

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 6/5/9 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
GEF Operational Focal Point

DATE: 24 April 2020

CIRCULAR: 20/32

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF DEADLINE AND STATUS OF GEF ISLANDS PACIFIC CHILD PROJECT

Dear Members and GEF Operational Focal Points

The extraordinary situation forced upon all of us by the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted our work in the region with a number of our programmes being postponed or put on hold. We are conscious that this pandemic has created much uncertainty in these unprecedented times.

This circular serves to inform you all of the status of the GEF ISLANDS Pacific Child Project and seeks to bring clarity in the context of the current world events. Despite the difficult situation we all find ourselves in, UNEP and SPREP remain committed to delivering this programme to our members as planned.

As you are all aware, the GEF ISLANDS Pacific Child Project has a deadline of 11 June 2020 which we are all working toward. The GEF CEO, has since issued a notice to UNEP and GEF OFF's that is now extending the automatic deadline by three (3) months. In our teleconference meeting with UNEP on 26 March, we agree to continue pushing ahead with preparation as initially planned and using the extra time to fine tuning all country proposals so we can submit a very comprehensive project for the child Pacific SIDS.

UNEP and SPREP agree that as we are faced with this dire global situation, people will be looking for inspiration to get their lives back on track after the crises and our project has the potential to provide motivational success stories that people can draw strength from. We want to be one of the first global projects to positively impact the world post COVID-19

Please find below a table summarizing our current status of preparation and note national action to be taken by concerned focal points

Countries	Priority Framework	Approaches	Next Step
Cook Islands	Completed	Completed	UNEP will be in contact to consult further
Federated States of Micronesia	Completed	Completed	SPREP to consult further remote instead of country visit
Fiji	Completed	Incomplete	Book a call with SPREP
Kiribati	Completed	Completed	UNEP will be in contact to consult further
Nauru	Completed	Completed	UNEP will be in contact to consult further

Countries	Priority Framework	Approaches	Next Step
Niue	Completed	Incomplete	Book a call with SPREP
Palau	Completed	Incomplete	Book a call with SPREP
Papua New Guinea	Completed	Completed	UNEP will be in contact to consult further
Republic of Marshall Islands	Completed	Incomplete	Book a call with SPREP
Samoa	Completed	Completed	UNEP will be in contact to consult further
Solomon Islands	Completed	Completed	UNEP will be in contact to consult further
Tonga	Completed	Completed	UNEP will be in contact to consult further
Tuvalu	Completed	Completed	UNEP will be in contact to consult further
Vanuatu	Incomplete	Incomplete	Book a call with SPREP

We understand some of our Member governments have ordered emergency shut down in their countries and this may force some of you to be isolated and to work from home. Please let us know your working situation so we can adopt the best possible means to communicate with you at this time to complete your preparations.

Thank you for your cooperation through this challenging time. I am confident we will get through this together and be on our way to delivering this important project for our islands and people.

Your Sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General