

## CIRCULAR

**FILE:** AP\_6/5/8/1

**TO:** SPREP National Focal Points & PacWastePlus National Focal Points

**DATE:** 14 February 2025

**CIRCULAR:** 25/02

**SUBJECT:** **SPREP's Waste Management & Pollution Control – Circularity. Innovation. Recovery. Culture. Learning and Environment (C.I.R.C.L.E EXPO) Invitation**

Dear Members,

Further to the SPREP Circular 24/92, kindly note the following updated information on the inaugural SPREP *Circularity, Innovation, Recovery, Culture, Learning and Environment (CIRCLE) EXPO*. Due to other competing events, the dates of the CIRCLE Expo have changed to **26 – 30 May 2025 in Apia, Samoa**.

The 2025 *CIRCLE EXPO* will launch a biennial event held alternately with the Clean Pacific Roundtable (CPRT), ensuring there is an annual opportunity for countries, industry, civil society, and tertiary institutions; to come together, discuss and explore issues of waste and pollution management in the Pacific.

The intent of *CIRCLE EXPO* is for stakeholders to showcase their actions and successes to build capacity throughout the region, and drive innovation and shared action to address waste management and pollution control. The CPRT will be structured to have higher level discussions on strategic and regional issues that will assist with the realization of *the Pacific Regional Waste Management and Pollution Control Strategy (Cleaner Pacific)*.

The inaugural *CIRCLE EXPO* will be hosted by the European Union – Pacific Waste Management Programme (PacWastePlus), implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, with support from GEF ISLANDS, The Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP), Committing to Sustainable Actions in the Pacific (SWAP), and JPRISM III.

*CIRCLE EXPO* will:

- Present PacWastePlus, POLP, SWAP, and ISLANDS Project highlights and lessons learnt;
- Showcase individual country activities and outcomes;
- Host forums on Waste-to-Energy, Emerging Issues, and the first regional Women-on-Waste (WOW) forum;
- Provide an opportunity to learn from each country on their national project actions;
- Explore new funding opportunities; and
- Engage with peers, SPREP staff, the European Union's Delegation to the Pacific, representatives from private industry, civil society, and tertiary institutions involved in waste management and pollution control.

Participation at *CIRCLE EXPO* is open to all, and a small fee will be charged to cover costs related to hosting the EXPO, noting that PacWastePlus will provide funding support for two participants from each participating member country. Possible support from other WMPC Projects will be communicated directly to project focal points if available. More information on this funding support will be communicated in due course.

**CIRCLE EXPO Costs for non-Project funded attendees**

The week-long *CIRCLE EXPO* is open to everyone, not just country staff engaged in WMPC projects. Fees to attend *CIRCLE EXPO* (if not funded by WMPC projects) are:

<b>SPREP Member country representatives</b>	<b>US\$595</b> With optional attendance at the conference dinner and movie night, and purchase of event t-shirt
<b>Non-SPREP Members</b>	<b>US\$737</b> With optional attendance at the conference dinner and movie night, and purchase of event t-shirt
<b>Community Service Organisations</b>	<b>US\$240</b> With optional attendance at the conference dinner and movie night, and purchase of event t-shirt
<b>Students</b>	<b>US\$240</b> With optional attendance at the conference dinner and movie night, and purchase of event T-shirt

*CIRCLE EXPO* will also host the international premier of the “*Voices of the Pacific*” documentary which explores the impact of plastic pollution on the Pacific. The Documentary is currently being filmed and will start its international showing in Samoa at the Expo. Tickets will be available to the general public as well as *CIRCLE EXPO* attendees.

To register to attend *CIRCLE EXPO*, please use one of the two links below:

- [Register](#) for PacWastePlus Programme Support to attend *CIRCLE EXPO* (for participating officers only)
- [General registration](#) to attend *CIRCLE EXPO*

*Please note if you have previously registered for the old dates, we would respectfully request you submit your registration through the online system (links) above.*

Registrations for *CIRCLE EXPO* close **Friday 28 February 2025**. Should you require any further clarity or information, please contact [pwpp@sprep.org](mailto:pwpp@sprep.org)

I look forward to seeing you all in Samoa for *CIRCLE EXPO* from 26 – 30 May 2025.

Yours sincerely,



Easter Chu Shing  
**Acting Director General**

## Draft *CIRCLE EXPO* Agenda

Time	Monday 26 May (recoverable)	Tuesday 27 May (solid Waste)	Wednesday 28 May (Hazardous)	Thursday 29 May (plastics)	Friday 30 May (strategy)
8:00 – 8:30	Set up	Set up	Set up	Set up	Set up
8:30 – 9:00	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration
9:00 – 9:30	EXPO Opening	Technical Session – Disaster Waste	Technical Session – e- Waste	SPTO Standards (Plastics) POLP	CP2035 Workshops Futures planning
9:30 - 10:00	Technical Session - Recyclables				
10:00 – 10:30					
10:30 – 11:00		Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea
11:00 – 11:30	Morning Tea	Technical Session – Bulky Waste	Technical Session – asbestos	Coastal Surveys (Plastics) POLP & CSIRO	CP2035 Workshops Futures planning
11:30 – 12:00	Technical Session - Organics				
12:30 – 13:00					
13:00 – 13:30		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:30 – 14:00	Lunch	Technical Session – Healthcare	Technical Session – Used Oil	<b>Women on Waste Forum</b>	CP2035 Workshops Futures planning
14:00 – 14:30	Site Visits				
14:30 – 15:00					
15:00 – 15:30	To be confirmed	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea
15:30 – 16:00		<b>Waste to Energy Forum</b>	<b>Emerging Issues in Hazardous Waste Forum (PFAS, Haz Chemical, Lithium-Ion)</b>	<b>Women on Waste Forum</b>	Official Close
16:00 – 16:30					Free Time
16:30 – 17:00					
17:00 – 17:30	Welcome Kava & Networking / Free Time	EXPO Kava Official Opening of Expo booths	EXPO Kava	EXPO Kava	
17:30 – 18:00		Free Time	Set up at Apollo	Free Time	
18:00 – 18:30	Official Welcome and Conference Dinner		Movie Night		
18:30 – 19:00					
19:00 – 19:30					
19:30 – 20:00					
20:00 – 20:30				Free Time	
20:30 – 21:00					