

## CIRCULAR

**FILE:** AP 4/5/1 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points  
**DATE:** 18 February 2019  
**CIRCULAR:** 19/15

Dear SPREP Focal Points,

**RE: International Association for Impact Assessment 39th conference and Pacific Day,  
29<sup>th</sup> April to 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2019 Brisbane, Australia**

SPREP would like to inform you of the upcoming International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) 39<sup>th</sup> Conference (IAIA 19) in Brisbane, Australia from April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The conference brings Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) specialists together from across the globe to share experiences, new ideas, best practices, network, and learn from each other and provides training opportunities. The IAIA is the leading global impact assessment association and their annual conference always provides new insights and ways forward for Impact Assessment. This is the 39<sup>th</sup> conference and the theme of this year's conference is *"Evolution or Revolution: Where next for impact assessment?"*

The IAIA 19 conference provides an opportunity for SPREP and its Members to share EIA experiences from around the region and to learn from other EIA experts. In preparation for the conference, SPREP has been working with the IAIA committee, New Zealand Association of Impact Assessment (NZAIA) and the World Bank to dedicate a whole day of the conference to the Pacific. We are pleased to inform you that there will be a Pacific Day to promote and discuss EIA practices in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories.

Given the relevance of the conference objectives and the opportunity it provides to strengthen SPREP's EIA work, a small team from SPREP led by the Director General will be attending the conference. We would also highly encourage the participation of national EIA officers and those who are involved in EIA work to attend this important event to share knowledge and experiences with leaders and practitioners in Impact Assessment. Unfortunately, SPREP does not have any funding available to support country participation.

However, SPREP through the Environmental Monitoring and Governance programme have been assisting those members who have submitted abstracts to acquire funding support through the World Bank, ADB and other donors. We also encourage interested members to apply directly for funds within their own departments including donor funded projects. We would also like to inform you of the New Zealand Government MFAT [PICTicipate](#) travel grant available to Pacific Island citizens\* for support to attend regional and international conferences or events relevant to their countries' development, which includes events such as the IAIA 2019 conference.

If you are interested in attending the IAIA 19 conference, please kindly note that the deadline for registration is April 5<sup>th</sup>. Once again, I encourage you to make good use of the opportunity to attend the conference and strengthen EIA capacity, network and practices within the region.

Please visit the IAIA 19 conference website <https://conferences.iaia.org/2019/index.php> for more information and/or contact Gregory Barbara, SPREP Environmental Assessment and Planning Officer on email [gregoryb@sprep.org](mailto:gregoryb@sprep.org) for more guidance and advice on the conference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kosi Latu', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kosi Latu  
**Director General**

KL/GB/pf