



CIRCULAR

FILE: AP_4/12/18 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 1 December 2021
CIRCULAR: 21/150
SUBJECT: **Inform Plus Project – Scaling Up Environmental Data Management Beyond 2022**

Dear Focal Points,

Greetings from Apia. First, I would like to thank you for all the support and the guidance to the Secretariat on the implementation of the SPREP programmes activities and projects. This has been recognized by our development partners and also you our member countries.

The Environmental Monitoring and Governance (EMG) Programme of SPREP is currently executing the GEF funded "Inform Project", implemented through UN Environment, which has supported and delivered a number of key targeted interventions to support environmental decision making in the region. This phase of the project will be closing at the end of 2022.

In the 30th SPREP meeting held in September this year, the meeting supported the scaling up of environment data management in the Pacific and directed the Secretariat to initiate a process for developing a full-sized project proposal to support the scaling up environmental data management work in the region.

In the Inform Project Regional meeting held in October this year, the Inform Project participating countries collectively agree on the need to scale up and extend the Inform Project services beyond 2022.

SPREP is now seeking country support to continue the success and momentum of the Inform Project towards a proposed phase 2 of the project, the Inform Plus Project. This scaled up phase will expand the user base and fill significant gaps including in situ monitoring, increased partnerships between the environment ministries and other sectors, increase use of spatial tools, and work to establish environmental standards for key resources. This project will also support advocacy for the use of environmental information and knowledge.

Inform Plus proposed 5 pillars project intends to continue and expand the work SPREP and countries have started effectively and efficiently beyond 2022 as well as strengthening data management for adaptation and sustainable development in the region. The proposed 5 pillars are contained in the Inform Plus Project as attached.



With the above, I on behalf of the Secretariat is requesting your support in allocating 10% funding from the country GEF Star allocation of the GEF 8 replenishment please. The Secretariat will request a letter of support from the country in order to start developing the attached concept into a full project proposal as agreed in the SPREP meeting this year.

For more information, please contact Jope Davetanivalu, joped@sprep.org or Paul Anderson paula@sprep.org.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kosi Latu", is positioned above the printed name.

Kosi Latu
Director General

KL/JD/ft

Attach: Inform Plus Concept