



PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa  
 E: [sprep@sprep.org](mailto:sprep@sprep.org)  
 T: +685 21929  
 F: +685 20231  
 W: [www.sprep.org](http://www.sprep.org)

*The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.*



## Twenty Seventh SPREP Meeting of Officials

Alofi, Niue

19 – 21 September 2016

### **Agenda Item 6.10 : Update on 11th European Development Fund (EDF) Pacific Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) – Pacific European Union Marine Project (PEUMP) and Management of Waste components**

#### **Purpose**

1. To update Members on progress of the 1) Pacific European Union Marine Project (PEUMP) of the EDF 11 funding envelope; and 2) Management of Waste component of EDF11.

#### **Background**

2. Members were briefed last year on the EDF 11 funding envelope for various work areas in the Pacific islands region, including Priority Area 2: Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment and the Management of Waste (€52 million) which included Specific Objective 2.1: Improved economic, social and environmental benefits from sustainable management of oceanic and coastal natural resources with due regard for the conservation of native biodiversity and climate change adaptation requirements (€35 million) and Specific Objective 2.2: Improved economic, social and environmental benefits from sustainable management of waste with due regard for the conservation of native biodiversity and climate change adaptation requirements (€17 million)

#### **Objective 2.1: PEUMP (Pacific European Union Marine Project)**

3. When the Secretariat was first invited by FFA (then leading a consortium of CROP agencies with an interest in the provisional EDF 11 programme for the sustainable use of marine resources), it was proposed that SPREP should focus on mitigating the by-catch of turtles in commercial fisheries, but as negotiations progressed, SPREP widened the scope of this component to also include ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change, marine spatial planning and biodiversity linkages through both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems to support healthy coastal ecosystems. The initial funding offer of €5 million over 5 years was not, however, increased to cover these additional work areas.
4. Development of the PEUMP project has been hindered during the past year because none of the CROP Agencies involved (FFA, SPC, SPREP and USP) have yet successfully passed all seven of the EU Pillar Assessment. It was proposed by the EU that GIZ might be the administering agency for the project, but this was unacceptable to CROP members, and progress was stalled for several months. A further complication was the interest expressed by the EU for a role for IUCN within the SPREP component.

5. Recently, however, these issues have been resolved, and it has been agreed that a CROP agency will still take the lead in administration of the PEUMP project, and the EU has proposed SPC. SPREP has also revised its budget to provide for the allocation of funding to IUCN to lead the marine spatial planning component.
6. Key elements of implementation of the PEUMP project are as follows:
  - A Financing Agreement will be signed between the EU and PIFS;
  - A co-delegation agreement (PAGODA) will be signed between the EU and SPC, as the lead agency responsible for project management and co-signed by the co-delegates;
  - A draft work plan will need to be developed in the first six months of the project, if it is not ready at the time of signing the co-delegation agreement;
  - The project will require a visibility and communications plan; it is recommended that a communications officer should be included in the project management team;
  - Project reporting will require one annual report for the whole project, preferably coinciding with the requests for payment;
  - To qualify for the next payment the overall project will need to have met the spending threshold – individual agencies will not be able to claim separately;
  - There will be brief (2-3 page) progress reports submitted on a quarterly basis;
  - The project needs to provide information to National Authorising Officers on a systematic basis.
7. The Swedish Government may provide a further €5-10 million to PEUMP as part of their increased commitment to the region. This will be decided following a visit to the region by a mission from their Agency for Marine and Water Management to meet with regional agencies in September and would:
  - Have a focus on poverty reduction (same as EDF);
  - Address human rights and gender issues (gender already partially covered, there may be an additional annex on human rights, including labour rights issues, working conditions, slave labour);
  - Have links with the SDGs (SDG 14 already strong, but may need references to 1, 5 and 8);
  - Preferably be for a 5-year project duration;
  - Address transboundary issues where relevant (to be clarified)
  - Provide for private sector involvement (already planned but to be further developed).
8. The aim now is to submit a revised Action Document for QSG1<sup>1</sup> for the 20<sup>th</sup> October. The EU Delegation will need to receive this in the last week of September for submission to HQ EU on 5 October. This will hopefully include revisions to accommodate Sweden's participation but will also need: better formulation of result area 5; stronger alignment with the Fisheries Roadmap; and the agreed implementation modality.
9. The target for a complete Action Document for QSG2<sup>2</sup> will be either December or, more likely February 2017. This needs to include details of the activities, the budget, and a capacity analysis of the agencies involved (including internal cooperation within each of the CROPs).
10. FFA will continue to lead on the development of the project documentation, while SPC would become leading agency for the signature of the agreement. If all goes well, project agreements could be signed by June 2017.

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<sup>1</sup> The QSGs (Quality Support Group) are EU approval bodies. QSG1 approves/rejects the initial Action Document. QSG2 approves/rejects the final Action Document.

<sup>2</sup> *ibid*

## Objective 2.2: Integrated Waste and Pollution Management in the Pacific

11. The Secretariat has been selected to be the coordinator of the Objective 2.2 consortium. The consortium is made up of SPC, USP and the Secretariat.
12. An initial Action Document was drafted post Cleaner Pacific 2025 November last year in anticipation of a project sign-off in June 2016. Due to various delays, the project is now planned to be signed off in mid-2017 and for implementation to occur once the PacWaste project (EDF10) finishes at the end of 2017.
13. The proposed project will provide a strategic, information driven framework to help address priority waste and pollution issues such as improved management of municipal solid waste, green-waste, asbestos, electrical and electronic waste (E-waste), healthcare waste, chemicals (such as persistent organic pollutants (POPs), herbicides, ozone depleting substances (ODSs), and mercury), used oil and lubricants, marine debris, ship-sourced pollution, disaster waste, and wastewater (such as sewage and agricultural effluents).
14. It is anticipated that the regional activities prioritised through the Pacific-wide, Regional Waste and Pollution Control Strategy and Action Plan (2016-2025) consultation process as well as key follow on activities including the Clean Pacific Roundtable, the development of the J-PRISM2 project and the PacWaste mid-term review can be used to identify the primary activities to be included in Objective 2.2.
15. The development of this project will build on past successes and be an integral component of a co-ordinated multi-donor, multi-year effort to deliver improved waste and pollution management services, systems and capacities to the Pacific region.
16. The aim will be to use a programmatic approach based on the Cleaner Pacific 2025 and national policies as an overall framework, combined with the resources of EDF11, JPRISM 2, Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) programmes, other donors and country level resources combined into a coherent programme of works.
17. Consistent with the approach of the PEUMP project SPREP will seek further programme partners such as the Swedish Government, UNEP and others who have expressed an interest in project areas such as marine plastics and debris.
18. The indicative budget allocation (initial concept note) is as follows:

Priority Area 2b: Management of Waste	Indicative Funding Allocation
Result 2.1: Improve the production, availability, analysis, dissemination and use of quality data and information on outcomes and experiences in waste management and technologies, for better decision making.	2.5 M Euro
Result 2.2: Policies and regulatory frameworks in place to mitigate and better manage waste and pollution achieved regionally, and where possible, in Pacific island countries.	1.5 M Euro
Result 2.3: Enhance private sector engagement in the management of waste, including its responsibility and involvement in an integrated approach to financing Result 2.4: Best available practices in priority waste and pollutant management implemented in demonstration Pacific countries.	7.6 M Euro
Result 2.5: Enhanced human capacity to mitigate and better manage priority waste and pollutant streams in Pacific island countries.	1.9 M Euro
Result 2.6: Enhanced regional coordination, collaboration and information exchange on waste and pollution management practices.	3.5 M Euro
<b>Total Budget for Management of Waste</b>	<b>17 M Euro</b>

19. The initial Action Document is scheduled to be submitted mid November 2016 for QSG1 approval following consultation with countries and stakeholders at the key events identified in the preceding points.
20. The target for a complete Action Document for QSG2 approval will be mid-June 2017 after final country level and stakeholder consultation is completed. This document will include the details of the activities, the budget, and a capacity analysis of the agencies involved.
21. It is important to note that the Japanese International Cooperation Agency are in process of developing a project post J-PRISM titled Japanese Technical Cooperation Project (II) for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries (J-PRISM II). The J-PRISM II is a five (5) year project will cover nine (9) countries.

## Recommendation

22. It is recommended that Members:

- **note** that although the EDF 11 project on sustainable use of marine resources, PEUMP, has been delayed, it appears to now be on track for implementation to begin in late 2017 or early 2018;
- **note** that the Swedish Government may contribute significant further funding to PEUMP;
- **agree** to collaborate with the Secretariat once implementation begins, specifically to investigate the mitigation of turtle by-catch in commercial fisheries and to undertake a range of activities to promote ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change and conservation of coastal biodiversity; and
- **note** the progress of the EDF11 Management of Waste component is on schedule to commence early 2018 with a continuation of stakeholder consultations throughout 2016/2017.

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