



Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

TWENTY-FIRST SPREP MEETING

Madang, Papua New Guinea
 6 – 10 September 2010

Information Paper 2

Update on Regional Solid Waste Management Projects

Purpose

1. To provide an update on regional solid and hazardous waste management projects.

Background and Progress

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Regional Waste Management Project

2. Over the last decade, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been an important partner for improved solid waste management (SWM) in the region. In light of its official assistance strategy, the Government of Japan has declared its commitment to SWM in Pacific Island Forum (PIF) countries since the 2nd Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM) in 2000.

3. One of the outcomes of the 2nd PALM was the Pacific Regional Solid Waste Management Master Plan, which was subsequently finalized with technical and financial assistance of JICA as the Pacific Regional Waste Management Strategy, and endorsed by the 16th SPREP Meeting in September 2005. This was the basis for the revised 2010-2015 Regional Waste Management Strategy that the 20th SPREP Meeting adopted in November 2009.

4. Under the first Regional Strategy, JICA undertook a 4-year technical cooperation project – Solid Waste Management Project in Oceania Region (SWMPOR) – from June 2006 to May 2010. There were four main outputs:

- Disseminate good landfill management practices introduced at the Tafaigata landfill in Samoa as a model for similar Pacific Island Forum countries;
- Support the preparation of national waste management strategies and action plans in line with the Regional Strategy;
- Enhance the exchange of solid waste management information among the PIF countries through SPREP; and
- Explore countermeasures for abandoned vehicles and other bulky wastes.



5. The Terminal Evaluation of SWMPOR was completed in February 2010, and provided an overall positive summary of the achievements of the project. Specifically, the report concluded that:

“given the constraints, the Project Purpose has been substantially achieved, and already, the Project is showing some positive factors that lead to the realisation of Overall Goals. In terms of the five evaluation criteria, the relevance is high, the effectiveness is moderately assured and the efficiency is adequate. The positive impacts have been observed within Samoa as well as other PIF countries especially with regard to the drafting of NSWMS¹. In addition, the sustainability of the Project is moderately assured.”

6. Based on the above analysis, the terminal evaluation team asserted that:

“the Project Purpose will be achieved with continued efforts of the people concerned, and therefore it suggests that the Project is to be terminated as planned. To continue the momentum gained from this Project, the Team recommends that further assistance be provided focusing on the implementation of the National Strategy in PIF Countries.”

7. The recommendation of the terminal evaluation team was also grounded in the outcomes of the 5th PALM held in Hokkaido Japan in 2009, at which the Government of Japan indicated its continuous support to the Pacific Region in priority areas including environment and climate change. Waste management was one of the five areas for the scope of cooperation in the PALM 5 Islanders’ Hokkaido Declaration. JICA then invited PIF country representatives to a solid waste management workshop in Kitakyushu Japan in May/June 2009, where each country was invited to submit a proposal for solid waste management assistance by August 2009, and provided with guidance on completion of the proposals.

8. Over the period May to June 2010, JICA conducted country missions to countries who submitted project proposals in order to identify and agree on expected outputs at the regional and specific country levels. Further country missions were planned for August 2010 to finalize specific regional and country outputs, and to finalize the regional cooperative framework under which the project will be implemented.

¹ National Solid Waste Management Strategies

9. The regional cooperative framework is expected to be signed by all PIF countries at the SPREP Meeting in Madang, PNG and this will be followed in subsequent weeks by the bilateral exchange of official Records of Discussion between Japan and each PIF country.

10. The project is then expected to start in November/December 2010.

Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Regional Solid Waste Initiative

11. Following the endorsement of the first Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy for the Pacific in September 2005, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) prepared an initiative to support the implementation of the Regional Strategy and the national solid waste management strategies of SPREP Member countries.

12. The first joint AFD-UNEP mission to the Pacific covering French Polynesia, Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu and New Caledonia was undertaken between September and October 2005, and focused on preparatory meetings with multilateral and bilateral financial and technical partners. This was followed by another mission in 2006, and the outcome was a concept comprising three components:

- A regional component (Component 1) to address economic instruments for waste management, waste minimization through composting, capacity building, special issues of waste management on atolls and small islands, and communication and information dissemination;
- A sub-regional component (Component 2) to collect, sort, and re-export hazardous wastes from coherent groupings of countries chosen with regard to the quantity of wastes produced and transportation costs (which a feasibility study determined should focus on three activities: school chemicals and disused pesticides/Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Melanesia, scrap metal in Micronesia, and oil reuse in Polynesia and Melanesia; and
- A national component (Component 3) consisting of concrete actions in-country, covering all areas of solid waste handling activities (for which a feasibility study outlined procedures and support modalities for implementing an AFD Fund).

13. The original budget conceived for the AFD initiative was 5 million euros; however, the funding approved by AFD Board in late 2009 was 1 million euros, which led to a reduction in the scale of all three components. Consequently, the current scope for the AFD initiative, which will be implemented over a 4-year period is as follows:

- Component 1 supports the development and delivery of a vocational training program in waste management through regional institutions;

- Component 2 contributes to the reduction of the negative impacts of waste oil on the environment of participating PICTs through the development of appropriate frameworks for waste oil collection and disposal;
- Component 3 is essentially an AFD Fund which provides support to PICTs to prepare country activity proposals that will be considered subject to additional funding being secured.

14. In April 2010, SPREP and AFD signed the financing agreement for the project. The mode of implementation for the project will be through a technical expert hired through a competitive bidding process and positioned within SPREP’s Waste Management and Pollution Prevention Team. The technical expert should be engaged by October 2010 and project implementation will begin thereafter.

UNEP- GEF-PAS POPs Release Reduction

15. In 2009, UNEP put forward a regional project on behalf of PICs under the GEF Pacific Alliance for Sustainability to address “POPs release reduction through Improved Management of Solid and Hazardous Wastes”. The project will focus on technical assistance and capacity building for implementation of Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans (NIP) and the demonstration of feasible, innovative technologies for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) reduction. The project also aims to improve the use of chemicals in an environmentally sound manner, to reduce releases of POPs and other persistent toxic substances to the environment, and to better manage previously contaminated sites.

16. The UNEP project is financed partly by a GEF allocation of USD 3.2 Million and partly by the AFD initiative. It has 6 main activities, 5 of which are matched by the AFD initiative:

UNEP Project Components	AFD Project Components	Scope of Activities
1, 2	1	Regional support for implementation of the Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy focusing on training and awareness-raising in solid and hazardous waste management best practices and techniques
3, 4	2	Waste oil export and reuse in Polynesia and Melanesia, enhancing the inventory, stockpile management and safe disposal of unwanted pesticides (including POPs) and school laboratory chemicals
5	3	National level technical assistance for country-specific NIP activities
6		Implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). It includes legislation enforcement and promotion of low risk alternatives in agriculture and wood treatment in PICs with significant reliance on pesticides.
7		Monitoring and Evaluation

17. The Project Identification Form was approved in September 2009, and the Project Preparation Grant was approved in April 2010. The final full-sized project document should be submitted for endorsement by the GEF CEO before February 2011. Implementation can begin after CEO endorsement.

18. The projects described above will inject much needed resources into the region in the area of solid and hazardous waste management. This will help to address the call by members at the 20th SPREP Meeting for more resources to be dedicated to waste management.

Conclusion

19. The Meeting is invited to

- **note** progress on the regional waste management projects
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