

Implementation of used oil management activities.

Background:

1. There are over 3 million tonnes of used oil languishing in SIDS around the world. This poses a risk to human health and the environment. But used oil can be sold and reused, becoming an economic resource for island countries.
2. The SWAP is a 3M€ budget project implemented by the Agence française de développement. 863,800 € are allocated to Used Oil Management activities in Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu including:
 - a. 65,000€ for capacity building through a Regional Virtual Vocational Training Program and face-to-face training;
 - b. 84,400€ for the development of National Used Oil Management Plans;
 - c. 714,400€ for the implementation of pilot projects (shipment of used oil, establishment of storage facilities, etc);
 - d. 23,500€ to hold a regional workshop.

In Country activities:

3. The National Used Oil Management Plans for Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu have been submitted to in-country stakeholders in May and June 2023 for endorsement. A number of sequential steps need to be completed to ensure these countries manage used oil appropriately into the future. These include:
 - i. Finalisation of national used oil management policy, including a detailed cost benefit analysis of used oil generation rates and disposal options;
 - ii. Drafting of national used oil management legislation, regulations, standards and code of practice;
 - iii. Formation of a national Used Oil Management Steering Committee;
 - iv. Establishment of a Managing Agency;
 - v. Formation of a user pays management system for used oil management
 - vi. Industry and public awareness campaigns;
 - vii. Implementation of collection of an Advanced Disposal Fee (ADF) on all imported lubricants; and
 - viii. Dispersal of ADF income to pay for national used oil collection, storage and management.
4. Samoa will receive funding and technical support under the SWAP to organise the shipment of used oil stockpiles.
 - i. Discussions had been initiated with an Indian-based company to carry out the shipment to India or Dubai. However, after meeting with the Basel Convention Focal Point in the United Arab Emirates, we were informed that the importing of hazardous wastes, including used oil, into the UAE is illegal, even if the used oil has been processed prior to shipment. Import of waste oil is also prohibited under Indian law.
 - ii. Other options are currently being assessed: Fiji, Korea or New Zealand.

5. Solomon Islands will receive funding and technical support under the SWAP to build a storage facility. This storage facility will be located on the site of the ' & Design Technology Centre' where a pyrolysis machine will also be installed. The facility will be operated under a Public-Private Partnership between the Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management & Meteorology and owner of the plant.
6. Tonga will receive funding and technical support under the SWAP to establish a storage facility for used oil prior to shipment. There are no short-term plans for a reprocessing facility in the country, but the Department of Environment is willing to conduct a feasibility study to assess whether such a facility would be cost-effective and sustainable in the future.
7. Vanuatu will receive funding and technical support under the SWAP to set up a storage facility. This storage facility will be developed and operated as a Public-Private Partnership between the Department of Environment Protection and Conservation and the owner of the plant.
8. The Used Oil Management Pilot Project in Solomon Islands is under implementation. The first stage involves designing the facility and carrying out an Environmental Impact Assessment Evaluation.
9. The Used Oil Management Pilot Project Proposals for Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu are being drafted. Implementation will begin in January 2024.