

Digitalizing Trade Controls for Waste Management

A PROJECT PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT PACIFIC ISLANDS CIRCULAR ECONOMY

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- Global material use has quadrupled in the last 50 years
- 90% of the materials we use today are used then wasted
- That is why the circular economy matters
- Important to reduce, re-use and recycle
- Recycling can also be an important source of secondary materials
- Responsible end-of-life treatment is also key

Importance for the Pacific

- Within small island nations, waste management presents a unique challenge:
- \rightarrow Limited space for waste management
- \rightarrow Unique ocean stewards
- \rightarrow Limited feedstock to generate recycling industries





- The process engages several stakeholders in the form of importing and exporting companies, and importing and exporting country competent authorities
- Several instances of evolving, time sensitive, and two-way communications make the process more complex



A re-cap of the challenges around the paper-based PIC system:

- Competent Authority (CA) contact details may be out of date (leading to misdirected requests)
- The need for notice and consent from multiple transit countries
- Country variations in data and document requirements around PIC
- Lack of standardised communication channels between notifier, consignee, CA of dispatch, transit and destination
- Unclear and varying decision timeframes
- PIC requests take an average of 105 days to process and in some cases can remain open for over 12 months

Impact: Administrative burdens; delayed shipments leading to waste management difficulties

Problem statement (part 2)

- Delays in the waste trade control system can increase the costs for building circular business models in some materials
- E-waste is the world's fastest growing waste stream, with about 80% mismanaged at end-of-life AND...
- Data from UNEP indicates about 60-90% of that is illegally traded or dumped in the environment
- Yet, to create a "recycled phone" the reverse logistics for the phone at end-of-life are 190% more expensive than a new phone
- That means the recycled product must build in those costs
- Anything that eats into product profit margins has a consequence, including administrative costs for lengthy trade permits (going beyond a reasonable timeframe)

What an e-PIC System could look like



Dashboard		Section 1 of 1		
	PIC Description			
exporter (1)	Shipment of Waste from Dun	e to Narnia		
mporter (2)	Exporter Name		Registration No	
lotification Concerning (3)	Sample Exporter		Sample Number	
nipment Information (4-7)	Address			
arrier Information (8)	5678 Anywher Street			
aste Generators (9)	Contact Person	Telephone	Fax	
isposal (10-11)	John Smith		Tux	
aste Information (12-14)	joint siniar	333-333-333		
ountries Concerned (15)	E-mail			
ttachments	john.smith@exporter.com			
- Exit	Transmit 2	Request Further Information		Next

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What an e-PIC System could look like



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- Implement a voluntary, digitalised PIC system within the Southern Pacific
- The electronic system will be built out based on an initial design incorporating user feedback from initial participating countries during an **investigation phase**
- The live digital solution will then be put into practice with interested competent authorities during an **implementation phase**
- The system will be used to facilitate legitimate transboundary movement of Waigani covered wastes (by using the regional e-PIC system to process consignments). Feedback from the project will be used to improve the system and training provided
- Learnings will also be shared at a global level with the Basel Convention which is examining steps towards PIC digitalisation

Project benefits





Government

Efficient oversight Ensure proper controls Enable ESM

Centralised management of waste movements

Facilitate annual reporting



Industry/Traders

Increase efficiency in movement

Improved recycling of ewaste and plastics

Circular materials sourcing



Environment

Enable ESM and circularity Energy efficient Reduce emissions Protect biodiversity

For more information contact:

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