

## CIRCULAR

**FILE:** AP 4/13/1; AP 4/13/10/10c                      **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points  
**DATE:** 26 January 2024  
**CIRCULAR:** 24/03

**SUBJECT:** Request for updated national data on Protected Areas and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs).

Dear Focal Points,

I am writing to share important news about the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) and the Protected Planet Report compiled and released on a biennial basis by the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC).

As you may be aware, the WDPA and associated Protected Planet databases provide the headline indicator on progress towards Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The Protected Planet Report are biennial publications that assess the state of protected and conserve areas around the world. The last edition of 2020 provides the final report on the status of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. The Protected Planet Report 2024 will be the first report in the series to assess progress against Target 3, using a combination of headline, component, and complementary indicators. This report will be launched towards the end of 2024.

The report is based upon the August 2024 version of the WDPA, the World Database on Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (WD-OECM) and the Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness (GD-PAME). To ensure that these databases accurately reflect the progress made to date by Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), SPREP is requesting your support in providing updated data on protected areas (and OECMs, if applicable) in your country as early as possible by 1st May 2024 at the latest

The information and data shared would help make informed decision on how to best safeguard biodiversity, and most importantly be updated on the status of protected and conserved areas in the Pacific region. Importantly this exercise also provides the opportunity for national stakeholders to reassess protected areas in-country and provide accurate and updated data that feeds into the Global Database. This process of data update would strengthen collaborations amongst key Protected Areas (PA) stakeholders and further contribute to the improved access and availability of updated data on Protected and Conserved areas at the global level. Data for the Pacific region is processed by SPREP, and any updated information can be shared with Kasaqa Tora, Acting Protected Areas Officer [kasaqat@sprep.org](mailto:kasaqat@sprep.org)

To support this process, your country's full national protected areas dataset can be viewed and downloaded at [https://www.protectedplanet.net/en/search-areas?geo\\_type=country](https://www.protectedplanet.net/en/search-areas?geo_type=country)

Updated data for the WDPa or WD-OECM should follow the same format as data downloaded from this page, in addition to descriptive data as outlined in [the WDPa manual](#) (pages 16 – 18).

Data in the GD-PAME can be viewed and [downloaded here](#), and updates should follow the same format as data downloaded from this page, with further details available in [this manual](#).

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require further clarifications or guidance.

Yours sincerely,



Easter Chu Shing  
**Acting Director General**

ECS/kt