

Evaluation Summary

Solid waste management in the Pacific initiative

Country: **South Pacific Region**

Sector: **Waste management and disposal**

Evaluator: **Tonkins & Taylor International Ltd**

Date of the evaluation: **January 2017**

Key data on AFD's support

Projet number: CZZ 3054

Amount: €1 million grant

Disbursement rate: 88%

Signature of financing agreement: April 2010

Completion date: March 2015

Total duration: 5 years

Context

In response to the limited capacity to effectively manage solid waste in the Pacific, a **regional strategy** provided the framework for coordinated action to address this issue.

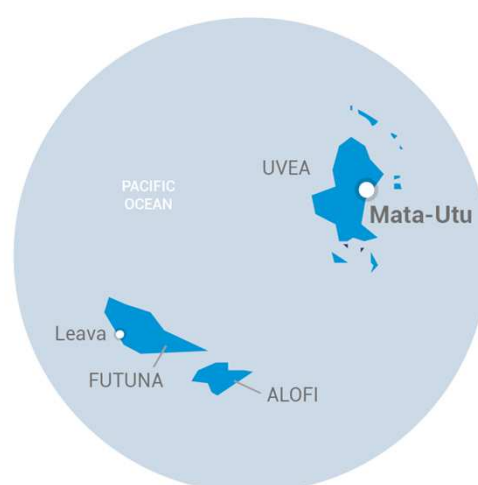
Actors and operating method

The contracting authority was the Secretariat of the Pacific regional environment programme (SPREP).

The management contractor was HYDEA.

The project management unit was SPREP.

The project manager was SPREP.



Objectives

- **To develop and to enhance the capability within SPREP to support Pacific island countries and territories (PICTs).**
- **To improve the solid waste management programmes.**
- **To enhance the technical capacity of Pacific islanders to manage their solid waste.**

Expected outputs

- **The delivery of a solid waste management training.**
- **The export of waste oil from Samoa and Vanuatu to Fiji.**
- **The successful delivery of small, in-country projects across multiple PICTs.**

Performance assessment

Relevance

The project was designed to support the implementation of the **regional strategy on solid waste management**. This addressed a **priority issue** (as identified by SPREP and member PICTs) and focused on aspects identified as priorities through the strategy development and project design process.

Effectiveness

The **specific results** anticipated in the log frame were **not achieved** but the purposes of the project were assessed as having been **achieved**. Specifically, **SPREP capability to deliver waste projects was enhanced** by working alongside the Technical assistance (TA) consultant. Constraints remain, with a large workload for SPREP permanent staff.

Solid waste management capability across PICTs was enhanced through Solid waste management training with over 120 attendees from 13 different PICTs.

Efficiency

The efficiency of the project was compromised by the **failure to identify and manage risks** relative to the delivery of key project outcomes early on. This resulted in a **failure to achieve tangible outcomes** for waste oil as anticipated and an associated **underspend of project funds**. Balancing this failure was the **linking of training and in-country projects** and the **allocation of effort** in accordance with the project design.

Impact

The impact of the project on building capacity within SPREP and across PICTs for solid waste management was satisfactory. This reflects the **success of the Solid waste management training component** offset by the **failure of the waste oil component** to achieve the anticipated outcomes.

Sustainability

The project **failed to document a coherent plan for sustainability** and provided **very limited reporting** on projected sustainability through the implementation and project completion activity.

Despite this and because of good overall project design the project has delivered **sustainable outcomes**, particularly through the solid waste management training.

Added value of AFD's contribution

The closely associated GEF-PAS project could not have operated without the support of the AFD project.

The coordination with the GEF-PAS project has **worked well** and it appears likely that the training will continue (subject to identifying funding and for participants to attend).

This is a **real success** for the project and would not have been possible without AFD funding. The capacity building component of the project may have been difficult to fund from other sources.

Conclusions and lessons learnt

Overall performance of the project was satisfactory. This conclusion is reached by balancing the areas of high and unsatisfactory performance with respect to:

- **Managerial efficiency,**
- **The impact of the waste oil component,** reflecting a failure to achieve the anticipated outcomes and potentially missed opportunities to refocus efforts in response to project challenges,
- **The planning for and ongoing management of the sustainability of the project outcomes.**

Specific recommendations:

- Project management: the project would have benefited from **proactive risk identification and management, explicit time contingency allowance** for policy actions and a **clear sustainability strategy**.
- Training outcome: delivery **needs to transfer** from Griffith to Fiji national university, the course needs to be **accredited** and there is potential to **add modules**.
- Waste oil outcome: **additional support** is required to work on regulatory frameworks in each of the pilot countries. Existing or proposed **private sector activity should be supported**.