



Sustainable, transformative and resilient for a Blue Pacific

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP_4/5/10 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 23 August 2023
CIRCULAR: 23/73
SUBJECT: Call for Nominations and abstracts for the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) Annual Conference 16th – 19th October 2023, Auckland, New Zealand

Dear Members,

We are pleased to inform you that SPREP will be participating in the upcoming Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) 2023 Annual Conference themed “*Leading the wave of change*”, which will be held in Auckland from 16th to 19th October.

The EIANZ Annual Conference is a premier gathering of environmental practitioners and experts across Oceania, providing an excellent platform to exchange knowledge, share experiences, and discuss pressing environmental challenges and solutions. It offers a unique opportunity to hear from, and interact with policymakers, researchers, practitioners, industry experts, and thought leaders discussing vulnerabilities, methodologies, principles, and regulatory frameworks.

SPREP recognises the importance of Pacific voices, priorities, and perspectives in shaping environmental policies and decisions that directly impact the unique challenges faced by our region. With support from the “*Capacity Building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Countries III*”, also known as the ACP MEAs3 Programme, SPREP is liaising with the EIANZ and New Zealand Association for Impact Assessment (NZAIIA) to facilitate the participation of Pacific island countries and territories (PICTs) in the conference with the goal of fostering knowledge exchange, networking, building partnerships, and enhancing collaboration to address environmental issues in the region.

The conference will feature a dedicated “**Pacific Day**” on 16th October where Pacific Island perspectives, achievements and challenges in environmental assessment and management will be showcased. This day will provide a unique opportunity for Pacific delegates to engage with peers, share case studies and lessons learned, and discuss sustainable practices and environmental challenges in their respective countries.

Therefore, the SPREP Secretariat hereby wishes to invite the nomination of **one participant** from each of its Pacific Island member Countries and Territories. The nominated participant should ideally have experience in environmental impact assessments, strategic environmental assessments, environmental compliance, planning, policy and or management, to participate in the EIANZ 2023 annual conference. As a requirement for participation, nominated participants are expected to prepare and submit abstracts for conference sessions. Please submit abstracts using the attached template. More details on the conference can be found on the conference website: [EIANZ 2023 Annual Conference](#)

The travel cost, including a daily subsistence allowance (DSA), for one (1) participant per country will be supported by SPREP and all travel arrangements will follow the SPREP Travel Policy, which includes an economy return airfare using the most direct and economical route. Furthermore, note that visa arrangements, accommodation and travel insurance is the responsibility of the traveller. At request, SPREP can provide a letter from the organisers to support visa application for nominees and participants.

All nominations and conference abstracts should be submitted using the nomination form and abstract submission template annexed hereto. We kindly ask that you send all nomination forms to Ivan Diarra (ivand@sprep.org) and Flavia Vaai (Flaviav@sprep.org) at your earliest convenience, but no later than **Friday, 1st September 2023** to enable early travel arrangements to be made.

Kindly note that SPREP will liaise directly with the nominated participants on preparations for the conference including materials and resources to prepare prior to attending the workshop. An Information Note detailing logistics of the meeting will also be circulated once nominations are confirmed.

In addition, countries and territories who may wish to bring additional participants to the conference are free to do so at their own expense. Please contact and liaise with the EIANZ directly (office@eianz.org).

Should you have any inquiries or require further information, please contact Jope Davetanivalu, Director for Environmental Monitoring and Governance (EMG) Programme (joped@sprep.org), Puta Tofinga, Environmental Assessment and Planning Officer (putat@sprep.org) or Ivan Diarra, PNEA Technical Officer (ivand@sprep.org).

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Easter Chu Shing
Acting Director General

ECS/ID/rmg

Att.