

MESSAGE FROM MR. KOSI LATU, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SPREP

Talofa lava from the SPREP Campus!

The month of August saw the second Clean Pacific Roundtable convene in Suva, Fiji. The premier Pacific regional meeting brought together over 150 Pacific island delegates to discuss challenges, solutions and actions to address the different waste challenges across the region. I would like to thank our partners who helped up to coordinate this meeting, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the European Union (EU). It was a successful three days of meetings and I applaud everyone for their efforts in making it a huge success.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the SPREP-Tok.

Until next month.



Mr. Kosi Latu, Director General of SPREP.

SPREP-Tok LATEST NEWS



SPREP AND WWF SEAL PARTNERSHIP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL WORK IN MACUATA PROVINCE, FIJI

SPREP and the World Wildlife Fund – Pacific signed an agreement in August in Suva, Fiji to work together to support two major environmental activities for Macuata Province in Fiji through funding by the Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change Project (PEBACC).

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PROTECTING PACIFIC GENETIC RESOURCES AND ASSOCIATED TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

Representatives from 10 Pacific island countries, as well as regional universities and organisations, gathered in Nadi in August to attend a training course on designing and implementing mutually agreed terms and contracts for access and benefit-sharing (ABS) for Pacific genetic resources.

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NEW ILO-SPREP PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE GREEN JOBS AS A DRIVER OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE PACIFIC



The International Labour Organization (ILO) and SPREP joined forces to promote a just transition towards a greener economy through decent work. Whilst the effects of climate change in the Pacific islands have been discussed in many fora, and particularly during the COP23 under the Fiji Presidency, the potential for job creation is often less known.

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TUVALU STRENGTHENS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



Pacific island countries continue to plan and implement development projects to improve national capital and provide a better standard of living for its people. Large infrastructural developments have a direct bearing on island ecosystems particularly fragile atoll environments.

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MARINE PROTECTED AREAS SURVEILLANCE AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR MANAGERS



Officers from New Caledonia and Wallis and Futuna have a better understanding of the available technologies to help Marine Protected Area surveillance, through a study commissioned by the Agence Francaise pou la Biodiversité (AFB).

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MARSHALL ISLANDS LAUNCHES INFORM PROJECT FOR IMPROVED ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING



The Republic of the Marshall Islands took steps to strengthen and improve the collection, storage and use of environmental information with the launch of the Inform project, which aims to collate environment information and house it in a single national database for better national reporting, planning and decision making.

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ENVIRONMENT THEMED PROJECTS STAND OUT AT VAIALA BEACH SCHOOL'S 2018 SCIENCE FAIR

Can an egg bounce? How does helium affect your voice? How many balloons are needed to lift a cat? These are some of the questions students of Vaiala Beach School based their science projects around for the school's annual Science Fair for 2018.

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PRIME MINISTER OF FIJI OPENS THE SECOND CLEAN PACIFIC ROUNDTABLE



The Clean Pacific Roundtable opened to a call from the Prime Minister of Fiji, Hon. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, urging delegates to aim for maximum ambition in the quest for a Cleaner Pacific.

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PLASTIC BAG LEVY REDUCES PLASTIC USAGE IN FIJI



Number crunching has shown the positive impact of the plastic bag levy on consumer behaviour in Fiji. The island nation used approximately 70 million plastic bags in 2010. Since the introduction of the new levy in August 2017, this number has dropped by almost half, peaking at just over half a million plastic bags in January 2018.

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KIRIBATI “KAOKI MAANGE” SYSTEM, OVER A DECADE OF OPERATION



As some would say, the “struggle is real” in Kiribati when it comes to putting a sustainable waste management system into action. Known as the “Kaoki Maange” system (return rubbish) there is a ‘money-back’ process in place for aluminium cans, PET bottles and used car batteries in Kiribati.

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NEW WASTE INITIATIVES FOR NIUE ON THE HORIZON



Niue is entering a new era on the journey for a Cleaner Pacific with the very first Niue Waste Recycling facility to be built. Three years in the making, the waste recycling facility is close to reality with land now cleared for its establishment which will help the island nation recycle imported goods to be exported offshore.

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PACIFIC ISLANDS CONTRIBUTE TO SPECIAL CLIMATE SCIENCE REPORT ON 1.5

Point five of a degree in temperature may seem small and insignificant, yet it’s the huge difference in ensuring the impacts of climate change remain at a ‘safe’ level. The “1.5 to stay alive” call by Small Island Developing States on the international climate stage has resulted in a global victory.

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MACUATA AND RA PROVINCES MEET TO EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE ON THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT



A team from the Macuata provincial council were in Ra province in August to participate in an environmental exchange programme supported by SPREP, the RESCCUE Fiji project of the Pacific Community (SPC) coordinated by the Institute of Applied Sciences of the University of the South Pacific and the World Wildlife Fund Fiji programme.

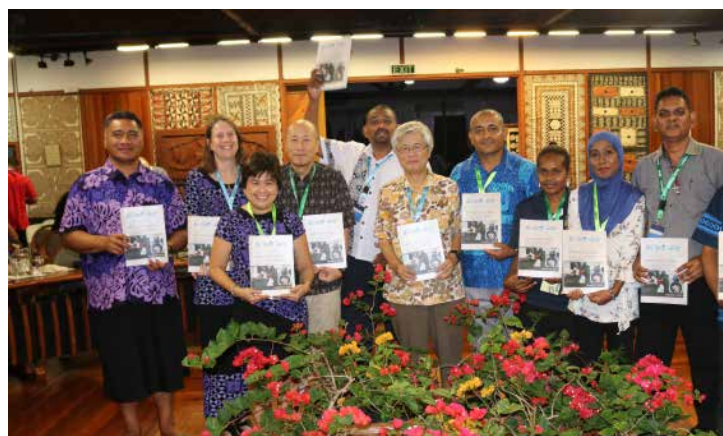
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CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED TO RESTORE FIJI'S GARDEN ISLAND



Fiji's third largest island, Taveuni, is launching a campaign to restore its reputation as Fiji's "Garden Island". The Wakatu Taveuni campaign encourages the island's leaders and communities to take action to address the causes of ecosystem degradation and to invest in more ecologically sustainable forms of land use.

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PACIFIC ISLAND SOLUTIONS TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT NOW AVAILABLE IN NEWLY LAUNCHED GUIDE

A "Practical guide to Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries and Territories" was launched during the second Clean Pacific Roundtable in Suva in August. 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).

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SPREP-Tok ISSN: 2311-861X

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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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