

# GETTING TO KNOW THE PACWASTE PLUS PROGRAMME

Pacific-EU Waste Management Programme (PacWaste Plus)

<b>PacWaste Plus Value:</b>	€ 16.5 million
<b>PacWaste Plus Duration:</b>	July 2018 - June 2023
<b>Funded by:</b>	European Union
<b>Participating Countries:</b>	Cook Islands, Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu



## PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

The European Union funded PacWaste Plus programme, will work with 15 countries in the Pacific region to improve and enhance waste management activities and the capacity of governments, industry and communities to manage waste to reduce the impact on human health and the environment.

The programme is a continuation and up-scaling of a previous European Union funded Hazardous Waste Management project (PacWaste) that assisted countries to manage asbestos, e-waste and healthcare waste. This new programme will continue working in these areas and expand to address an additional 5 new waste streams.

## PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

PacWaste Plus seeks to generate improved economic, social, health and environmental benefits for Pacific Island Countries arising from stronger regional economic integration and the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment. The programme activities will be designed to assist Countries to ensure the safe and sustainable management of waste with due regard for the conservation of biodiversity, reduction of marine litter, health and well-being of Pacific island communities, and climate change mitigation and adaptation requirements.

## PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

PacWaste Plus will work with participating countries, the waste industry and the agencies from the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) to address three waste streams and eight sub-waste stream types.

- hazardous wastes asbestos, e-waste, and healthcare waste
- solid wastes recyclables, organic waste, disaster waste, and bulky waste
- related solid wastes found in wastewater pollution effluent from poor waste management

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## PROGRAMME DELIVERABLES

The programme aims to deliver quality outcomes through four main programme delivery areas:

### 1. Improved data collection, information sharing, and education and awareness

- Collate and review existing data on waste and pollution at the regional and national level and identify key areas where further data needs to be collected.
- Establish an INFORM data portal for waste related data.
- Establish and implement national waste monitoring programmes for routine data collection and reporting that creates good baselines for measuring performance, as well as creating comprehensive country waste profiles for dissemination in all countries.
- The development of a model regional education and awareness raising plan to guide national delivery of relevant programmes.
- Establish a Research Advisory Group (RAG), based on representation inclusive of women and younger researchers, to develop a practical research agenda.

### 2. Policies and regulatory frameworks developed and implemented

- Assist in developing: 1) a regional legislative framework with integrated policies and institutional arrangements for waste management; 2) national policies, legislation and implementation strategies to transition to a comprehensive and sustainable waste management system; 3) developing mechanisms such as national licencing and certification for waste management service providers and pilot in one - three countries.
- Advocate for change at regional and international meetings to influence the decision making of the Pacific and world leaders to support good environmental governance and action.

### 3. Best practices, including enhanced private sector engagement and infrastructure development, implemented

- Assist countries in:
  - solid waste management through the implementation of prevention and reduction programmes that promote schemes to minimise the waste generated from imported products and nearly expiring perishable products.
  - disaster waste management through preparedness, response, recovery and reconstruction to assist countries in dealing with the generation of large volumes of waste.
  - implementing legislation that enables best practice in waste management, including minimising the waste generated by imported products such as prevention of the import of nearly expiring perishable products; along with guidelines to assist businesses in complying with this legislation.

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- Provide support to manage waste and pollution sustainably through the implementation of preferred sustainable financing options such as polluter pays, buy-back schemes, and Container Deposit Legislation for difficult waste streams and collected wastes, and extended producer responsibility programmes for imported goods, where feasible such as imported cars.
- Develop and expand the spatial scope and continue to roll out existing programmes to dispose of legacy and hazardous wastes and remediate contaminated sites such as asbestos, healthcare waste and E-waste.
- Implement feasible resource recovery initiatives with private sector involvement.
- Improve and/or construct appropriate small scale waste management infrastructure to facilitate good practice in waste management.
- Develop and implement agreements and incentives for private sector participation in waste management.
- Support atoll nations export some wastes to regional recycling hubs.
- Implement programmes to assist Pacific Island Countries to build national and local capacities in designing bankable projects that can then be supported through the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility (PRIF) and/or Green Climate Fund (GCF).
- Complete selected PacWaste activities related to asbestos management and healthcare waste management.

## 4. Human Capacity Enhanced

- Undertake a national capacity needs assessment of all countries to identify the current standards being implemented for waste on governance, management and enforcement against required competency levels to prioritise the training requirements of Pacific Island Countries.
- Conduct specialised national and regional capacity building on identified priority areas based on capacity needs assessment.
- Consider mainstreaming waste management into primary and secondary education in suitable countries by using the Regional Environment Centre approach and expanding on the Cleaner Schools Project which has been successfully conducted in a number of countries.
- Affiliate and collaborate with a regional university or other education institution offering waste management courses with competency-based assessments and hands-on modules towards accreditation.
- Promote capacity building exchanges among all SPREP members and Timor-Leste in the public and private sector.