# SPREP-Tok

A monthly e-bulletin from the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

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#### MESSAGE FROM MR. KOSI LATU, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SPREP

Ni sa bula from the SPREP campus,

November saw SPREP continue to strengthen its support to the region, with the official opening of our Northern Pacific Sub-regional office in Majuro, Republic of Marshall Islands.

The Pacific islands preparatory meeting for the 25th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP25) also took place at the Pacific Climate Change Centre. It brought together the Pacific delegations to COP25 to decide on the region's priorities going into 25th COP in Madrid, in order to ensure there is a strong and unified Pacific voice at the world's largest climate change conference.

SPREP also underwent preparations to manage and implement the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion at COP25, a dedicated space for the Pacific, supported by the Government of New Zealand with Fiji. The aim of the Pavilion is to provide a platform for Pacific stories of resilience to be told at the climate change conference, and to show how we are dealing with what is undoubtedly the single greatest threat to the security and livelihood of our peoples.



Mr. Kosi Latu, Director General of SPREP.

Soifua,



#### **SPREP-TOK** LATEST NEWS



### SPREP ESTABLISHES NEW NORTHERN PACIFIC OFFICE

SPREP continues to strengthen its support to the region, with the formal opening of its Northern Pacific Sub-regional office in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands, in November. The establishment of the Northern Pacific office will help support the strategic goals of SPREP's Micronesian members.

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#### **SPREP-Tok**

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Our vision: A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

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#### HOME AWAY FROM HOME - A STORY OF RESILIENCE FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS



In 1964, young Joseph Teia said goodbye to his home in the Gilbertese island of Kiribati, boarded a vessel and came to Solomon Islands and never returned. He was seven years old when he left.

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### SPREP HOSTS SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL TRAINING STUDENTS



A group of 11 undergraduate students from various universities and colleges in the United States of America paid a visit to sPREP at the end of October as part of the School of International Training's Study Abroad Programme.

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### J-PRISM WORKS WITH ISLANDS ON TURNING WASTE INTO RESOURCES



The Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is home to a campaign which involves working on developing waste management strategies and plans, supporting management of collection systems and managing landfill sites.

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#### H.E PRESIDENT REMENGESAU OF PALAU SUPPORTS PIELA



In 2020, SPREP and the 10th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas will recognise and honour Pacific islanders with a commitment to environmental sustainability and resilience within the Pacific islands.

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#### EIA TRAINING AIMS AT BUILDING CAPACITY OF MINISTRY OF MINES IN SOLOMON ISLANDS



SPREP's Environmental Monitoring and Governance Programme, carried out an EIA capacity building workshop for the staff of the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification in Solomon Islands in November.

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### PROGRESS MADE ON PARTNERSHIP ADDRESSING WWII SHIPWRECKS IN THE PACIFIC



According to Mr Anthony Talouli, SPREP's Pollution Adviser, the remains of ships sunk during WWII poses several risks. Principally, these wrecks are home to unexploded ordinance, and to oil and fuel.

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## INCREASING PACIFIC PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS ON CLIMATE CHANGE FOCUS OF PACIFIC IPCC ENGAGEMENT WRITE-SHOP IN APIA



It is well known Pacific islands are at the forefront of climate change effects and impacts. Records of such impacts often not cited in the IPCC Assessment Reports compared to the peer-reviewed literature.

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#### **BEST GREEN MEDIA TO WIN AWARD**



Good "green" media coverage encourages environmentally friendly behaviour, as a way of preserving life and traditional ways of living. The best media in the Pacific which promotes this attitude and way of life, will be honoured in 2020 with an award.

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### SUPPORTING THE CONSERVATION OF ENDANGERED MARINE SPECIES IN THE KINGDOM OF TONGA



Representatives from key Ministries and non-government organisations met in Nuku'alofa this week to plan activities to support Government and coastal communities achieve their protected marine species conservation priorities.

#### GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA, SPREP AND JICA LAUNCH A SERIES OF REGIONAL TRAININGS AT THE PCCC



The Government of Samoa, SPREP and JICA launched a series of regional trainings or enhancing capacities on climate resilience under the Project for Capacity Building on Climate Resilience in the Pacific at the PCCC in November.

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#### PACIFIC REPRESENTATION AT COP25 IN MADRID IN FULL FORCE WITH MOANA BLUE PACIFIC PAVILION



Despite the cancellation of the COP in Santiago, Chile, and subsequent move to its new location in Madrid, Spain, the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion is moving full steam ahead going into the UNFCCC COP25.

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### PRACTICAL TRAINING ON DISASTER WASTE MANAGEMENT



Participants at a week-long training were informed that the PacWaste Plus Programme will work with participating countries to mainstream disaster waste management to assist countries in dealing with disaster waste.

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