

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP_6/15; AP_6/19 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 17 April 2023
CIRCULAR: 23/26
SUBJECT: **Invitation for funding support for the International Coastal Cleanup Day 2023 as part a collaboration between the *Committing to Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP) Project* and the *Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP)***

Dear Members,

Every year on the third Saturday in September, the International Coastal Cleanup Day is celebrated. This is the single largest coastal clean-up day in the world, and 2023 will mark the 37th year of the ICCD in action. Last year, the SWAP, POLP and KIOST projects supported 24 associations to conduct clean-up actions and awareness-raising activities at this event. With nearly 2,000 volunteers involved, 9.1 tons of waste have been collected and removed from Environment. Following the success of this event, the SWAP Project together with POLP would like to repeat this activity this year.

Marine litter is a global, intergenerational and transboundary issue that negatively affects the environment, people and coastal economies around the world. Working to support our Pacific islands to ensure a healthy and sustainable environment, SPREP is engaged in the International Coastal Cleanup Day, which is scheduled for 16 September 2023 (ICCD2023). Thus, as part of a collaboration between the *Committing to Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP) Project*, funded by the French Development Agency (AFD) and the *Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP)*, funded by the Australian Government, SPREP will support 20 clean-ups and awareness activities within the ICCD2023. All SPREP member country and territory islands are invited to submit applications.

For each clean-up action, funding of up to USD3,000 may be awarded to cover logistic fees and purchase of equipment required for this activity (purchase of bags, gloves, sanitizer, transportation, refreshments, water, etc.) as well as to produce audio-visual coverage of the event.

I welcome you to be part of the International Coastal Cleanup Day, by acknowledging the requirements for participation in the attached document, and by **submitting your application by 30 June 2023 to the SWAP Coordinator, Julie Pillet, at juliep@sprep.org and the POLP Manager, Andrea Volentras, at andreav@sprep.org.**

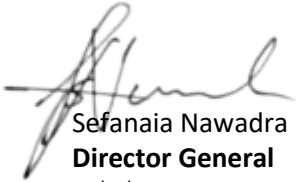
For any further questions, please contact the SWAP Coordinator, Julie Pillet and/or the POLP Manager, Andrea Volentras who are available to assist you in the funding request.



Sustainable, transformative and resilient for a **Blue Pacific**

I look forward to having you join us for the International Coastal Clean-up Day 2023.

Yours sincerely,



Sefanaia Nawadra
Director General
SN/JP/mi