



FLASH No.6

Featuring activities in Pacific region



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SIDS Conference Coming Soon to Samoa

Following the Barbados in 1994 and Mauritius in 2005, the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States will be held from 1 to 4 September 2014 in Apia, Samoa co-organized by United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the Govern-

ment of Samoa. The theme of the conference is "The sustainable development of Small Island Developing States through genuine and durable partnerships", and its objectives are;
- Assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation,

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David Sheppard
SPREP, Director General

The SIDS Conference is a critically important opportunity to highlight issues of importance for small islands around the world. This conference is held every 10 years and rotates between the Pacific, Caribbean and the Indian Oceans. It is thus a unique, once in a lifetime, opportunity for the Pacific and for Samoa to showcase the challenges, issues

and opportunities for our region. Issues such as waste management, climate change, and natural resource management will be at the forefront of discussion at this conference.

The theme of the SIDS Conference "The Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States through genuine and durable partnerships" is particularly relevant for the J-PRISM project which is an action oriented waste management programme, based on partnership between the Government of Japan, Pacific countries and SPREP. The SIDS Conference provides an outstanding opportunity to showcase the J-PRISM project and to explore how we can strengthen and expand this project in the Pacific. I hope to see many of the readers of this J-PRISM newsletter at the SIDS conference.

As part of the SIDS conference preparatory process the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), the Ministry of Health (MOH), the National University of Samoa (NUS) and the Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) carried out audits of waste management practices in 45 accommodation providers within the Apia area. The audit found that currently, the main types of wastes being generated are plastic bottles and bags in guest rooms and plastic bottles and bags and food waste from the kitchens and restaurants. It was also revealed from the audit that 62% of the accommodation providers have their waste collected by waste service contractors while 27% haul their own waste to the landfill. The rest either place their waste in common bins along the road or burn them.

The audit further found that when fully occupied, the accommodation providers would be generating up to 70 large trash bags of waste per week.

This would be a significant increase in what they are currently generating at the moment. The audit also found that 67% of the accommodation providers had some form of waste management plans but these were not documented but prescribed into the daily operational processes. 22% advised that they had no plan in place while 11% provided no answer for this section of the audit. 47% of the accom-

modation providers advised that they practiced waste segregation at source while the rest put all their waste into their waste receptacles. The audit was advised that the reasons for not practicing this was that they were not aware of such practices; they had no time to do this and that the owners did not provide the workers the instructions to undertake such tasks. Based on the outcomes of this audit, a training workshop was then organised to upskill the accommodation providers or the benefits of the waste segregation and composting and in the art of waste segregation. The training also allowed the accommodation providers to get an understanding of the type of services that are available from the waste management service providers. As a follow up to the training on waste segregation, each interested accommodation providers was provided with three garbage bins to help with their segregation of waste at source. SPREP in conjunction with MNRE will work closely with the group in helping them come up with proper waste management plans as part of their operations.



Dr. Frank Griffin,
*Hazardous Waste
Management
Adviser, SPREP*



**Mr. Anthony
Talouli, Pollution
Adviser, SPREP**

As part of the SIDS conference preparatory process Ministry of Health (MOH), the Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) carried out audits of Samoa Apia Port as well as Faleolo and Fagali'i Airport's.

Port of Apia

In December 2013 SPREP along with Australian Maritime Safety Authority completed a gap analysis for waste reception at the Apia Port.

The audit team found that reception facilities for garbage, including quarantine waste, are satisfactory, and generally adequate to the needs of ships using the port. However, there are some desirable improvements, particularly related to the aspect of adequacy related to ensuring that the ultimate disposal of waste is undertaken in an environmentally appropriate way.



Mr. Scott Willson,
*Marine Pollution
Advisor, SPREP*

Faleolo Airport

Waste reception at the Faleolo airport from aircrafts are segregated into sealed colored bags by the aircraft crew. Bags are collected by the aircraft caterers 'Aggie Grey Resort' and disposed of at the Faleolo dump site. Yellow bags are picked up by Quarantine and taken for storage at the waste storage area in the incinerator house. Quarantine waste is incinerated every Thursday however at the time of the visit the incinerator had been out of service for the last 6 months and the quarantine waste was been taken to the Apia wharf incinerator for disposal.

General waste at the airport are collected daily by the Samoa Airports Authority (SAA) for disposal at the Faleolo dump site. The SAA also have no waste management plan.

Fagali'i Airport

Waste reception at Fagali'i Airport is well managed and part of daily airport operations. This is mainly through provision of customs waste bins in the arrival hall and general waste bins in the departure lounge. All general waste is disposed of by Polynesian Airways. It was noted by the audit team that there would more than likely be very little increase in traffic through the Fagali'i Airport as at this stage, the airport only services American Samoa. Quarantine do have an amnesty bin for all quarantine waste at the arrival area which is disposed at the Apia wharf incinerator.

Shibushi Model Promotion to Samoa & Vanuatu



eration Plant. Its waste landfill where the remaining wastes (unrecyclable items) have been disposed for some years was expected to completely fill within 20years, but its lifespan is extended for another 20years. The key to the high recovery rate of waste items for recycling is a combined effort of the high support and participation from members of the communities, hardworking Shibushi officers and good contractor's performance.

Shibushi Team Visit to Samoa: 4th - 8th August 2014.

A five members team from Shibushi City visited Samoa to follow up any progress made by the Samoa's visiting counterparts.

The team visited both communities of Apia and Vaiala and they noted some good progress already being made. Their next visit will be Vanuatu in September 2014.

Samoa & Vanuatu Visit to Shibushi City: 30th June - 11th July 2014,

Six participants from Samoa and three from Vanuatu visited Shibushi City for a two weeks training to understudy Shibushi systems and practices as a model for improving their waste management.

The training was organized and delivered by Shibushi City where participants were trained and exposed to the systems and practices applied in the management of Shibushi generated waste. Shibushi City has been famous for its effort in effectively diverting more than 70% of its generated waste for recycling purposes.

Unlike other cities of Japan, Shibushi City does not use Incin-



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- Seek a renewed political commitment by focusing on practical and pragmatic actions for further implementation,
- Identify new and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of SIDS and means of addressing them, and
- Identify priorities for the sustainable development of SIDS to be considered in the elaboration of the post-2015 UN development agenda.

Details are: <http://www.sids2014.org/index.php?menu>

J-PRISM will also jump in this once every 10 years opportunity by holding a workshop and join a Multi-stakeholder Partnership Dialogue of "Water and Sanitation, Food Security and Waste Management" held on 4 September.

(<http://www.sids2014.org/index.php?page=view&type=1006&nr=2535&menu=1507>)

Regarding our workshop titled "Expanding Waste Manage-

ment Services of Pacific Island Countries through International Public Private Partnerships (PPPs)" scheduled in the morning on 3 September in SPREP campus, we will discuss practical measures and opportunities for the sustainable waste management in PICs/SIDs focusing on the keywords like PPP, E-waste, and 3R + "Return" in collaboration with SPREP, The International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA)/ United Nations Center for Regional Development (UNCRD), and Griffith University.

Now Samoa is heating up to prepare for welcoming more than 3,000 colleagues & friends from all over the SIDS.

We can hear the voices from the both teams of SPREP and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), Government of Samoa in collaborate with SPREP.

J-PRISM 4th Advisory Committee Meeting Held in Tokyo

J-PRISM 4th Advisory Committee Meeting was held in Tokyo on 5th June 2014. This is an annual meeting consisted of three advisory members and stakeholders like representatives in JICA Headquarters in Tokyo and JICA Offices in PICs, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and all J-PRISM experts to discuss about progress, issues, and countermeasures for the J-PRISM project.

The main topic was what we can achieve for the rest of timeframe of the project. After presentations from Mr. Shiro Amano, Chief Advisor of J-PRISM and J-PRISM experts, following items were discussed among them.

1. Achievement of the rehabilitation of disposal sites in PICs under J-PRISM, and how to develop its inventory and evaluate its impact,
2. Impact of Capacity Development for counterparts in PICs,
3. Good practices as well as negative aspects of outputs,
4. Next regional solid waste management strategy,
5. Proper waste management techniques in PICs,
6. Involvement of the women, and
7. Practical activities for 3R + Return.

Prof. Kunitoshi Sakurai, chair of J-PRISM advisory committee closed the meeting to emphasize that we should use lessons learned not only good practices but also negative examples of activities

Rehabilitation of Labasa dumpsite

Under an AusAid Funded Project through SPREP, Namara Dumpsite at Labasa has gone through some improvement works to transform its open dump state to a Semi-aerobic waste landfill status using the Fukuoka Method or Semi-aerobic waste landfill system. JPRISM provided the technical

assistance to this construction project in partnership with SPREP and AusAid. Usually, such a waste landfill method is not recommended for lowland areas along the coastal region like mangroves. However, some modifications were considered and made to suit the areas conditions with some climate



Rehabilitated Cells with Installed Gas Ventilation and Leachate Facilities



Appearance before rehabilitation works

changes aspects incorporated in the design in order to prevent the site from flooding and nearby areas from the direct seepage of contaminated leachate.

The new rehabilitated waste landfill has provisions for the separate disposal of disaster waste (Cell 1), general solid waste (Cell 2 & 3), hazardous waste and expired goods as well as an Administration Area for an office and storage facility for some hazardous wastes. Access roads had also been constructed to reach all the disposal sections even during rainy seasons. This pilot project on a lowland and mangrove area is the first Semi-aerobic waste landfill in Fiji and will provide some important information for future similar projects on lowland and mangrove areas.

Attachment of Honiara Dumpsite Staff to Labasa Rehabilitation Works: 16th – 20th June 2014

Mr Joe Felokona of Honiara City Council in Solomon Island was attached for one week to this construction project to understudy and learn the construction works involved.

This is important for him as the officer in charge of the

proposed rehabilitation works at the Ranadi Dumpsite. Both Ranadi Dumpsite at Honiara in Solomon Island and Namara in Fiji are located in the coastal and mangrove areas.

Samoa learned the waste data management from Lautoka City Council, Fiji

From May 19 to May 21, one Samoan counterpart was trained in Lautoka city council, Fiji. Lautoka city council is one of leading council of the field of 3R in Fiji and even in the Pacific Region. The unique experience of Lautoka is the integrated solid waste management system. From the household to the landfill site, they are properly managing minimizing the waste amount and recovering the valuable material. The training focus was to identify the problems within the system and finding ways to counter the problem. “The training focused on the J-PRISM approaches to promoting country attachment program of this kind within the region so that counterparts of other countries can learn from experienced counterparts (like Lautoka City Council) to quickly catch up and improve their waste management recording system”

Ms. Faatamaliiamio Ponty Meredith-Leiataua, Senior Waste Planning & Policy Officer of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources in Samoa, had a lucky opportunity and learned directly from officers who are working on the different waste management process. In the landfill site, weigh-bridge operation, data management, composting, segregator management, etc. all over the landfill site management was inputted.

The common problems identified in the weighting system seemed ‘minor’ however, these minor issues can become such big setbacks to the whole system. Such problems are either the weight cannot be stored in the system or does not appear on receipts. Problems was also noted on how weights are recorded manually and the common mistake or recording the wrong weights.

Other problems are : Cancel option deactivate, Cannot Change Information on receipt, Cannot change the new cost for products, Changes on the cash and charge report. Another issue is running the updates before the system is log off but does not appeared when checked. The training was expected not only to change the system but to address the challenges in areas such as information data analysis and understanding the tipping fee.

Things learnt from the training :

1. Vunato Weight Bridge Operation : Weight Bridge Install System, Weight Bridge Operation, Data Collection, Tipping Fee



2. Landfill Operation : Waste Disposal . (disposed at the dump site) Daily Collection from their contractors, Households wastes, Business wastes, Outside Lautoka City’s Waste, Market Waste (compost)

3. Waste Management Document : Recording Procedures and reporting.

Thanks to Lautoka City Council, Samoa will progress in their waste management based on what Ms. Meredith has learnt

Pacific Islands Database of Capacity Development Activities - “PIDOC” Debut!

Increasing the number of local experts is essential for the sustainable waste management in the Pacific region. Recently, J-PRISM/SPREP has developed the regional directory of capacity development activities and human resources on solid waste management to foster and expand the south-to-south and tri-angular cooperation within the region, so called “Pacific Islands Database of Capacity Development Activities (PIDOC)”



J-PRISM has been providing opportunities for developing/in-

creasing the capacity of its counterparts and concerned agencies involved with solid waste management in collaboration with SPREP through a variety of training and workshops as well as day-to-day project activities.

The primary objective of J-PRISM is to increase the number of well-trained experts in the region so that PICs will be able to help each other in the region.

PIDOC is a database designed specifically for registering capacity development activities and human resources related to solid waste management targeting Pacific Island Countries

(PICs), and the details of workshops, training, and international conferences related to solid waste management are recorded such as training period, venue, topic/contents, participants, materials and other information. Furthermore, each participant is categorized by his/her participating role as a trainee, chairperson, facilitator, trainer, resource person, or observer. One of the indicators for evaluating the achievement of the project purpose requires the number of experts (trainers) listed in the SPREP inventory.

The PIDOC will provide this information to verify the indicator. Please find below Table 1 as an example how the PIDOC works. According to the types of event, participation and the topic of training/workshop, certain points are credited to a participant who is engaged in the event as a trainer or resource person. The points obtained by the participants will be recorded to verify their participation as an expert (trainer/resource person) for a specific topic of solid waste management. Currently the PIDOC is operational and the data have been stored starting from the beginning of the project (2011) and up to date. The PIDOC is strictly managed and secured by the SPREP IT section under the supervision of J-PRISM. J-PRISM encourages all participants from PICs to make an effort to be able to participate in the future events as a trainer or resource persons as much as possible.

Ms. Ayako Yoshida, coordinator, J-PRISM Project Office

I am very pleased to introduce myself to every member of J-PRISM here.

I am Ayako Yoshida, will start work as a coordinator from the end of August to the end of the project and will be mainly in charge of activities of Micronesian Region (Palau, Micronesia and Marshall Islands). I used to work in Solomon Islands from 2010 to 2012 as JICA volunteer coordinator.

During the assignment, I was in charge of volunteers (Environmental Education) who had been cooperating with J-PRISM. I am grateful to come back to the Pacific Region again, and be honored to participate as a member of the project this time.

I have also just completed a Master study in the UK, “Tour-

ism, Environment and Development”.

Through my current study I could find that waste management issue would be a crucial element of protecting the environment and leading to sustainable development on small islands including Pacific Region. Therefore I am glad about to be involved with this particular issue I have just studied.

Besides, I would love to enjoy cultures of Pacific countries during my stay.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon.



About our project

Japanese Technical Corporation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries (J-PRISM), the 5 years, regional project implemented by the Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA) in partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) officially commenced in February 2011. The purpose of J-PRISM is capacity development on waste management in the eleven (11) member countries in the Pacific.

Member countries (Federal States of Micronesia, Republic of Fiji Islands, Republic of Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, Independent States of Papua New

Guinea, Independent State of Samoa, Solomon Islands, Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu and Republic of Vanuatu).

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