

SPREP-Tok

A monthly e-bulletin from the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

ISSUE 76 • JUNE 2021

MESSAGE FROM MR. KOSI LATU, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SPREP

Greetings from the SPREP Campus,

The month of June is a special one for the Secretariat every year. It is the month we celebrate the anniversary of the signing of the SPREP Treaty in 1993, on what we call "SPREP Day", which falls on the 16th of the month. This year we celebrated the 28th Anniversary since the signing, which established SPREP as a fully autonomous body to be based in Apia, Samoa.

As is the usual practice, we open our doors and our campus to various schools from around Samoa and invite students and teachers to spend the day learning about the important work that the Secretariat does in order to achieve its vision of a resilient Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

Unfortunately due to COVID-19, we were not able to host an Open Day in 2020, in compliance with the Government of Samoa's State of Emergency regulations. This year, we were very pleased to be able to welcome more than 100 students to our campus, as well as many more who joined us virtually from various colleges and universities around the Pacific region, for what was the biggest Open Day SPREP has ever hosted.

It was certainly an enjoyable day for both the students and teachers, and my staff alike, as we shared with the future leaders of our Pacific region how far we have come on this path of building a resilient Pacific, and how much farther we still have to go.

With this being my final year as the Director General of SPREP, I was left with a feeling of optimism and that the future of our Pacific will be in good hands, after interacting with the students and seeing their enthusiasm to learn more about how they can help conserve our unique Pacific environment.

Soifua,



Mr. Kosi Latu, Director General of SPREP.

SPREP-Tok LATEST NEWS



HONOLULU CHALLENGE SEES BOLD ACTION ON INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Pacific island partners have stepped up to meet the Honolulu Challenge for bold action on invasive alien species since it was launched at the World Conservation Congress in 2016 in Hawaii.

Four partners of the Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) have declared specific commitments towards meeting the challenge.

[READ MORE ...](#)



SPREP-Tok ISSN: 2311-861X

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

(685) 21929 | PO Box 240 | Apia, Samoa | sprep@sprep.org | www.sprep.org

Our vision: A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.



Click to follow us on FACEBOOK and TWITTER.

SUSTAINABLE WASTE ACTIONS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR PACIFIC



Solutions for sustainable waste actions in used oil management, marine debris and disaster wastes will be in place across the Pacific islands through a special project that began in 2020.

[READ MORE ...](#)

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY: THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE MORE YOU CAN DO



This World Environment Day I'm going to be upfront. It's pretty simple really. We look after our environment, and our environment looks after us. When we don't care for our environment, then that's when it gets "messy" for us, and it has.

[READ MORE ...](#)

OUR PEOPLE, OUR PACIFIC ENVIRONMENT: Q AND A WITH LUANA JAMIESON



This week we introduce you to Ms Luana Jamieson, the Senior Human Resources Officer at SPREP. She plays a major role at SPREP given she cares for our most valuable resource, that being our staff.

[READ MORE ...](#)

HOT SANDS AND ENDANGERED SPECIES – FIELD NOTES FROM TONGA



Beaches are an ecological wonder, home to a wide variety of species that live within the beach or migrate to the beach as part of their life cycle. Yet beaches are facing increasing change and environmental impacts from human use.

[READ MORE ...](#)

SPREP OPEN DAY HOSTS FIRST VIRTUAL EVENT



From Samoa to across the Pacific islands region, over 50 students for the first time participated in SPREP's virtual Open Day on 16 June at the SPREP Campus to celebrate the 28th Anniversary of the signing of the SPREP Treaty.

[READ HERE ...](#)

PROTECTING OUR SHARKS



The Government of Fiji has been an active advocate for the conservation and management of sharks and rays. Fiji has taken a number of critical steps at the global level to better protect sharks, including the signing and ratifying of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

[READ MORE ...](#)

OUR PEOPLE, OUR PACIFIC ENVIRONMENT: Q AND A WITH PETE DAVIES



Meet Dr Pete Davies, the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Adviser at SPREP. He provides technical support to our Members for anything on coastal ecosystems and ocean issues.

[READ MORE ...](#)

150 STUDENTS ENCOURAGED TO BE "PART OF THE SOLUTION" AT SPREP OPEN DAY.



We are part of the solution.

These words were driven home to the 150 students, teachers and dignitaries who converged on the SPREP campus for an Open Day in celebration of the 28th Anniversary of the signing of the SPREP Treaty.

[READ MORE ...](#)

DIALOGUE STRENGTHENS REGIONAL COORDINATION FOR OCEAN ACIDIFICATION MONITORING



Pacific island countries and territories were given the opportunity to share lessons learned from Ocean Acidification monitoring and to learn from one another during a Pacific Islands Ocean Acidification Monitoring Dialogue held in May this year.

[READ MORE ...](#)

SPREP VIRTUAL LIBRARY OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED



SPREP officially launched its Virtual Library in June during the celebration of its 28th Anniversary since the signing of the SPREP Treaty, which established the organisation as a fully autonomous body based in Apia, Samoa.

[READ MORE ...](#)