

J-PRISM BUZZ No.3

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2nd J-PRISM II Steering Committee Meeting



The 2nd J-PRISM II Steering Committee Meeting was held in Suva, Fiji on the 24th August 2018. During this meeting, all of the nine member countries of JPRISM II including Fiji who has just joined JPRISM II in June 2018 finally gathered for the first time since JPRISM II commenced for the Regional Steering Committee first meeting, which was part of the 2nd Clean Pacific Roundtable (CPRT) programme.

During the meeting, the countries and the Project Office reported their progress made based on their scheduled activities at the national and regional levels, Tonga, Fiji and Samoa were given the opportunity to share their experiences and knowledge on the Collection fee and waste service expansion to the outer islands in Tonga,

3R activities in Fiji and Banning of plastic bags in Samoa. An opportunity was also given to JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) in Fiji to talk about their Clean School Programme focusing on 3R awareness activities in Fiji.



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The importance of waste management monitoring system was emphasised by Dr. Kunitoshi Sakurai, the Chairman of J-PRISM II Advisory Committee. This monitoring system is to be formulated as one of the outputs of J-PRISM II's regional activities in line with Clean Pacific 2025 as well as the Sustainable Development Goals. Another key element of the project is the South-South Cooperation, which was stressed by Mr. Kosi Latu, Director General of SPREP. He reiterated the significance of the South-South cooperation in building both national and regional capacity of local expertise and trainers. He highlighted the Pacific Waste Guidebook which was developed by

local experts as a unique achievement and product of the South to South Cooperation that was supported by JPRISM I.

The meeting also marked the official end of Mr Shiro Amano's service with JPRISM II. FSM representative, Mr Andrew Yatilman on behalf of the participating JPRISM countries thanked him for

his service during JPRISM I as a Chief Adviser and during JPRISM II as Acting Chief Adviser since its commencement in 2017. At the same time, Mr. Nobuaki Miyata was also introduced to the countries as the new Chief Advisor of J-PRISM II. The countries representatives indicated their full support of Mr Nobuaki Miyata and looked forward to working with him in the future.



Burning Issues on Wastes Discussed During the Clean Pacific Roundtable in Suva, Fiji.

Ms. Ma Bella Guinto, Solid Waste Management Adviser, SPREP



What seemed to be less valued issues a few years ago, such as plastic pollution, became the hot topics of discussion during the recently held 2nd Clean Pacific Roundtable at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) Conference Centre in Suva, Fiji from the 20th to the 22nd August 2018. The more than 200 participants were welcomed warmly by the Secretary General of the PIFS, Dame Meg Taylor.

No less than the Honourable Prime Minister of Fiji,

Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, who is globally known for his environmental advocacy, graced the event, with a very powerful message. The focus of his talk was on "management of oceans and marine resources, driven by the commitment to ensure that the many lives and livelihoods that depend on our ocean economy will be secured for generations to come".

The powerful message ushered in a roundtable discussion on marine debris, plastics, and micro-plastics which in recent years have been seen to plague the Pacific Ocean. Research reports reveal that 97% of fish samples from New Zealand, Samoa, Fiji and Rapa Nui have ingested micro-plastics which is 30% higher than the global average. This alarming situation prompted Fiji to start a waste levy for plastics and Vanuatu to ban single-use plastics.

The rest of the event covered other emerging issues on disaster and hazardous wastes including affected sectors such as tourism – one of the economic bases of the Pacific Island countries and territories. The enthusiastic involvement of the donors, the private sector, the academe, non-government organisations, and civil society was very evident during the discussions.



The initiatives on sustainable financing in Palau and Kiribati were well received with most of the countries raising the need to strengthen information sharing around the region to progress their own waste management mandates based on workable solutions. The timely publication of the “Practical Guide to Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries and Territories”, which is authored by waste practitioners from the various countries, provides a very good resource for proper management of wastes in the Pacific context. The guidebook was made possible through J-PRISM.

Through the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility, ADB funded a resource circulation study with the intent of establishing a region-wide recycling network including identification of potential recycling hubs. The waste sector in the region sees this as an opportunity to assist smaller countries and territories to get into the recycling market through the proposed network. The study will be further supplemented by a pre-feasibility study likely to be co-funded by World Bank.

The major outcomes of the Clean Pacific Roundtable are very promising and the waste sector in the region is seeing the Roundtable as an effective mechanism for donor coordination and to attract more investments for waste management in the region. Technical Working Groups (Marine Debris, Recycling, Hazardous Waste and Disaster Waste) will enable sustained actions from the Roundtable outcomes. What is striking with this Roundtable is the huge involvement of the private sector which will enable stronger public-private partnerships.

The next Roundtable will be in 2020 to be led by the newly-created Steering Committee composed of sub-regional country representatives and other major sub-group actors in the waste sector.



Launching of the Pacific Solid Waste Management Guidebook

Ms. Nanette Woonton, Media & Public Relations Officer, SPREP

A “Practical guide to Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries and Territories” was launched on the 21st of August during the second Clean Pacific Roundtable. The compendium features the experiences and lessons learnt from 16 Pacific island waste practitioners from across seven Pacific islands.

The Guidebook was developed under the Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiatives on Solid Waste Management in the Pacific Island Countries Phase I (JPRISM) from 2011 to 2016 funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The project is now in its second phase – JPRISMII.

There are six chapters to the Guidebook which span “Basic Surveys and use of information for waste management planning” to “Contract Management” and “Waste Management Plants and Equipment”. Each chapter draws upon work and experience from within the Pacific island countries and the practitioners themselves. Examples of which include the Green Fee in Palau, Clean School Programme in Fiji, Market Composting in Vanuatu, Public-Private Partnership in Collection and Returning of Waste to Overseas Market in Federated States of Micronesia.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The project is now in its second phase – JPRISM II.

“This Practical Guide is the compilation of good practices identified and developed by experts in the region through J-PRISM Phase I. This covers all solid waste management issues from the technical ones to the managerial ones. These good practices have high applicability to other Pacific islands although modification and adaptation are always necessary.” Said Professor Emeritus Kunitoshi Sakurai, of Okinawa University, the Chairman of JICA’s Advisory Committee for JPRISMII.

“Through the active use of this guide and the feedback of results to the JPRISMII Office, this guide will be revised and improved. Let us work together to materialise a Cleaner Pacific.”



Further Enhancement of Regional Capacity in Waste

Ms. Yasuko Onoue, Regional Training Officer of SWM/Training Coordinator, JPRISM II

Further Enhancement of Regional Capacity in Waste, was held on Day 2 on 21 August 2018 with series of presentation on various training opportunities and training systems which have been provided/will be provided by universities and development partners in the Pacific Region. The needs for the establishment of institutional mechanisms to facilitate cooperation and national and regional waste experts for waste and pollution management were discussed and recognized. Dr. Johann Poinapen of USP, Prof. Alan Broadfoot of University of Newcastle and Ms. Yasuko Onoue of J-PRISM2 introduced their training programs, and Dr. Sunil of Griffith University and Dr. Vincent Lal of USP were the Chair and Moderator of the session, respectively. Mr. Phillip John Reyes Cruz, University of Guam, Mr. Catalino Kijiner of Ministry of Works Infrastructure and Utilities, RMI and Mr. Veari Kula of Conservation and Environment Protection Authority, PNG were Panels for kickstart of discussion in the session.

Promoting Disaster Waste Management at the Clean Pacific Roundtable, 20th to the 23rd August, Suva, Fiji

The Government of Japan through the Ministry of Environment has initiated the development of the Disaster Waste Management Guideline in Asia and the Pacific (hereafter “*DWM Guidelines*”) in collaboration with the Society of Material Cycles and Waste Management (JSMCWM) since 2016. The aim is to mainstream DWM as well as sharing Japan’s experiences and lessons learned within the country to enhance sound disaster waste management in Asian and the Pacific regions.

During the Parallel Session coordinated by JPRISM II on “Planning and responding to disaster waste” in August 20 during the 2nd Clean Pacific Roundtable (CPRT) in Suva, Fiji, DWM was addressed under the chairmanship of Dr. Kunitoshi Sakurai and Ms. Cristelle Erica Platt. Mr Faafetai Sagapolutele of JPRISM II presented DWM issues and challenges in the Pacific Island Countries followed by Dr Shinichi Sakai of Kyoto University who shared the history of DWM in Japan and the current status of DWM development at the local and national levels. Dr. Misuzu Asari of Kyoto University and Mr. Makoto Tsukiji of JSMCWM, as representatives of the editing team of the Asia – Pacific *DWM Guidelines*, introduced the overview of the guidelines. They emphasized the importance of preparedness (making all the relevant planning, coordination, consultation and preparations before disasters) as the key to improving DWM in the future.

As part of the Parallel Session, a designated panel made of representatives from Samoa, Tonga and Fiji highlighted similar DWM issues and challenges they faced. They also shared their own DWM initiatives in dealing with the usual limited resources.

In conclusion, there was an overall support to promoting of the development of regional/national/local DWM plans in line with the Cleaner Pacific 2025, Framework for the Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP), National Disaster Management Plans and other important regional and national documents.



DWM Session Chair

Dr. Kunitoshi Sakurai
Professor Emeritus of Okinawa



DWM Session Moderator

Ms. Cristelle Erica Platt.
Deputy Secretary General,
Pacific Islands



Professor Mizusu Asari,
Kyoto University, Japan



Professor Shinichi Sakai

Kyoto University, Japan



Mr Makoto Tsukiji
DWM Consultant, Japan



Panel Member
Mr Setoa Apo
Principal Solid Waste Officer
MNRE, Samoa



Panel Member
Mr Rouhit Karan Singh
Manager Health Services Lautoka City Council, Fiji



Panel Member
Mr Filimone Kata Lapao
Senior Environmentalist,
Department of Environment,
Tonga

Establishing Solomon Islands Recycling and Waste Management Association

On Wednesday 25th April 2018, the second workshop hosted by Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) and the J-PRISM II Project was conducted with the aimed of establishing the Solomon Islands recycling & waste management association. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the structure and content of the draft constitution for the association in Solomon Islands. On 15th June 2018, the third workshop was officially held hosted by MECDM and the J-PRISM II Project. The revised constitution was finalized by participants.

The election of executive members was done by Nomination & Voting of Executive Members. A major outcome of the workshop was most of the participants have really appreciated the initiative to establish the association and indicated their support towards the association being established.

The Solomon Islands recycling & waste management association which could be the second recyclers association in Pacific islands countries will be established within this year.

The third workshop group photo



INCOMING WASTE AMOUNT SURVEY AT DISPOSAL SITES IN MICRONESIA REGION

In seven islands in G1 region, a series of SWM baseline surveys were conducted in 2017 with counterpart officials, by believing understanding the current SWM situation quantitatively is a first step to take technically-sound measures to improve the situation. One of the critically important baseline surveys was “Incoming

Waste Amount Survey”. In each island, all the incoming vehicles to public disposal sites were examined to identify the followings for one week; category of vehicle, waste amount, type of waste, location generation and so on. Even in some areas where no one kept a record at the site, they tried to learn how to do it with

enthusiasm under the blazing sun with occasional heavy rain. As the capacity of the counterparts who are responsible for management of disposal sites were strengthened by this, many of them still continue to keep daily incoming amounts and analyze them periodically

Technical guidance on incoming waste amount survey in Kosrae



Periodical analysis of incoming waste by the counterparts in Pohnpei



A New Waste Management Service in Vava’u Island



A new waste management service began on a full scale operation in Vava’u Island, Tonga. The Waste Authority Limited Vava’u branch provides commercial, industrial and residential waste collection services. And the authority also

plays an important role in an operation of landfilling. An urgent improvement of Kalaka landfill supported by J-PRISM was conducted in order to extend the facility life in June 2018. The new waste management system will keep Tonga clean, green and healthy. The improvement operation was fully conducted by Mr. Itomi, operator of WAL. He has gotten experience extension of embankment using dumped rubbish so that it makes sustainable operation as long as the fuel for excavator is sufficiently supplied.



Kobej Naan Jaan: New Recycling System Starts in Majuro

Moriana Phillip, General Manager, RMI Environmental Protection Authority

The long awaited “kobej nan jaan” or “trash for cash” project kicked off on Friday, August 10 by Her Excellency President Dr. Hilda C Heine when she officially cut the ribbon at Majuro Atoll Waste Company (MAWC’s) Recycling Center. The preparations for this recycling system are finally complete, and MAWC will now be accepting recyclable containers from the public.

Cans and bottles can be taken to the Recycling Center at the dumpsite located at Batkan to claim the refund of \$0.05 per container. The recycling system WILL ONLY accept aluminum drinking cans, glass drinking bottles, and PET plastic bottles.

The money for the refunds comes from a deposit paid by the businesses that import the drinking beverages. The prices of the drinks will go up a little, especially the cheapest ones. The money is then collected by the government, and then paid out to people who recycling their cans and bottles. This, however, is known as the deposit fee, it is NOT tax as the money returns to people who recycle their cans and bottles.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that the people MUST have their cans and bottles WHOLE AND CLEAN in order to receive their refunds. Cans and bottles will be measured by the use of measuring baskets.

These baskets will make counting cans & bottles much faster, and save people a lot of time at the recycling center.



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Message from Shiro Amano (Acting Chief Advisor)



It has been my great pleasure working with you for many years in the past. I have good memories of each one of you which have become my asset and a proof of my life in the Pacific.

Sometimes, I referred to the phrase that the journey is more important than the destination. Your capacity does not improve overnight. The amount of sweat you shed would increase your muscle to bend your steps. Wherever you are heading, enjoy your journey, even if you are standing far away from your destination.

Keep walking and every step counts. Please provide Mr. Miyata, the new Chief Advisor, with the same support you have given to me over the years. Good luck to you and all the best.

Message from Nobuaki Miyata (Chief Advisor)



It is my pleasure and honor to newly participate in the J-PRISM II Project as a chief advisor. My name is Nobuaki Miyata. I started my job career to work at an architect's office, approved a licensed architect, and then moved to JICA in 1995.

I started JICA career engaging in the Master Plan Study on Solid Waste Management for Metro-Manila in the Philippines and other development studies in various sectors, countries and regions.

I was also working at JICA Palau as a resident representative from the beginning on February 2016 for 2 years. While I was there, I was deeply involved in a project for construction of a new National Landfill in Palau under Japanese Grant Aid. I will promise you to catch up the project progress and to take off within a shorter runway, following the precursors' achievements.

Project Assistant - Pulemalie Habiri



Involving in projects and making a difference in peoples lives have always been my passion. I am grateful for the opportunity to be involved in J-PRISM II project.

I believe that the experience from my previous position as a Programme Assistant for Waste and Management Pollution Control Programme and studies in Project Management will enable me to provide the necessary project support needed for the J-PRISM II project to be successful.

I look forward to working together with the J-PRISM II team.

J-PRISM II BUZZ

For the Sustainable
Cooperation on Waste
Management among Pacific
Island Countries

J-PRISM II Project Office SPREP
Apia, Samoa



J-PRISM II

Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries Phase II

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J-PRISM II always stands beside you to promote and support PICs initiatives!