmium can leach into soil and water, contaminating ecosystems and harming wildlife . Exposure to these hazardous materials may lead to health issues, including neurological damage and respiratory problems.

#### THE SOLUTION

This includes the development and enforcement of regulatory frameworks, investment in safe collection and storage infrastructure, and the implementation of take-back schemes to ensure the responsible disposal and recycling of e-waste. Public awareness and community engagement are also critical to promote safe e-waste handling practices. Together, these measures will reduce toxic pollution, protect public health, and support a circular economy by recovering valuable materials from discarded electronics.

#### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. Design Recyclable Take Back System to sustainably manage waste in the country.
2. Procure and install a storage facility for e-waste collection to support local recycling initiatives.
3. Build local capacity on understanding of responsible management of e-waste and recyclables.

#### Data & Education

- Waste Audit
- Regional Data Collection Monitoring and Reporting Framework
- Data Collection for Organic Materials
- 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 Code of Practice
- Feasibility Study on the Introduction of Advanced Recovery Fee and Deposit
- E-Waste Tack Back System Design
- Legal Drafting Note for a Product Stewardship Legislation and regulationsLegislative & 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 National Product Stewardship Scheme
- Installation of e-waste storage facility
- Implementation of e-waste amnesty collection event
- National stakeholder consultation on Product Stewardship Scheme design

#### Capacity Building

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



The creation of an enabling environment and the strengthening of government-led approaches to sustainable waste management have been significantly advanced through a series of strategic interventions focused on the development of sustainable financing mechanisms and targeted infrastructure investments. The Feasibility Study on the introduction of sustainable financing for waste management provided the Government of Samoa with a comprehensive foundation for informed policymaking, paving the way for the implementation of financially viable and environmentally sound waste management strategies.

The development of an e-waste take-back system which addressed the growing challenge of electronic waste complemented the provision of critical infrastructure (e-waste storage facility).

Community engagement played a central role in supporting these efforts. A series of outreach activities—including community e-waste amnesty events, radio talkback shows, social media awareness campaigns, and training sessions with youth groups—helped to raise public awareness and foster a culture of shared responsibility in e-waste management.

By integrating policy, infrastructure, and community engagement, the government is now better equipped to implement long-term, impactful waste solutions that safeguard environmental and public health, while promoting economic and social sustainability.

*This innovative project partnership will assist us to develop and implement appropriate legislation that enables the creation of a sustainable financing mechanism to ensure the ongoing sustainability of e-waste management in Samoa*

*Ms Lealaisalanoa Frances Brown-Reupena, CEO of MNRE*

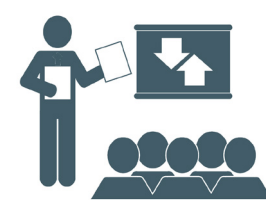


1 Drafting Instruction on Product Stewardship Act

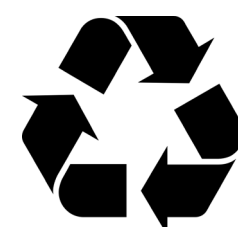


3 Drafting Instructions on Product Stewardship Regulations

1 E-Waste Storage Facility



8 training courses delivered increasing capacity of Samoa staff to safely manage healthcare waste, hazardous waste and hazmat, e-waste, and waste collection and monitoring.



1.4 tonnes of e-waste removed from local communities

## 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.