



GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

MEDIA RELEASE

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NIUE RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY LAUNCHES OPERATIONS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

Alofi, Niue – 28 March 2024 – The Government of Niue is taking notable steps toward sustainable waste management with the establishment of the Niue Resource Recovery Centre. Funded by the Government of Australia with New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade as the delivery partner. The initiative was co-led by the Department of Environment with the Project Management & Coordination Unit (PMCU).

The facility aims to address the pressing need for effective waste management practices, targeting essential recyclables such as glass bottles and PET plastic bottles. The Facility is set to expand its operations to include a diverse range of materials including steel cans, aluminum cans, e-waste, white goods, used lead-acid batteries, scrap steel, ferrous and non-ferrous metals as well as end-of-life vehicles once the appropriate machinery and equipment arrives on the island. Recruitment of staff for the facility will commence shortly.



Tonkin & Taylor (NZ) has conducted a waste audit feasibility study, laying the groundwork for collaboration with the Department of Environment and will shortly review and update the current outdated Niue Waste Management Strategy. This strategic revamp will ensure alignment with regional and global standards while identifying vital resources for Niue.

The facility is currently operating with a glass crusher, baler, and shredder despite minor setbacks with the baling machine requiring maintenance. Further enhancements will be made with an incinerator awaiting assembly and completion of training for a composting machine (Hot Rot).

In terms of environmental impacts, the facility's operations aim to mitigate soil and water contamination, reduce reliance on landfills by 50%, limit harmful air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, and safeguard water lenses from land-based pollution. Socially, it seeks to foster community engagement, responsible waste management practices and champion a culture of reduce, reuse, and recycle including reducing litter. Economically the introduction of an proposed Advance Recovery Deposit Fee Scheme ensures financial sustainability while positioning Niue as an eco-conscious destination for tourists.

Ongoing initiatives such as the Waste Management Bill proposal and the Advance Recovery & Deposit Fee (ADRF) are currently in the working process to ensure the efficient and effective functioning of the recycling facility including waste management overarching Niue.

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