



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.

Timor Leste

HEALTHCARE PROJECT

Healthcare Waste Management Project to Improve Long-Term management of healthcare waste in Timor Leste



Timor Leste Project Summary

THE ISSUE

Timor-Leste currently has five main hospitals throughout its provinces, and most of these have a limited focus on healthcare waste management. Waste segregation in hospitals is attempted, but not effectively managed, as there is currently no operational way to manage the waste generated.

The Ministry of Health has recognized the need for a nationally standard approach to healthcare waste management.

THE SOLUTION

Development of an integrated packages of national strategy, infrastructure improvement and standardized capacity building , to ensure a sustainable and safe healthcare waste management system is enshrined in the activities and management of the Ministry of Health.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. Create national integrated health care waste management system.
2. Baucau hospital grounds are free of contamination caused by historic open burning of healthcare waste.
3. Health care workforce is implementing hospitals healthcare waste plans.

Data & Education

- Waste Audit
- Regional Data Collection Monitoring and Reporting Framework
- Waste Profiling
- Education and Awareness Support
- Waste Management Decision Tool
- Research Documents approved by the Research Advisory Group

Legislative Environment

- Legislative & Regulatory Stocktake and National Options Paper
- National Waste Management guidelines
- National Healthcare waste management Strategy and Guidelines

On-Ground Activities

- Construction of healthcare waste facilities (anatomical pit, HCW incinerator, sharps pit at Baucau Hospital
- Cleared contaminated lands surrounding Baucau Hospital
- Repaired three healthcare waste incinerators
- Prepared Healthcare waste management facility plans for four healthcare facilities.

Capacity Building

- Capacity Needs Analysis
- Sustainable Financing study tour to Australia
- Build Capacity of Government Staff and Stakeholders: Education and Awareness Training, Healthcare Waste Incinerator Maintenance and Operation, Healthcare Waste Management, Schools Education Curriculum, Waste Auditing



The project enabled the systemic management of health care waste management through the development and implementation of national strategies, legislative strengthening, and operational activities.

Developed and implemented Healthcare Waste Management environment through the adoption and implementation of a National Healthcare Waste Management Strategy, development and delivery of industry vocational training to public health workers through-out the country, the standardisation of this training for all existing and future employees of Ministry of Health and their health care facilities, and the development and implementation of facility based healthcare management plans and their implementation.

This healthcare waste management environment was further supported by the repair commissioning and operation of incinerators, and the construction and use of the first ever integrated onsite health care waste management facility at Baucau Hospitals which includes an incinerator for infectious wastes; and a sharps pit and an anatomical pit. This is now an operational model for all other healthcare facilities.

Further integration with another development partner project (EIB Healthcare waste management) to implement the national healthcare waste management strategy with facility based diversions and management infrastructure identified in the strategy, provided by this project.

I am passionate about improving the lives of our people and through this engagement, I will be able to support the Ministry of Health develop and implement the Healthcare Waste Management Strategy which is critical to integrate sustainable healthcare waste management systems and best practices within the health sectors and help reduce the high risk of environmental and human health impacts.

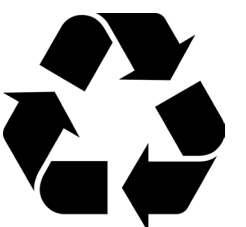
Zitu Fernandez—PWP National Officer



1 National Waste management guidelines developed

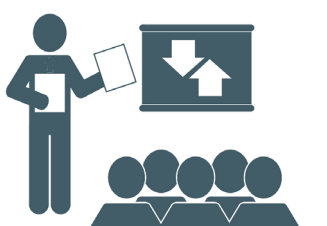
1 National healthcare waste strategy developed

12 m³ of burned medical waste was cleaned from the soils around Baucau Hospital and placed in a landfill cell and capped



3 Healthcare waste incinerators at three separate hospitals were repaired and returned to use

108 Healthcare professionals were trained in proper healthcare waste management



3 Healthcare waste facilities were constructed at Baucau Hospital for reducing the impact of infectious wastes

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.