



“Accelerating actions for a resilient Blue Pacific”

7th, 8th, 9th September 2021, Virtual Platforms
12:00pm – 5:00pm Samoa Standard Time

Agenda item 7.4: Strategic Partnership between SPREP and JICA: future opportunities for collaboration

Purpose of paper

1. To discuss the future opportunities to strengthen the partnership between SPREP and JICA on waste management and climate change through human and institutional capacity development to ensure sustainability of PICs.

Background

2. The partnership between SPREP and JICA started in 2000 with Japan’s grant aid agreement for the Training and Education Centre (TEC) building construction which was completed in 2002. This was followed by the 20-year partnership on the solid waste management with the commencement of technical cooperation in 2000 which continues to date as “Japan’s Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in the Pacific Countries Phase 2 (J-PRISM II)”. The partnership has been further strengthened through the construction of the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) and the Technical Cooperation Project for Capacity Building on Climate Resilience in the Pacific.
3. Further environment cooperation between Japan and the Pacific was discussed in the 9th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM9) in July 2021.
4. The next phase of technical cooperation on waste management which includes a new concept “JICA Clean City Initiative”, is currently under discussion and will focus on the development of institutional capacity on SWM and 3R+Return with the following broad components:
 - Enhancing institutional and financial capacity of government departments /municipalities
 - Improving waste collection and landfill management + Disaster waste management
 - Recycling mechanisms and networks

5. The JICA Clean City Initiative (Refer WP7.4 Att.1) takes a holistic approach and seeks to utilize a wide range of knowledge and resources to promote a safe and clean environment worldwide.
6. It is therefore timely to have a dialogue among Members, the SPREP Secretariat, and JICA on future opportunities to strengthen the partnership between SPREP and JICA through the next phase of cooperation.

Recommendation

7. The Meeting is invited to:
 - 1) **note** and **reaffirm** the positive outcomes of JICA's on-going technical cooperation projects with SPREP in the Pacific region; and
 - 2) **support** the current process for developing the next phase of the technical cooperation on waste management and its implementation which is scheduled to start in 2022.

26 June 2021