



The Solid Waste Management Project for the Oceania Region

SWMPOR

The 3rd Newsletter is issued!!

The third year of the Solid Waste Management Project in Oceania Region (SWMPOR) is almost at an end. In this 3rd Project newsletter, we would like to share our achievements and progress for the three-month period from September to December 2008. We also want to convey our appreciation to the member countries for making the Project a success. But it's not over yet! The Project continues until May 2010, so we would appreciate your continued support and cooperation. In the meantime, happy reading!

[Output 1] In-Country Training in Samoa (landfill operation and maintenance)

In-Country Training for landfill operation and maintenance for Tafaigata Landfill was held in Samoa for 8 days from December 1 - 10, 2008.

Two Japanese landfill experts were invited and provided instruction in the basic concepts of the semi-aerobic landfill method. To improve understanding of these concepts, they used examples of landfill improvement in other countries including Japan. The primary focus of the training was on the technical aspects of daily operation and maintenance on the landfill. The specific components of the training on site were as follows.

(1) **Management of disposal height** (monitoring and measurement of height of waste layers)

(2) **Gas venting**

- Installation/remediation of vertical/independent gas venting pipe
- Remedial measures to repair damaged/clogged vertical gas vents

(3) **Daily landfill operation**

- Compaction and soil covering methods
- Landfilling method to avoid damage to horizontal leachate pipes

(4) **Leachate re-circulation system**

- Installation of leachate re-circulation pipe network



In Samoa

WHAT WE HAVE DONE SO FAR (Sep08 - Dec08)



In addition, Ms. Esther of SPREP introduced the fire prevention manual. The participants learnt how to conduct risk assessments through practical exercise.

The mode of the training was very hands-on and participants were all equally and eagerly involved in the on-site work in spite of intermittent rain, high humidity, and glaring sun.



In Kosrae

There were almost 40 participants at the workshop, including staff of MNRE, private contractors, and staff from the Ministry of Health (MOH). Mr. Weston, the Director of the Public Works Department in Kosrae State of FSM, was also one of the participants. Mr. Weston presented on the experience in the construction and operation of the semi-aerobic landfill in Kosrae State. After returning from the training in Samoa, he was able to apply some of the knowledge learnt to improve the leachate collection system at the landfill in Kosrae.

In order to share the knowledge we gained through the training, the training activities were recorded on DVD by Mr. Kasho, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV), attached to SPREP. With his assistance, the DVD, including all training materials and presentations will be finalized and made available to member countries. The information will be useful not only for the countries with semi-aerobic landfills but also for countries who are willing to improve their own dumpsites to sanitary landfills in future.



[Output2] Workshop to develop National Solid Waste Management Strategy (NSWMS) in Nauru

A NSWMS workshop was held in Nauru from November 24 –27th, 2008. The workshop got off to a somewhat slow start with only a handful of participants present at mid-morning, however, by the end of the first day, there was a much larger group (about 20 participants), and the participation level was consistent throughout the rest of the week. The first day closed with a trip to the solid waste disposal site, and this first-hand view of the problem faced by Nauru, set the stage for the discussion over the next few days. Participation in the group discussions by everyone was very good, and the priority issues identified, was a direct result of feedback by the participants. There should therefore be a large share of ownership for the resulting document.

One outcome of the workshop was the draft action plan to address the priority issues, and the formation of a group headed by Department of Commerce Industry and Environment (CIE) to progress the drafting of the Strategy and have it ready for presentation to Cabinet by May 2009. In fact, the Nauru government utilized the draft document as baseline information on solid waste management for bilateral discussions with donors.

[Output 3] Information Network on SWM

Informational CD/DVDs on SWM are available from the Secretariat. The contents of information have been listed in the 2nd project newsletter. Anyone who would like to receive the above information is encouraged to email; estherr@sprep.org. or frankg@sprep.org. What's more, you can contact us anytime, from anywhere through an online information exchange network available through the SPREP website at: http://sprep-forum.sprep.org/sprep_forums/modules/newbb/viewforum.php?forum=5. Is this link too long to remember? Just visit www.sprep.org and follow the link "SPREP Forums" at the top of the page.

[Output 4] The progress of Preliminary Survey for Large Difficult Wastes in Pacific Region

In order to develop guidelines for abandoned vehicles and other bulky wastes, a Questionnaire survey in each country has been conducted. A few questionnaires were returned from some countries; Vanuatu, Kiribati and some states of FSM, Kosrae and Chuuk (Thanks a lot!), however, many of the other countries have not responded. We have therefore decided to redesign the questionnaire and will redistribute to each country with assistance of SPREP and JICA country offices. Your cooperation in completing these questions would be greatly appreciated. Do you have views on the questionnaires you may have received from us? Let us know your thoughts by visiting the Waste Information forum.

NEWS UPDATE from Project Management

The **SWMPOR** is a joint project of the **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**, the **Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE)** and the **Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)**.

The Project welcomed a new member from MNRE! **Ms. Lilian Penaia**, *Waste Management Officer*. We also say a hearty CONGRATULATION! to **Ms. Katenia Rasch**, former Waste Management Officer who has been promoted to *Senior Planning and Policy Waste Management Officer* with MNRE. These developments are proof that waste management can be a rewarding career.



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Upcoming events!

March 16th – 20th 2009

National Solid Waste Management Strategy Workshop in Vanuatu

Volume 4 of the newsletter will be published **soon!**

More information on the project is available by contacting on SPREP's Telephone (685) 21929 or Fax (685) 20231 or E-mail: frankg@sprep.org or estherr@sprep.org



More information