



2nd Executive Board Meeting

2 – 4 September 2020

Agenda Item 11.3.2: The Cleaner Pacific 2025 and Development of the new Implementation Plan 2021 to 2025

Purpose of paper

1. To seek endorsement of the 2021-2025 Implementation Plan for the Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy 2016-2025 (Cleaner Pacific 2025)

Background

2. Cleaner Pacific 2025 (CP2025) provides a comprehensive blueprint to guide integrated waste and pollution management actions in the Pacific region for the period 2016–2025. Developed in full consultation with SPREP Members and partners, it captures priorities in the waste and pollution sector of the region.
3. CP2025 provides a strategic management framework to address waste, chemicals and pollutants that will reduce associated threats to sustainable development of the region.
4. The strategy is focused around four strategic goals:
 - a. prevention of the generation of wastes and pollution
 - b. recovery of resources
 - c. improvement of residuals
 - d. monitoring of the receiving environment.

It is supported by the Implementation Plan (IP 2016-2019) which will be replaced by the draft 2021-2025 Implementation Plan

Review of Cleaner Pacific 2025

5. SPREP, with funding assistance from UNEP, undertook a review of CP2025 to assess progress using the key performance indicators (KPIs) linked to each of the four strategic goals of the Strategy. The process also allowed verification and evaluation of the relevance of the strategic actions to the waste, chemicals and pollution (WCP) agenda in the Pacific as well as necessary adjustments to the KPIs to allow better judgment on the progress made in the waste and pollution sector.
6. The mid-term review also identified necessary corrective actions and strategic recommendations for the second half of the strategy period (2021-2025) which led to the development of the new Implementation Plan to cover the period 2021 to 2025. The review involved desktop research with outputs validated through consultation with Members.

7. Key findings of the review are:

- The IP 2016–2019 was ambitious in its scope and did not include a practical framework for monitoring and assessment of progress, with 20 overarching performance indicators linked to the CP2025 strategic goals, plus 124 activity-linked KPIs not linked to the strategic goals. It is thus unsurprising that no progress was made with almost one-third (39) of the listed activities in the IP 2016 to 2019. Good progress was achieved for 29 activities (23%), which is perhaps indicative of the number of activities that can be feasibly addressed.
- Some progress was made towards achieving all four strategic goals:
 - reduced (average) municipal solid waste generation per capita
 - an increased number of container deposit programmes
 - increased number of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programmes for used oil
 - increased (average) national waste collection coverage
 - an increased (average) waste recycling rate
 - increased number of national environmental monitoring programmes
- CP2025 strategic goals a, b and c remain relevant and valid. Strategic goal d (improve monitoring of the receiving environment) is limited in scope and should be revised to encompass monitoring and reporting for both WCP management activities and the receiving environment.
- In some cases, performance indicator effectiveness and validity was reduced by unclear or incorrectly calculated baselines, data analysis variability, and limited data availability. Performance indicators and targets that require revision were identified for the next CP2025 implementation phase, to support more robust progress monitoring and reporting.
- Significant data gaps exist across all countries and territories, which limits effective assessment of CP2025 implementation progress. There is a need to support and prioritise CP2025 monitoring and reporting, through establishing mechanisms and guidelines for collection, analysis and storage of relevant data (e.g. templates, databases) and through standardising data collection and analysis methodologies across all countries and territories, as well as regional partners.

New Implementation Plan 2021-2025

8. The next Implementation Plan 2021 – 2025 focuses on a smaller number of activities that address priority gaps identified in the mid-term review as well as priority issues for Pacific island countries and territories. Some of the broad areas requiring further work identified at a national-level include:

- development/expansion of routine monitoring and reporting (e.g., for WCP management activities and the receiving environment)
- development/finalisation of integrated WCP strategies, policies and action plans aligned with CP2025

- development of practical and enforceable WCP legislation
 - development of public-private partnerships (e.g. for container deposit, EPR and recycling programmes)
 - implementation of WCP prevention and reduction programmes
 - management of hazardous waste, including development of inventories
 - improvement of WCP management infrastructure, working towards sustainable operation and maintenance
 - development/implementation of WCP education and behavioural-change programmes
9. A comprehensive list of specific activity gaps was also identified through the regional-level progress assessment, and this became a point of reference for considering activities for the new Implementation Plan.
10. To enable a comprehensive mid-term review, the evaluation report and the draft Implementation Plan 2021 to 2025 were subjected to another consultation with member countries and partners responsible for the delivery of the actions prior to submission for endorsement in this meeting. At the time of drafting, this process is yet to be completed. The final draft 2021-2025 Implementation Plan will be provided as soon as it has been received from the consultant and circulated as a late attachment to this paper.

Recommendations

11. The Executive Board Meeting is invited to:
1. **Endorse** the new Implementation Plan 2021 – 2025 for the remaining period of the CP2025; and
 2. **Request** Members to work with SPREP and other partners to improve the regional management of waste and pollution over the next 5 years using the new Implementation Plan 2021-2025

31 July, 2020