

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

Fakalofa lahi atu from SPREP,

We are moving steadily through the first half of the year. This month, we continue to increase our efforts in working with our Pacific island Member countries to ensure we build a resilient Pacific environment.

The Intra-ACP GCCA+ Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building (PACRES) Inception and Planning Meeting was held at SPREP Headquarters in early April 2019. This was a major milestone for the EU-funded EUR12 million PACRES, which aims to ensure better regional and national adaptation and mitigation responses to climate change challenges faced by Pacific ACP countries.

My first official visit to Wallis and Futuna also took place in April. The SPREP delegation met with Wallis and Futuna officials as well as the King of Wallis, to discuss Invasive Species Management, which SPREP will be assisting the island nation with.

More details on these developments and more can be found in this issue of the SPREP-Tok. Happy reading!

Soifua,



Mr. Kosi Latu, Director General of SPREP.

SPREP-Tok LATEST NEWS



BUILDING PACIFIC RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE ACROSS 15 COUNTRIES

Pacific Island Forum leaders have repeatedly identified climate change as the single greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and well-being of the peoples of the Pacific. In April, a major milestone in helping to build Pacific resilience to this threat was marked with the start of a EUR 12 million project spanning 15 countries.

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The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
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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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VANUATU IMPROVE COORDINATION ON PROTECTED AREAS

Vanuatu is a stronghold of biodiversity in the Pacific islands region and there are many sites throughout the country that have high conservation value owing to their role as key habitats for vulnerable and endemic species.

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PACIFIC ISLANDS DISCUSS OPEN DATA FOR ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION

Reporting to national development targets and to regional and global environment conventions rely on the availability of good data and information on the current state of the environment. Data is essential for these processes and an open data platform will help decision-makers access the information they want to develop effective policy planning and development processes.

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PACIFIC MEDIA BUILD GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF

CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



SOUTH-SOUTH KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE ON OPEN DATA FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Pacific island countries continue to pursue more ways to improve and protect their environment and biodiversity services for sustainable livelihoods. Developing environmental protection documents is key to the sustainable use of natural resources.

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THE PACIFIC LEARNING PARTNERSHIP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY ESTABLISHED

A new partnership has been established to enhance environmental and social sustainability in the Pacific region. The Pacific Learning Partnership for Environmental and Social Sustainability (PLP-ESS) will foster training, knowledge exchange, technical expertise and capacity building related to environmental and social safeguards and infrastructural development standards in the Pacific region.

Pacific island countries are at the front-line of climate change and its adverse impacts. So much so, that it has been emphasised time and again that climate change is the single biggest threat to the security and livelihoods of Pacific people. The role of Pacific media in climate change includes sharing stories and perspectives from the Pacific on the effects on our islands and livelihoods.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: AN IMPORTANT TOOL FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE AND ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE



PACIFIC ISLAND REGION HIGHLIGHTED AT IAIA19 CONFERENCE

Evolution or Revolution: Where next for Impact Assessment? This was the theme of the 39th International Association 2019 Conference held from 29 April - 2 May 2019 in Brisbane, Australia.

The IAIA19 Conference brought together more than 800 practitioners, experts, academics, government officials, private sector and other key stakeholders from around the world to share experiences, ideas, information, challenges and solutions in moving the impact assessment agenda forward.

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HOLEVA COMMUNITY IN TONGA NOW A FULLY GAZETTED SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA

The Holeva community in Tonga is now a fully gazetted Special Management Area (SMA) after a year of planning workshops with the community and the Ministry of Fisheries. Holeva has 3 habitats within their SMA boundary

SOLOMON ISLANDS WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY HELPS ADDRESS SDGS AND MULTI-LATERAL ENVIRONMENT AGREEMENTS (MEAS)



Solomon Islands has a rich environment with diverse marine and terrestrial biodiversity which is increasingly threatened by human induced activities, including uncontrolled and poor waste management practices.

The country has a high population growth rate, and an expanding economy heavily dependent on imported products brought about by changes in consumption patters.

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SPREP OFFICIAL VISIT TO WALLIS & FUTUNA



SPREP Director General, Mr Kosi Latu, completed his first official visit to Wallis & Futuna in April. The visit included meetings with Wallis & Futuna authorities, the King of Wallis, the customary authorities, the bishop and the technical departments.

SPREP will be assisting Wallis & Futuna with a new European Union funded project component on Invasive Species Management under the PROTEGE Project, which will include the removal of rodents from the 14 islets to restore coastal and marine ecological function, the restoration of key ecological sites related to biodiversity and water, improve inter-island and territorial biosecurity, and initiate the use of natural enemies to assist in the management of some widespread invasive plants.



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