

SPREP TOK

YOUR MONTHLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE
SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Message from Mr Sefanaia Nawadra, Director General of SPREP



Bula vinaka,

July was a busy month at your Secretariat with the removal of invasive species programmes in Tonga and Tuvalu, weather station installation in Vanuatu, training in seagrass monitoring and GIS, PSIDS preparations for the global plastics treaty negotiations and Tonga's national Loss and Damage Dialogue. We also supported our One Pacific family in Zimbabwe for the Ramsar COP15. Our work continues with regional collaboration and capacity building to address climate change, biodiversity conservation, and waste management challenges across the region to support environmental resilience in the Pacific. May you have a great month ahead!

Sefa.



Pacific Youth push to advance commitments for Wetland Protection at Ramsar COP15

Wetlands are amongst the Pacific region's most important ecosystems that look to provide essential services for many communities, support lush biodiversity, and promotes climate resilience.

From the coral reefs of Qoliqoli Cakovata in Fiji to the freshwater swamp forests of Lake Ngardok Nature Reserve in Palau, these areas are deeply rooted into the cultural and ecological fabric of the Pacific.

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Dialogue highlights the lived experiences of climate-induced Loss and Damage in Tonga

The Loss and Damage experienced differs between communities and cultures as the harms are place-based and contextually specific. Harms caused by climate change are an emotional and nuanced experience and to understand Loss and Damage it is essential to engage in talanoa at a national and community level.

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"Our Future is Non-Negotiable" – Pacific SIDS Stand Firm on Plastics Treaty Ambition

As the world moves closer to finalising a global treaty to end plastic pollution, Pacific Small Island Developing States have reaffirmed their longstanding position: the agreement must be legally binding, contain strong measures to curb plastic production, and reflect the urgency of the crisis facing small island developing states. Meeting this week in Apia, Samoa, representatives from PSIDS are preparing for the final phase of the INC process.

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Land and Guardianship: Port Resolution community powers new lifesaving weather station on Tanna Island

In a powerful model of community-led climate action, the coastal village of Ifatarapa at Port Resolution has partnered with the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department (VMGD) to install a critical new Automatic Weather Station (AWS), boosting the community's defenses against intensifying extreme weather.

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Pacific countries benefit from applying EIA principles to transboundary movement of waste

From shared challenges to shared solutions, Pacific island countries have strengthened regional cooperation on the application of EIA principles for transboundary management and movement of hazardous waste. This followed a four-day subregional workshop on Environmental Impact Assessment principles in transboundary movements of waste under MEAs.

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Cleaner Pacific consultation shapes next decade of Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy

Globally, waste is not just a challenge, it is part of the triple planetary crises that threatens the survival of humanity, and it is not one-dimensional. Waste is diverse, complex, deeply embedded in every facet of life, and is a crosscutting issue across all sectors. The Cleaner Pacific 2025 serves to guide the implementation of practical and sustainable solutions for the prevention and management of waste and pollution in the region.

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The Caribbean and Pacific Join Forces to Boost the Capacity and Capability of Regional Meteorological Centres Through South-South Cooperation

This critical engagement and partnership aimed to boost the capacity and capability of regional climate, training and instrument centres through South-South collaboration between regional institutions in the Caribbean and the Pacific to address the unique climate challenges faced by Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

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Regional Training on Geographic Information System (GIS) Tools and Environmental Data Management Held in Apia

Environmental and technical officers from across the Pacific islands gathered in Apia, Samoa this week for a regional workshop focused on strengthening capacity in the utilisation of geospatial technologies and data management of climate data for a sustainable and resilient Pacific.

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Government launches integrated management plan for the Navua catchment and Beqa lagoon

A plan to strengthen the health and resilience of the Navua catchment and Beqa lagoon and improve the livelihoods of the people living in these areas was launched by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in Deuba on 22 July 2025.

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Training boosts seagrass monitoring and mapping skills

Thirteen representatives from Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu are returning home with new skills and deeper insights into seagrass mapping and monitoring after a week-long regional training in Suva, Fiji. Held at the Southern Cross Hotel, the training from 10-16 July, was a step forward in strengthening the Pacific's capacity to protect one of its most valuable but often overlooked ecosystems: seagrass.

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One Pacific Voice

Special moments



Development of 2025 State of Environment and Conservation in the Pacific Islands Regional Report gets underway

Steps are afoot to develop the latest report to provide a holistic picture of the state of the environment and conservation in the Pacific Islands region. The overarching goal of the report is to inform decision making on appropriate responses for increasing resilience of our Pacific communities and for achieving sustainable environmental outcomes for our region. The development of the State of Environment and Conservation in the Pacific Islands (SOEC) 2025 Regional Report follows on from the first SOEC Regional Report developed in 2020, which was the first combined indicator-based, data-driven regional assessment.



SPREP applauds Vanuatu and Pacific leadership in historic ICJ opinion on climate change

The Director General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Mr Sefanaia Nawadra, would like to congratulate the Government of Vanuatu for its leadership and dedication over the past five-years in successfully seeking an Advisory Opinion on climate change from the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

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SPREP's growing presence in the North Pacific highlighted at 27th Micronesian Islands Forum

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme's (SPREP) strategic support and growing presence across Micronesian countries, provided through its North Pacific Office (NPO), was highlighted during the 27th Micronesian Islands Forum (MIF) in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

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