

CIRCULAR

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TO: SPREP National Focal Points: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu

DATE: 5 August 2026

CIRCULAR: 26/79

SUBJECT: **Invitation to the Pacific Environment Data (PED) Project Regional Consultation Meeting, 26 – 28 October 2026, Suva Fiji**

Dear Members,

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), through its Environmental Governance Programme and in close collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is pleased to inform Members that an initial high-level consultation meeting on the Pacific Environment Data (PED) Project will be convened in Suva, Fiji, from Monday 26 to Wednesday 28 October, 2026.

As previously communicated with our focal points, the Pacific Environment Data (PED) Project has been approved by the Global Environment Facility to advance to the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) stage. It represents the approved Phase 2 of SPREP's earlier flagship Inform Project, formally titled *Building National and Regional Capacity to Implement Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs) by Strengthening Planning and State of Environment Assessment and Reporting in the Pacific*. The PED Project therefore builds on the outcomes, lessons learned, and regional partnerships established during the initial phase. The proposed project aims to further improve the provision and use of accurate and timely environmental data for decision-making in the 10 PED project participating countries through:

- supporting the development and adoption of environmental standards.
- establishing routine environmental monitoring.
- expanding the use of the Pacific Environment Portal (PEP) to facilitate better integration and sharing of data and information.
- increasing the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for data collection, analysis, and presentation; and
- strengthening capacity for advocacy, tailored communication approaches, and the development of products for decision-makers.

This first consultation marks a critical step in the full project proposal development process. It will bring together representatives from all 10 participating countries, along with key partners to ensure that the project design is inclusive, responsive, and aligned with both national and regional priorities. Through open dialogue and collective planning, the meeting will help ensure that the PED project is contextually relevant and can be practically implemented across diverse country settings. Ultimately, this gathering will contribute to the development of a well-designed project that reflects shared

priorities, enhances regional coordination and partnerships, and strengthens environmental data management, monitoring and reporting systems across the Pacific.

In this regard, Members are kindly invited to nominate one participant to participate in this consultation. Given the high-level nature of the discussions, the nominated participant should ideally be the Director of Environment or his/her senior representative who has been involved in the previous communications regarding the PED project leading up to this stage.

Please submit the nomination of your representative to Mr Vainuupo Jungblut at vainuupoj@sprep.org and copy Lagi Reupena at lagir@sprep.org by **Friday 21st of August**. Additional information regarding the agenda, venue and logistical arrangements will be shared with nominated participants in due course.

We look forward to your participation and valuable contribution to this important regional consultation.

Yours sincerely,



Easter Chu Shing
Acting Director General

EC/LR/rmg