

Thirty Second SPREP Meeting of Officials

2-4 September 2025

Sheraton Aggie Greys Hotel & Bungalows
Apia, Samoa

“Sustaining our Pacific Environment in Harmony with our Cultures”

Agenda item 9.3.5: Standards and Certification Programme for the Phasing out of single use plastics in the tourism sector

Purpose:

1. To inform Members of the:
 - a) PAWES Updates on progress of work on Waste-to-Energy.
 - b) Recommendations for future directions and opportunities for progressing Waste-to-Energy in the Pacific region.

Background:

2. The Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions (PAWES) Project is committed to supporting enhanced solid waste management and energy security in the Pacific region. With a focus on sustainability, the PAWES project aims to improve the livelihoods of the people of the Pacific with affordable, reliable, and environmentally sound waste management and energy.
3. The PAWES project is led by the Pacific Community (SPC) in partnership with South Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP) and supported with the financial contribution of the European Union and the support of the Secretariat of the OACPS, Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States.
4. The project will deliver waste management and energy security solutions in Samoa, Solomon Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, and Papua New Guinea.
5. The project was scheduled to end in December 2024; however, a no-cost extension was granted to complete the pending activities in 2025. As the project will be closing at the end of 2025, it is timely to provide updates on the project activities as well as successes, challenges, and lessons learned from the PAWES Project for the five country members of the project. Updates will also provide recommendations for future directions and opportunities for progressing Waste-to-Energy in the Pacific region.

Recommendation:

6. The Meeting is invited to:
 - 1) **Take note** of the PAWES Updates and recommendations for future directions and opportunities for progressing Waste-to-Energy in the Pacific region.