

Cleaner Pacific 2025 Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2021–2025

31 July 2020

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ACRONYMS / ABBREVIATIONS

AFD	Agence Française de Développement
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
AS	American Samoa
CCR	Climate Change Resilience Programme (SPREP)
CDP	Container deposit programme
CI	Cook Islands
CNMI	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
CP2025	Cleaner Pacific 2025: Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy 2016–2025
CPRT	Clean Pacific Roundtable
EMG	Environmental Monitoring and Governance Programme (SPREP)
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
FJ	Fiji
FP	French Polynesia
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GU	Guam
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IP	Implementation Plan
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KI	Kiribati
NA	Nauru
NATPOL	National Pollution Prevention Strategy
NC	New Caledonia
NI	Niue
NZ	New Zealand
PA	Palau
PICTs	Pacific island countries and territories
PNG	Papua New Guinea
POLP	Pacific Ocean Litter Project
PWWA	Pacific Water and Wastewater Association
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
SA	Samoa
SI	Solomon Islands
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

TK	Tokelau
TO	Tonga
TV	Tuvalu
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
US	United States
VU	Vanuatu
WCP	Waste, chemicals and pollution
WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WF	Wallis and Futuna
WMPC	Waste Management and Pollution Control Programme (SPREP)

1 INTRODUCTION

The Cleaner Pacific 2025: Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy 2016–2025 (Cleaner Pacific 2025) is a comprehensive, long-term strategy for waste management and pollution control in the Pacific islands region. It was developed in consultation with SPREP’s twenty-one Pacific island members along with financial and technical support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Cleaner Pacific 2025 outlines four strategic goals and fifteen strategic actions to address priority waste and pollution issues, with SPREP and Pacific island countries and territories being responsible for strategy delivery.

The 2016–2019 Cleaner Pacific 2025 Implementation Plan (IP 2016–2019) articulated deliverables for the strategy’s first phase. This 2021–2025 Cleaner Pacific 2025 Implementation Plan (IP 2021–2025) articulates deliverables for the second and final implementation phase. IP 2021–2025 has been developed on the basis of:

- Findings from the mid-term review of Cleaner Pacific 2025;
- A feedback survey, comprising a draft Implementation Plan framework, distributed to all Pacific island countries and territories, as well as regional implementation partners; and
- Three online sub-regional consultation meetings, attended by representatives from SPREP, JICA/J-PRISM II, Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia.

An overview of key implementation elements is provided in section 3, below, and the Implementation Plan framework is outlined in section 4. IP 2021–2025 has been designed to focus on a select number of priority activities that are clearly linked to the performance indicators, strategic goals, mission and vision of Cleaner Pacific 2025.

2 MID-TERM REVIEW OF CLEANER PACIFIC 2025

The mid-term review of Cleaner Pacific 2025 examined progress made at regional and national levels under IP 2016–2019, which encompassed 124 activities and 124 key performance indicators. More specifically, the mid-term review:

- Assessed implementation progress in terms of Cleaner Pacific 2025’s twenty performance indicators and fifteen strategic actions, and evaluated their ongoing relevance;
- Examined the extent to which IP 2016–2019’s 124 activities had been progressed or completed, and identified activities requiring further work;
- Evaluated progress towards achieving the strategic goals of Cleaner Pacific 2025; and
- Identified recommendations to enhance the delivery and regional relevance of Cleaner Pacific 2025, and to inform a revised Implementation Plan for 2021–2025.

A summary of findings from the review, including recommendations for this Implementation Plan, is provided in the Appendix.

Three key recommendations for IP 2021–2025 were:

1. A streamlined approach should be adopted for IP 2021–2025, with the Cleaner Pacific 2025 performance indicators being the primary means for assessing implementation progress, as they are clearly linked to Cleaner Pacific 2025’s strategic goals and allow for focused and achievable performance evaluation at both regional and national levels. The effectiveness and validity of some of the current performance indicators is, however, reduced by unclear or incorrectly calculated baselines, data analysis variability, and limited data availability.

Some indicators will benefit from revision to support more robust monitoring and reporting, and some new indicators may need to be developed to reflect new priority activities. Revised and new performance indicators must be clear and meaningful, with realistic targets.

2. IP 2021–2025 should focus on a limited number of high-priority activities that address key implementation gaps, as well as current priority issues for Pacific island countries and territories (i.e. activities which countries/territories are already focused on progressing, or which they are particularly keen to progress over the next few years). It will be important to ensure that all activities are logically linked to Cleaner Pacific 2025’s performance indicators and strategic goals, so they can effectively advance progress towards these. This linkage will also allow for more straightforward progress monitoring and assessment.
3. Cleaner Pacific 2025 strategic goals 1 (prevent and minimise generation of wastes and pollution), 2 (recover resources from wastes and pollutants), and 3 (improve life-cycle management of residuals) remain relevant and valid for IP 2021–2025. Strategic goal 4 (improve monitoring of the receiving environment) is limited in scope. Strategic goal 4 should be revised to “improve monitoring and reporting”, to encompass monitoring and reporting for both WCP management activities and the receiving environment.

3 2021–2025 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OVERVIEW

3.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of IP 2021–2025 is to:

- Specify high-priority waste management and pollution control activities for the Pacific region for the period 2021–2025;
- Outline how the activities are linked to the strategic actions, strategic goals, mission and vision of the Cleaner Pacific 2025 Strategy;
- Allocate lead agencies and partners for activity delivery; and
- Explain how implementation progress, and the achievement of the Cleaner Pacific 2025 goals, mission and vision will be monitored, evaluated and reported.

The scope of the Implementation Plan is aligned with Cleaner Pacific 2025, which means that the activities cover municipal solid waste (including organic waste), hazardous wastes (asbestos, e-waste, healthcare waste, chemicals, used oil), marine pollution, marine litter, disaster waste and liquid waste.

IP 2021–2025 also links to all of SPREP’s Programme areas, facilitating effective waste management and pollution control with due regard for the protection of island and ocean ecosystems, climate change resilience, and effective environmental monitoring and governance.

3.2 APPROACH

IP 2021–2025 emphasises the importance of a gender-sensitive and rights-based approach to Cleaner Pacific 2025 implementation, which means:

- Decision-making/steering committees established for activity implementation should seek representation from women and men;

- Training, capacity-building, education and awareness-raising programmes should be designed to ensure inclusive participation;
- Women and youth should have opportunities to contribute to the development of new national WCP policies, strategies, plans, legislation and management initiatives;
- Activities should be actively promoted that empower women and youth as agents of change and innovation in WCP management; and
- Monitoring and reporting of activity implementation should demonstrate the adoption of a gender-sensitive/rights-based approach.

3.3 STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS

At a regional level SPREP will coordinate and guide IP 2021–2025 through the provision of technical advice and support; engagement of external expertise; management of relevant projects; and facilitation of communication and information exchange between all stakeholders, including Pacific island countries and territories, donors and regional partners.

At a national level it will be important for Pacific island countries and territories to establish (if not already established) multi-stakeholder WCP steering committees to ensure there is commitment to, support for, and resourcing of activity implementation.¹ Multi-stakeholder steering committees are particularly important given that effective implementation of some activities will be dependent on partnerships with government agencies beyond WCP departments, and also partnerships with the private sector and community groups. Importantly, national level steering committees can provide a strategic and coherent view of WCP priorities and progress, which may help with securing funding from national treasuries and/or donors, and with attracting private sector investment.

National WCP steering committees will benefit considerably from the direction provided by a national WCP strategy and action plan that is aligned with Cleaner Pacific 2025 and endorsed at the highest political level. While some countries and territories have strategies/plans in place, others do not. The development and endorsement of national WCP strategies and plans is identified as an important activity for a number of countries and territories (see section 4), and should be prioritised from the start of the 2021–2025 implementation period.

3.4 EDUCATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

Education and capacity-building underpins all areas of Cleaner Pacific 2025 implementation. At a national level, education and capacity-building is likely to occur during activity implementation e.g. through national governments working alongside technical experts; through community groups and the private sector working alongside government; through activity monitoring, evaluation and reporting. At a regional level there will be opportunities for education and capacity-building through SPREP-led events like the Clean Pacific Roundtable (CPRT), as well as activity- and project-specific meetings and workshops organised by SPREP and its regional partners.

¹ The following countries and territories are known to have active national steering committees: Guam (Zero Waste Guam Working Group), Papua New Guinea (National Coordination Committee for Waste Management), Samoa (National Solid Waste Management Strategy Steering Committee), and Tuvalu (Waste Management Coordinating Committee). National steering committees are also proposed under the national waste/WCP strategies developed for Kiribati, Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, but it is unknown if these committees have been established. Note that at the time of finalising this Implementation Plan, the national waste strategies for Kiribati and the Republic of the Marshall Islands were still in draft form. The national waste strategy for Nauru proposes the establishment of a multi-stakeholder forum, rather than a formal committee, but it is unknown if this forum has been convened.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic it is anticipated that education and capacity-building may take new forms and be required to utilise a range of technological platforms. SPREP and its regional partners have been actively developing and exploring various web-based platforms as alternatives to in-country delivery, and use of these is likely to be particularly important during the initial phase of IP 2021–2025.

3.5 MONITORING AND REPORTING

Cleaner Pacific 2025 (page 47) specifies a performance-monitoring mechanism that requires:

- Pacific island countries and territories to submit annual reports to SPREP (based on an agreed template), covering national waste management activities, projects and programmes, and national changes in the Cleaner Pacific 2025 performance indicators;
- SPREP to prepare a regional synthesis of national reports; and
- SPREP to coordinate face-to-face discussions with development partners in the Pacific.

This performance-monitoring mechanism has not been followed to date, and it is particularly evident in the performance indicator data gaps that were identified across all countries and territories during the Cleaner Pacific 2025 mid-term review (see Appendix, Table 2, data confidence column).

For this implementation period SPREP will develop a simple monitoring and reporting template for countries and territories that is focused on the performance indicators (specified in section 4), with guidance on data collection and analysis. The template is to be completed by countries and territories in early 2023 (i.e. at the mid-way point of IP 2021–2025) and at the end of 2025. SPREP will prepare a regional synthesis of national reports submitted in 2023 and 2025, to track progress and to help inform the final, external review of CP2025 implementation.

The monitoring and reporting outlined here will form part of the priority monitoring and reporting activities identified for IP 2021–2025 (see section 4), and will be directly linked to SPREP’s Inform project. The Inform project is establishing a Pacific island network of national and regional data repositories and reporting tools to support the monitoring, evaluation and analysis of environmental information, which supports national environmental planning, forecasting, and reporting requirements.²

The CPRT, which is the platform for a diverse range of stakeholders to meet and discuss issues, actions and solutions related to Cleaner Pacific 2025, is another avenue for monitoring and reporting. The CPRT will provide SPREP with an opportunity to present an overall picture of how CP2025 implementation is tracking at a regional level; and allow countries and territories to highlight their implementation success stories and challenges during the 2021–2025 period. The CPRT meetings will also provide an opportunity for evaluating the ongoing relevance of IP 2021–2025, recognising that from time-to-time, disruptive events may occur that cannot be anticipated or accounted for at the outset of this Implementation Plan. These disruptions and their associated impacts could affect the capacity of Pacific island governments to deliver new services and programmes for waste management and pollution control, and they could necessitate the modification of activities planned by SPREP, governments and other regional partners.

² <https://www.sprep.org/inform>

The Waigani Convention's Conference of the Parties (COP) will also provide a monitoring and reporting forum, particularly for hazardous wastes and chemicals. The COP is held every two years, with the next meeting scheduled for 2021.

4 2021–2025 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FRAMEWORK

A comprehensive Implementation Plan framework is outlined below. Key elements of the framework include:

- **Vision and mission:** as stated in Cleaner Pacific 2025.
- **Strategic goals:** goals 1 to 3 remain unchanged from Cleaner Pacific 2025. Goal 4 has been modified to encompass monitoring and reporting for the environment and also for WCP management activities.³
- **Strategic actions:** the fifteen strategic actions listed in Cleaner Pacific 2025 are not explicitly included in the framework below; but they are incorporated within, and addressed through, the priority activities. The activities provide the level of detail that is required to effectively address the strategic actions.⁴
- **Performance indicators:** a single set of twenty performance indicators is proposed for IP 2021–2025, to facilitate more streamlined progress monitoring and reporting.⁵
- **Activities:** thirty-two priority activities have been specified, linked to the performance indicators. There is a mix of single activities being linked with single performance indicators; multiple activities contributing to single performance indicators; a single activity contributing to two performance indicators; and three or four activities being linked with two performance indicators – as indicated by colour-coding in Table 1. The activities have been informed by national and regional level progress assessments completed as part of the Cleaner Pacific 2025 mid-term review. The activity list aims to be practical and achievable, rather than exhaustive. It focuses on priority areas that need to be progressed to achieve performance indicator improvements, and to in turn, achieve the strategic goals, mission and vision of Cleaner Pacific 2025. Some activities are initial steps that will provide a foundation for further work beyond 2025.
- **Lead agency (partners):** lead agencies and partners have been identified for the activities based on information in IP 2016–2019, and input received from countries and territories and regional implementation partners.
- **Priority PICTs:** to help direct implementation efforts, specific Pacific Island countries and territories have been identified for each activity. Some activities are applicable to all, while

³ CP2025 goal 4 was originally: *improve monitoring of the receiving environment*.

⁴ The fifteen strategic actions in Cleaner Pacific 2025 are: (1) undertake regular WCP data collection and management; (2) develop and enforce national policies, strategies, plans and legislation, and strengthen institutional arrangements; (3) develop new public-private partnerships including through strengthened public-private partnership frameworks; (4) implement best practice occupational health and safety measures; (5) implement WCP prevention and reduction programmes; (6) implement resource recovery programmes; (7) remediate contaminated sites and WCP stockpiles; (8) expand user-pays WCP collection services; (9) improve WCP management infrastructure and support sustainable operation and maintenance; (10) implement best practice environmental monitoring and reporting; (11) implement sustainable human capacity development programmes; (12) utilise project outcomes to implement regional and national WCP education and behavioural-change programmes; (13) establish a Clean Pacific Roundtable; (14) strengthen national and regional cooperation and coordination; (15) cooperate to ensure timely monitoring of Cleaner Pacific 2025. Note, strategic action 11 (*implement sustainable human capacity development programmes*) is an important cross-cutting action that underpins all areas of Cleaner Pacific 2025 implementation and it is addressed in section 3.4. Strategic action 13 (*establish a regional Clean Pacific Roundtable*) has been achieved, but the ongoing relevance and importance of the CPRT is recognised in sections 3.4 and 3.5.

⁵ The monitoring and reporting framework for IP 2016–2019 was more complex, with two levels of performance assessment: (1) twenty overarching performance indicators linked to the four Cleaner Pacific 2025 strategic goals, and (2) 124 key performance indicators (KPIs) linked to 124 activities, with the KPIs not corresponding directly to the strategic goals.

others are applicable to a subset of countries and territories. The identification of priority PICTs is based on the progress assessments completed for individual countries and territories during the Cleaner Pacific 2025 mid-term review, as well as input received from countries and territories and regional implementation partners.

- **Timeframe:** it is intended that all activities will be progressed during the 2021–2025 implementation period. Timing for individual activities may vary between countries and territories depending on national priorities and resourcing.

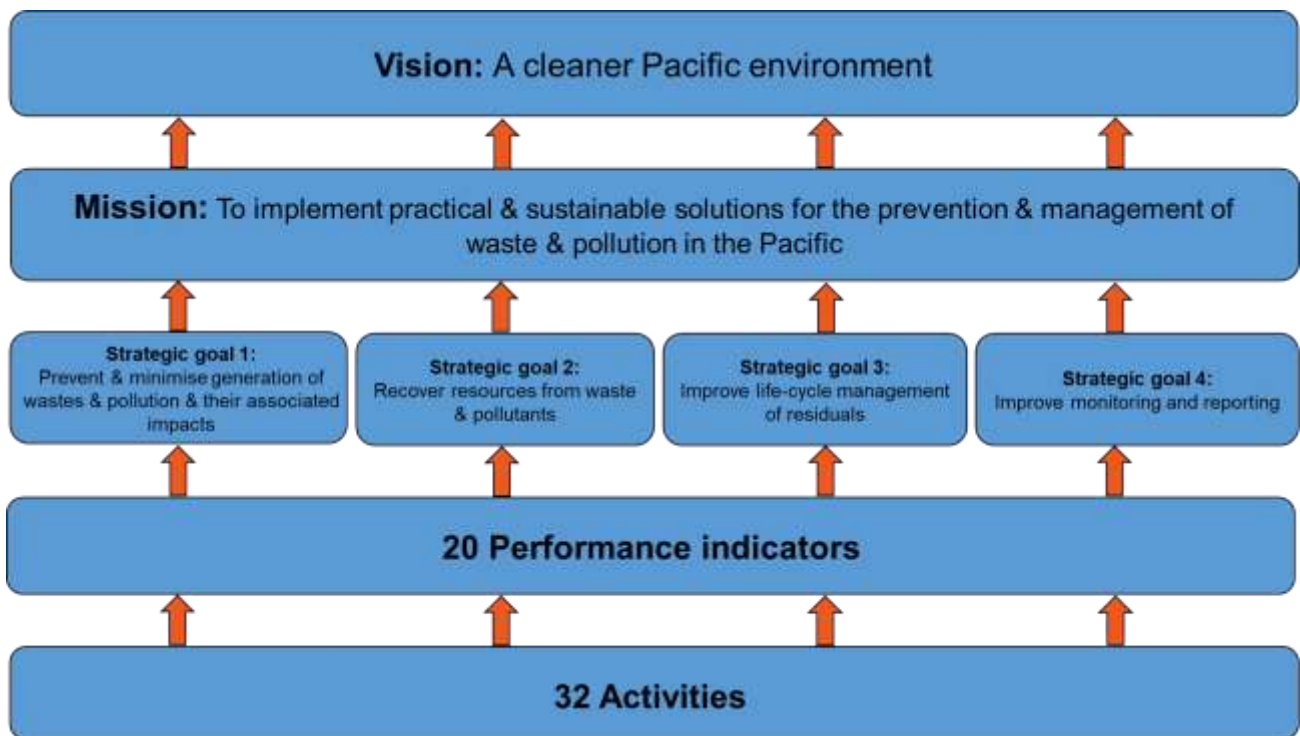


Figure 1: Key elements of the 2021–2025 Implementation Plan

Table 1: 2021–2025 Implementation Framework for Cleaner Pacific 2025

VISION		A cleaner Pacific environment							
MISSION		To implement practical and sustainable solutions for the prevention and management of waste and pollution in the Pacific							
STRATEGIC GOALS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2014 baseline	2020 target	2020 actual	2025 target	ACTIVITIES	LEAD AGENCY (PARTNERS)	PRIORITY PICTs	
1. Prevent and minimise generation of wastes and pollution and their associated impacts	Per capita generation of municipal solid waste (kg/person/day)	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	<p>1.1 Implement measures to restrict and regulate the importation, sale and use of potentially wasteful products (e.g. single-use plastics, Styrofoam, low quality goods, products close to expiry dates)</p> <p>1.2 Develop and implement waste minimisation education and behavioural-change programmes in partnership with schools, churches, community organisations and the private sector</p> <p>1.3 Implement community-based projects to raise awareness of marine litter (e.g. installation of litter booms and litter bins, organised clean-ups and assessment of collected litter, identification and use of alternatives to wasteful products)</p>	<p>WCP, environment and customs departments (SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus and POLP; with JICA/J-PRISM II)</p> <p>WCP and environment departments (SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus and POLP)</p> <p>WCP and environment departments (SPREP – WMPC and POLP; AFD)</p>	All	
	No. of marine pollution incidents	6	0	5 ^a	0	<p>1.4 Prepare a regional template to guide the development of national pollution prevention strategies (NATPOLs)</p> <p>1.5 Actively resource, apply, monitor and enforce the 2017-04 Conservation Management Measure on Marine Pollution</p>	<p>SPREP – WMPC (IMO)</p> <p>Fisheries, coastal management and environment departments/agencies (SPREP – WMPC; WCPFC)</p>	All	
	No. of port waste reception facilities	5	10	5 ^b	10	<p>1.6 Undertake port waste reception facility gap analyses in accordance with IMO procedures</p> <p>1.7 Prepare guidance and assist PICTs with the development and maintenance of port waste reception facilities</p>	<p>SPREP – WMPC (National port authorities/maritime safety, environment departments, IMO, Maritime NZ, AMSA)</p> <p>SPREP – WMPC (National port authorities/maritime safety, environment departments, IMO, AMSA, French Navy, US Coast Guard)</p>	CI, FJ, FSM, KI, PA, PNG, SA, SI, TO, TV, VU	
2. Recover resources from wastes and pollutants	Waste recycling rate (=amount recycled, reused, returned/ amount recyclable) (%)	32	60	60	75	2.1 Develop a regional recycling association to facilitate networking, information sharing and capacity-building across national recycling associations ^c	SPREP – WMPC with JICA/J-PRISM II (WCP and environment departments, GEF ISLANDS, PRIF, private sector)	All	

VISION		A cleaner Pacific environment						
MISSION		To implement practical and sustainable solutions for the prevention and management of waste and pollution in the Pacific						
STRATEGIC GOALS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2014 baseline	2020 target	2020 actual	2025 target	ACTIVITIES	LEAD AGENCY (PARTNERS)	PRIORITY PICTs
	N.B. the definition and 2025 target for this indicator will be reviewed and revised to ensure alignment with the standard global recycling rate measure. It will be helpful to define the waste streams that are covered.					2.2 Evaluate existing resource-recovery initiatives and make recommendations for improvements and potential replication regionally and nationally 2.3 Establish material recovery facilities to support waste segregation and recycling	SPREP – PacWaste Plus and WMPC (WCP and environment departments, JICA/J-PRISM II, GEF ISLANDS, private sector) WCP and environment departments, local councils (SPREP – WMPC with JICA/ J-PRISM II)	All CI, FSM, NA, NI, PNG, RMI, SA, SI, TV, VU
	No. of PICTs with national, state or municipal composting programmes	15	17	14 ^d	18	2.4 Establish new or strengthen existing composting projects for the integrated management of organic waste streams (household organic waste, market and animal wastes)	WCP and environment departments, local councils (SPREP – WMPC with JICA/ J-PRISM II, SPC, agriculture departments, private sector)	CNMI, CI, FSM, KI, NA, PNG, SA, SI, TO, VU
	No. of PICTs with Advanced Recovery Programmes (e.g. CDP, EPR, advanced recycling fee, advanced disposal fee, waste levy) N.B. the wording for the activities could be revised so they refer to Advanced Recovery Programmes rather than specific waste streams. If the activities are revised, the lead agencies, partners and priority PICTs may need to be revised too.	NA	NA	tba ^{e, f, g}	12	2.5 Support PICTs to draft, consult on and enact regulatory and policy frameworks/instruments to implement container deposit programmes 2.6 Support PICTs to develop and implement management plans and establish formal public-private partnerships to support EPR programmes for used oil 2.7 Support PICTs to develop formal public-private partnerships that establish EPR programmes for e-waste	SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus; with AFD (WCP and environment departments, JICA/J-PRISM II, GEF ISLANDS, private sector) SPREP – WMPC with AFD (WCP and environment departments, JICA/ J-PRISM II, private sector) SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus (WCP and environment departments, JICA/ J-PRISM II, private sector)	CI, FJ, FSM (Chuuk), PNG, SA, SI, VU FP, FSM, KI, NA, PA, PNG, RMI, SA, SI, VU CI, FP, SA, SI, TV, VU
3. Improve life-cycle management of residuals	No. of PICTs with national, state or municipal user-pays systems for waste collection	9	14	13 ^h	21	3.1 Investigate factors for successful user-pays waste collection systems and support PICTs with the establishment of new systems that suit their national contexts	SPREP – WMPC (WCP and environment departments, JICA/ J-PRISM II, private sector)	CI, FSM, FP, KI, NA, NI, PNG, SA, SI

VISION	A cleaner Pacific environment							
MISSION	To implement practical and sustainable solutions for the prevention and management of waste and pollution in the Pacific							
STRATEGIC GOALS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2014 baseline	2020 target	2020 actual	2025 target	ACTIVITIES	LEAD AGENCY (PARTNERS)	PRIORITY PICTs
	Waste collection coverage (% of population)	88 (U) 68 (N)	100 (U) 70 (N)	88 (U) 74 (N)	95 (U) 75 (N)	3.2 Undertake time and motion studies to inform waste collection coverage, efficiency and safety (especially after the hiring of new contractors, procurement of new equipment, establishment of new disposal facilities or waste transfer stations, or the expansion of urban settlements)	WCP and environment departments (SPREP – WMPC, JICA/J-PRISM II, private sector)	All
	Waste capture rate (= amount collected / amount generated) (%)	Insuff. data	Est. baseline & targets	41	45			
	No. of PICTs with well-managed waste disposal facilities	NA	NA	tba	tba	3.3 Improve landfill infrastructure by upgrading and climate-proofing existing landfills; establishing new sanitary, climate-proof landfills; and closing and rehabilitating temporary, unregulated and open dumps	WCP and environment departments, local councils (SPREP – WMPC, AFD, GEF ISLANDS, JICA/J-PRISM II, private sector)	FJ, FP, FSM, KI, PNG, RMI, SA, SI, TO, TV, VU
	No. of PICTs with climate-proofed waste disposal facilities	NA	NA	tba	tba	3.4 Develop guidelines, operational manuals and maintenance plans for landfills and other waste disposal facilities, including siting recommendations and occupational health and safety measures	JICA/J-PRISM II with WCP and environment departments, local councils (SPREP – WMPC)	FJ, FSM, KI, RMI, SA, SI, TO, VU
	N.B. Criteria need to be provided to define 'well-managed' and 'climate-proofed'. Data may become available through PacWaste Plus that will allow for measurement of the % of waste disposal facilities that are well-managed/climate-proofed					3.5 Develop national plans for disaster waste management	JICA/J-PRISM II, SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus, CCR; AFD (WCP, environment, climate change, disaster management departments/agencies)	FJ, FP, SA, SI, TO, TV, VU
						3.6 Support PICTs to improve their WCP equipment maintenance capacity	SPREP – WMPC with JICA/J-PRISM II (WCP and environment departments, local councils)	All
	No. of national strategies for safe and effective asbestos management and remediation	NA	NA	1 ⁱ	5	3.7 Support PICTs in developing national strategies to regulate/ban the importation of asbestos, and implement safe and effective asbestos management and remediation	SPREP – PacWaste Plus, WMPC (WCP, health and environment departments; GEF ISLANDS)	CI, KI, NA, NI, TO, TV, VU
						3.8 Support PICTs to safely assess, collect, remove and dispose of legacy asbestos wastes	SPREP – PacWaste Plus, WMPC (WCP, health and environment departments; GEF ISLANDS, private sector)	CI, KI, NA, NI, SA, TO, TV, VU

VISION		A cleaner Pacific environment						
MISSION		To implement practical and sustainable solutions for the prevention and management of waste and pollution in the Pacific						
STRATEGIC GOALS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2014 baseline	2020 target	2020 actual	2025 target	ACTIVITIES	LEAD AGENCY (PARTNERS)	PRIORITY PICTs
	Quantity of healthcare waste stockpiles (tonnes)	> 76	< 20	ND	0	3.9 Ensure appropriate management of healthcare waste, including correct operation of incinerators	WCP, health and environment departments (SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus)	CI, KI, NA, NI, PA, SA, SI, TO, TV, VU
	Quantity of e-waste stockpiles (tonnes) N.B. PacWaste Plus waste audits will help to inform the baseline	Insuff. data	Est. baseline & targets	Insuff. data	Est. baseline	3.10 Establish baseline data on e-waste stockpiles and support PICTs in developing e-waste EPR programmes and recycling systems, including e-scraping and dismantling	SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus (WCP and environment departments, GEF ISLANDS, private sector)	CI, FJ, SA, SI, VU
	Quantity of used oil stockpiles (L)	2,961,000	1,480,000	4,886,000	1,480,000	3.11 Establish collection, treatment, recycling and disposal systems for used oil	SPREP – WMPC, AFD with WCP and environment departments (private sector)	FP, FSM, PA, PNG, RMI, SA, SI
	No. of PICTs providing secondary or better wastewater treatment N.B. the activity and priority PICTs may require revision	NA	NA	6 ^j	7	3.12 Develop and construct pilot decentralised liquid waste management programmes and sludge treatment facilities	Utilities, public works departments (WCP and environment departments, PWWA)	SI, TV
4. Improve monitoring and reporting	No. of endorsed and current national strategies/policies for WCP management with monitoring and reporting frameworks	NA	NA	9 ^k	16	4.1 Support PICTs in the development and endorsement of integrated national WCP management strategies and plans 4.2 Establish and support national WCP steering committees to strengthen the implementation of national WCP management strategies and plans, and the coordination and monitoring of WCP activities across responsible agencies	SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus, POLP with WCP and environment departments (JICA/J-PRISM II) WCP and environment departments (Agriculture, public works/utilities, fisheries, coastal management and tourism agencies/departments; private sector)	AS, CNMI, FJ, FP, FSM, KI, NI, NC, PNG, RMI, TK, TO, VU, WF All

VISION	A cleaner Pacific environment							
MISSION	To implement practical and sustainable solutions for the prevention and management of waste and pollution in the Pacific							
STRATEGIC GOALS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2014 baseline	2020 target	2020 actual	2025 target	ACTIVITIES	LEAD AGENCY (PARTNERS)	PRIORITY PICTs
	No. of PICTs with water or environmental quality monitoring and reporting programmes	~ 3	5	11 ^l	14	4.3 Develop, publish and disseminate a standardised monitoring and reporting system and database, linked to SPREP's Inform project, covering WCP management activities and the receiving environment ^m	SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus, EMG (WCP and environment departments, JICA/J-PRISM II, GEF ISLANDS)	All
	No. of PICTs with WCP monitoring and reporting programmes	NA	NA	2 ⁿ	10	4.4 Develop and implement national systems for routine monitoring and reporting for the receiving environment (water and/or environmental quality) 4.5 Develop and implement national systems for routine monitoring and reporting for WCP management activities	WCP and environment departments (SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus, EMG) WCP and environment departments (SPREP – WMPC, PacWaste Plus, EMG; JICA/J-PRISM II)	All All
	No. of PICTs with national chemicals inventories	2	3	4 ^o	8	4.6 Support PICTs to prepare national chemicals inventories, and to be compliant with their obligations under chemicals-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements	SPREP – WMPC and GEF ISLANDS, with WCP and environment departments	All (chemicals inventories), MEA signatories only (compliance with MEA obligations)

a = marine pollution incidents recorded for FJ (1), NC (1), PNG (2), SI (1); b = existing port waste reception facilities in FJ, FP, NC, PNG, SA; c = national recycling associations established in SA, SI, TV, FJ and VU; d = composting programmes identified in AS, FSM, FJ, FP, GU, NA, NI, PA, PNG, RMI, SA, SI, TV and VU; e = operational CDPs identified in FSM (Kosrae, Pohnpei, Yap), KI, RMI, PA, TV and WF; f = used oil EPR programmes identified in FP, NC, PA and SA, but it is unknown if they have a legislative basis; g = e-waste EPR programmes identified in NC and SA, but it is unknown if they have a legislative basis; h = user-pays waste collection systems identified in AS, FSM, FJ, GU, KI, NA, NC, PA, PNG, RMI, SI, TO and VU; i = Niue has a strategy but implementation is uncertain; j = CNMI, FJ, FP, GU, NC and SA all have some capacity for secondary wastewater treatment; k = CI, FSM, GU, NA, PA, SA, SI, TV and VU have current, endorsed national waste management strategies; l = monitoring programmes identified in AS, CNMI, CI, FSM, FP, GU, PA, RMI, SI, TO and TV; m = monitoring and reporting system may cover marine and lagoon water quality; freshwater quality; closed dumpsites and other contaminated sites; WCP services and infrastructure; waste generation, recycling, resource recovery rates; waste composition; marine debris; WCP stockpiles; compliance and enforcement; n = Tuvalu and Vanuatu routinely prepare WCP management reports aligned with their national waste management strategies; o = chemicals inventories identified in FSM, KI, PNG and SA; NA = not applicable, 2020 is the baseline year due to indicator revision/new indicator; tba = to be advised; U = urban; N = national.

5 APPENDIX: MID-TERM REVIEW OF CLEANER PACIFIC 2025 – SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Cleaner Pacific 2025 implementation successes

At a regional level, seven (of twenty) performance indicators from Cleaner Pacific 2025 were found to have exceeded or met their 2020 targets (refer to Table 2 for details). The seven indicators that demonstrated good progress showed that from 2016 to 2019, the Pacific region achieved:

- Reduced (average) municipal solid waste generation per capita;
- An increased number of container deposit programmes;
- An increased number of EPR programmes for used oil;
- Increased (average) national waste collection coverage;
- An increased (average) waste recycling rate;
- An increased number of national environmental monitoring programmes; and
- An increased number of national chemicals and pollution inventories.

Based on these performance indicator results it was evident that some progress was made towards achieving all four Cleaner Pacific 2025 strategic goals: (1) prevent and minimise generation of wastes and pollution, (2) recover resources from wastes and pollution, (3) improve life-cycle management of residuals, and (4) improve monitoring of the receiving environment. However, with six (of twenty) performance indicators not meeting their 2020 targets (see below for further details), it is clear that further progress in some areas is required.

Pacific island countries benefited from leadership, technical support and capacity-building provided, or facilitated by, SPREP and JICA/J-PRISM I and II, in areas such as development of waste/WCP management strategies and plans; waste surveys/audits; port waste reception facility gap analyses; Container Deposit Programmes; establishment of national recycling associations; user-pays waste collection systems; landfill design, operation and/or management training/workshops; and disaster waste management training/workshops.

SPREP and JICA/J-PRISM also made significant progress in establishing regional partnerships and developing collaborative initiatives and coordination mechanisms through the Clean Pacific Roundtable and SPREP-led projects (e.g. PacWaste, GEFPAS). The good networks that have been established should be further utilised to promote the sharing of WCP management information and experiences, particularly with countries and territories that are lagging in Cleaner Pacific 2025 implementation.

Other notable successes were SPREP's publication of *Regulating Plastics in Pacific Island Countries: a guide for policymakers and legislative drafters*, and the *Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter 2018–2025*. Complementary to these publications, new or amended national laws addressing single-use plastics were introduced in FSM, FJ, GU, KI, NC, NI, PA, RMI and SA.

Cleaner Pacific 2025 implementation challenges and barriers

Countries and territories without a WCP/waste management strategy or plan aligned with Cleaner Pacific 2025, typically made limited progress with implementation. While these countries and territories may have pursued WCP initiatives, they were not necessarily linked to the strategic actions/activities of Cleaner Pacific 2025, and hence, they were difficult to identify and evaluate.

Another implementation barrier for some countries and territories was the absence of a national steering/coordinating committee for WCP management, to provide effective oversight and ensure that WCP management activities were regularly monitored and reported. In combination, WCP/waste management strategies or plans and national steering/coordinating committees are important for helping countries and territories to identify progress gaps and to prioritise resourcing, and they also encourage implementation accountability to national governments, regional partners and donors.

Limited dedicated WCP resources at a national level is an ongoing issue for most countries and territories, and this had implications for Cleaner Pacific 2025 implementation between 2016 and 2019. With limited national level capacity, it is suspected that the focus was sometimes more on short-term donor-funded projects (e.g. PacWaste, GEFPAS, Ridge to Reef, INTEGRE), rather than on Cleaner Pacific 2025 more broadly.

Resourcing shortfalls for some countries were partly addressed through the technical support provided by SPREP and JICA/J-PRISM, and through financial support from donors such as UNEP, European Union, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and France. Countries and territories that did not receive dedicated support from the two main regional implementation partners, SPREP and JICA/J-PRISM, typically lagged in implementation.

Another challenge for countries and territories was related to the political nature of some activities, e.g. establishment of new legislation and/or mechanisms for CDP and EPR systems. Activities such as this cannot always be implemented quickly, even where clear technical guidance has been provided, as they tend to require high-level government deliberation and sometimes extensive consultation with the private sector, before implementation support can be secured.

It is clear that effective monitoring and reporting was a big challenge during the 2016 to 2019 implementation period. There was no routine Cleaner Pacific 2025 monitoring and reporting at either regional or national levels, due to limited availability of human and financial resources. It should be noted, however, that Tuvalu and Vanuatu both completed regular monitoring and reporting against their national WCP strategies/plans.

In the absence of a formal monitoring and reporting mechanism for Cleaner Pacific 2025, neither SPREP nor the countries and territories were really held accountable for implementation between 2016 and 2019. In turn, this meant that there was no evidence-based means for identifying corrective actions that needed to be taken, or additional support mechanisms required, to improve Cleaner Pacific 2025 implementation during the first phase of the strategy. The lack of a monitoring and reporting system resulted in significant data gaps at the time of the Cleaner Pacific 2025 mid-term review, and also some of the available data being of poor quality due to the application of inconsistent monitoring methods across the region. Data confidence was deemed to be 'low' for almost half (eight) of the twenty performance indicators, and there was no/insufficient data for evaluating the performance of six indicators (refer to Table 2).

Limited resources and funding hampered the progression of a number of activities under IP 2016–2019, e.g. ODS capture and management, used oil management and biosecurity waste management; and a regional assessment of the status of liquid waste management. Liquid waste/wastewater management is not typically a priority area for SPREP, and many activities in this area (e.g. infrastructure improvements) tend to require significant financial investment. There is, nonetheless, a recognised need to improve liquid waste/wastewater management as part of working

towards the Cleaner Pacific 2025 vision of “A cleaner Pacific environment”, but this area will require specific attention and support from donors to enable it to be progressed.

Cleaner Pacific 2025 implementation gaps and opportunities

At a regional level, six (of twenty) performance indicators did not meet their 2020 targets, these were (refer to Table 2 for details):

- No. of marine pollution incidents;
- No. of port waste reception facilities;
- No. of PICTs with national, state or municipal composting programmes;
- No. of national EPR programmes for e-waste;
- No. of PICTs with national, state or municipal user-pays systems for waste collection; and
- Quantity of used oil stockpiles.

The above suggests that there is further work to be done in the areas of marine pollution prevention and control; organic waste, e-waste and used oil management; and establishment of user-pays systems for waste collection.

Based on progress results from the national level Cleaner Pacific 2025 assessments, some of the broad areas requiring further work that were identified 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 Cleaner Pacific 2025;
- 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; and
- Development/implementation of WCP education and behavioural-change programmes.

A number of specific activity gaps were identified as part of assessing progress against the 124 activities in IP 2016–2019. Key activities that should be considered for the second implementation phase of Cleaner Pacific 2025, especially in light of the performance indicator results and the broad areas for further work referred to above, include: development of national disaster waste management plans; updating of national oil spill contingency plans; development of public-private partnerships to support waste management initiatives (e.g. EPR, container deposit, recycling); implementation of national measures to restrict and regulate the importation, handling, storage and sales of hazardous substances; evaluation and scaling up of organic waste recycling programmes; and development of WCP equipment and maintenance capacity.

Recognising the significant data gaps that exist across all countries and territories, and the low data confidence for eight (of twenty) Cleaner Pacific 2025 performance indicators (refer to Table 2 for details), there is a clear need to support and prioritise Cleaner Pacific 2025 monitoring and reporting. This can be done through establishing mechanisms and guidelines for the collection, analysis and storage of relevant data (e.g. templates, databases); through standardising data collection and analysis methodologies across all countries and territories, as well as regional partners and donors (especially for indicators like municipal solid waste generation per capita, waste recycling rate, waste

collection coverage); and through providing national level capacity-building for monitoring and reporting, where it is needed.

IP 2016–2019 assessment, and recommendations for IP 2021–2025

IP 2016–2019 was ambitious in its scope (124 activities), and did not include a practical framework for progress monitoring and assessment (20 overarching performance indicators linked to the Cleaner Pacific 2025 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 or 31%) of the activities listed in IP 2016–2019. Good progress was achieved for 30 activities (24%), and limited progress was achieved for 55 (44%) of activities. On the basis of these latter figures, 30 to 40 activities is deemed to be a reasonable estimate of the number of activities that can be feasibly implemented with full effect, within a four-year period.

It is strongly recommended that a streamlined approach be adopted for IP 2021–2025. The overarching Cleaner Pacific 2025 performance indicators should be the primary means for assessing implementation progress, as they are clearly linked to Cleaner Pacific 2025's strategic goals and allow for focused and achievable performance evaluation at both regional and national levels. The effectiveness and validity of some of the current performance indicators is, however, reduced by unclear or incorrectly calculated baselines, data analysis variability, and limited data availability. Some indicators will benefit from revision to support more robust monitoring and reporting. Revised (and new) performance indicators must be clear and meaningful, with realistic targets.

IP 2021–2025 should focus on a limited number of high-priority activities that address key implementation gaps, as well as current priority issues for Pacific island countries and territories (i.e. activities which countries/territories are already focused on progressing, or which they are particularly keen to progress over the next few years). It will be important to ensure that all activities are logically linked to Cleaner Pacific 2025's performance indicators and strategic goals, so they can effectively advance progress towards these. This linkage will also allow for more straightforward progress monitoring and assessment.

Given the complexity that exists across the region there will always be a degree of tension between developing a regional implementation plan with appropriately-detailed activities, but ensuring that there is sufficient scope for activities to be tailored at a national level to address the specific needs of different countries and territories. A mix of prescriptive, detailed activities for a sub-set of Pacific island countries and territories, and broader activities applicable to all, with sufficient scope for national level tailoring, is likely to be required.

Cleaner Pacific 2025 strategic goals 1 (prevent and minimise generation of wastes and pollution), 2 (recover resources from wastes and pollutants), and 3 (improve life-cycle management of residuals) remain relevant and valid for IP 2021–2025. Strategic goal 4 (improve monitoring of the receiving environment) is limited in scope. Strategic goal 4 should be revised to “improve monitoring and reporting”, to encompass monitoring and reporting for both WCP management activities and the receiving environment.

Table 2: CP2025 performance indicators and targets – mid-term review findings

VISION	A cleaner Pacific environment						
MISSION	To implement practical and sustainable solutions for the prevention and management of waste and pollution in the Pacific						
STRATEGIC GOALS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS ¹		2014 baseline	2020 target	2020 actual	2025 target	Data confidence ⁶
	Exceeded target	Met target					
	Did not meet target	No / insufficient data					
	New baseline						
1. Prevent and minimise generation of wastes and pollution and their associated impacts	Per capita generation of municipal solid waste (kg/person/day)		1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2 ^A	Low
	No. of marine pollution incidents		6	0	5 ^a	0	Low
	No. of port waste reception facilities		5	10	5 ^b	10 ^A	High
2. Recover resources from wastes and pollutants	Waste recycling rate (=amount recycled, reused, returned/ amount recyclable) (%)		32 ^A	60	60	75	Low
	No. of PICTs with national, state or municipal composting programmes ²		15 ^A	17 ^A	14 ^c	18 ^A	Medium
	No. of national or state container deposit programmes		4	7	8 ^d	10	High
	No. of national Extended Producer Responsibility programmes for used oil		2	3	4 ^e	10	Medium
	No. of national Extended Producer Responsibility programmes for e-waste		1	5	2 ^f	8	Medium
3. Improve life-cycle management of residuals	No. of PICTs with national, state or municipal user-pays systems for waste collection ²		9	14	13 ^g	21	High
	Waste collection coverage (% of national population) ³		68 ^A	70 ^A	74	75 ^A	Medium
	Waste capture rate (= amount collected/amount generated) (%)		Insuff. data	Est. baseline & targets	46	50 ^A	Low
	No. of temporary, unregulated and open dumps ⁴		> 250 / 333 ^B	237 / 316 ^B	Insuff. data	225 / 300 ^B	Low
	Quantity of asbestos stockpiles ^{4, 5} (m ²)		> 187,891	159,700	Insuff. data	131,500	Low
	Quantity of healthcare waste stockpiles (tonnes)		> 76	< 20	ND	0	NA, updated data unavailable
	Quantity of e-waste stockpiles (tonnes)		Insuff. data	Est. baseline & targets	Insuff. data	Est. baseline	Low
	Quantity of used oil stockpiles (m ³)		2,961 ^A	1,480	4,886	1,480 ^A	Medium
	Quantity of pharmaceutical and chemical stockpiles (tonnes) ⁴		Insuff. data	Est. baseline & targets	ND	Est. baseline & targets	NA, no data
	Urban sewage treated to secondary standards (%) ⁴		65	Est. after regional assessment	ND	Est. after regional assessment	NA, no data
4. Improve monitoring of the receiving environment	No. of PICTs with water or environmental quality monitoring and reporting programmes ²		~ 3	5	11 ^h	14 ^A	Medium
	No. of national chemicals and pollution inventories ⁴		2	3	4 ⁱ	6	Low

1 = performance indicators are colour-coded based on whether the 2020 target was exceeded, met, or not met; there was no/insufficient data for target assessment; or a new baseline was established in 2020; 2 = phrasing revised for the performance indicator; 3 = only national waste collection coverage is reported here, but data were also available for urban waste collection coverage – 88% (average) coverage in 2020, which is below the target of 100%; 4 = it is recommended that this indicator be changed/removed from the next CP2025 implementation plan, due to data uncertainties or limitations; 5 = it is inaccurate to use the term “stockpiles” for asbestos in the Pacific, as it is still very much a part of houses and buildings, and in some instances, occurs as large amounts of broken debris on the ground; 6 = data confidence is based on data availability and underlying data variability, refer to CP2025 mid-term review report (Appendix 2) for details; a = marine pollution incidents recorded for FJ (1), NC (1), PNG (2), SI (1); b = port waste reception facilities in FJ, FP, NC, PNG, SA; c = composting programmes identified in AS, FSM, FJ, FP, GU, NA, NI, PA, PNG, RMI, SA, SI, TV and VU; d = operational CDPs identified in FSM (Kosrae, Pohnpei, Yap), KI, PA, RMI, TV and WF; e = used oil EPR programmes identified in NC, PA, SA and TV; f = e-waste EPR programmes identified in NC and SA; g = user-pays waste collection systems identified in AS, FSM, FJ, GU, KI, NA, NC, PA, PNG, RMI, SI, TO and VU; h = monitoring programmes identified in AS, CNMI, CI, FSM, FP, GU, PA, RMI, SA, SI and TV; i = chemicals/pollution inventories identified in FSM, KI, PNG and SA; NA = not applicable; ND = no data; A = revised baseline or target – revisions made to allow for more robust assessment or to reflect the indicator’s current trajectory; B = CP2025 reports two different sets of figures for the 2014 baseline and the 2020, 2025 targets.