

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP_4/20

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
(Pacific Island Countries)

DATE: 14 May 2026

CIRCULAR: 26/44

SUBJECT: Nature for Health (N4H) Initiative – Commencement of Scoping Phase for the Pacific Region

Dear Members,

We would like to inform Members that SPREP has been selected by the Nature for Health (N4H) Steering Committee to participate in Phase II of the initiative. Nature for Health is a global initiative, initially established with seed funding of EUR 50 million from the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV), and administered by the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office. The founding consortium comprises UNEP, WHO, UNDP, WOA, IUCN, CBD and BMUV, among others.

N4H works to reduce the risk of pandemics and related health threats by strengthening the environmental dimensions of the One Health approach — recognising the interdependencies between human, animal and ecosystem health. It engages across sectors and communities to catalyse integrated policies, evidence-based action and capacity development for impact at local, national and regional levels.

Following SPREP's selection for Phase II, the initiative will commence with a regional scoping phase, during which the N4H Secretariat, SPREP and partner organisations (including SPC and UNEP) will engage Member Countries to identify priority entry points, assess national needs and co-design interventions that link biodiversity, ecosystem integrity and One Health outcomes. The scoping phase will apply the N4H systemic approach, as set out in the N4H Scoping Guide.

The purpose of this Circular is to **formally notify Members** of the commencement of the Nature for Health scoping phase in the Pacific, and to request that **SPREP National Focal Points will serve as the focal points for the Nature for Health initiative**. Where coordination with national One Health structures or other line ministries (e.g. Health, Agriculture) is required. SPREP National Focal Points are kindly requested to appoint an officer to facilitate such engagement at the country level.

SPREP and N4H partners will convene an initial regional scoping consultation to introduce the initiative, present Phase II arrangements, and agree on a workplan for the scoping phase in the Pacific. Members may also indicate national priorities, existing One Health structures, and ongoing initiatives that could inform the Pacific scoping exercise.

Further details, including dates and modality, will be communicated to Members through the SPREP National Focal Points in due course.

For any questions, Members are welcome to contact the Director for Environmental Governance, Mr Jope Davetanivalu — joped@sprep.org and Pacific Network for Environment Assessment Technical Officer, Mr. Ivan Diarra – ivand@sprep.org.

The Secretariat acknowledges Members for their continued support and looks forward to working together to advance the Nature for Health agenda across our Blue Pacific.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Sefanaia Nawadra', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sefanaia Nawadra
Director General

SN/ID/id