



Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications (MEIDECC)

KINGDOM OF TONGA COUNTRY REPORT

11th Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific, 8th-10th February 2023, Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia





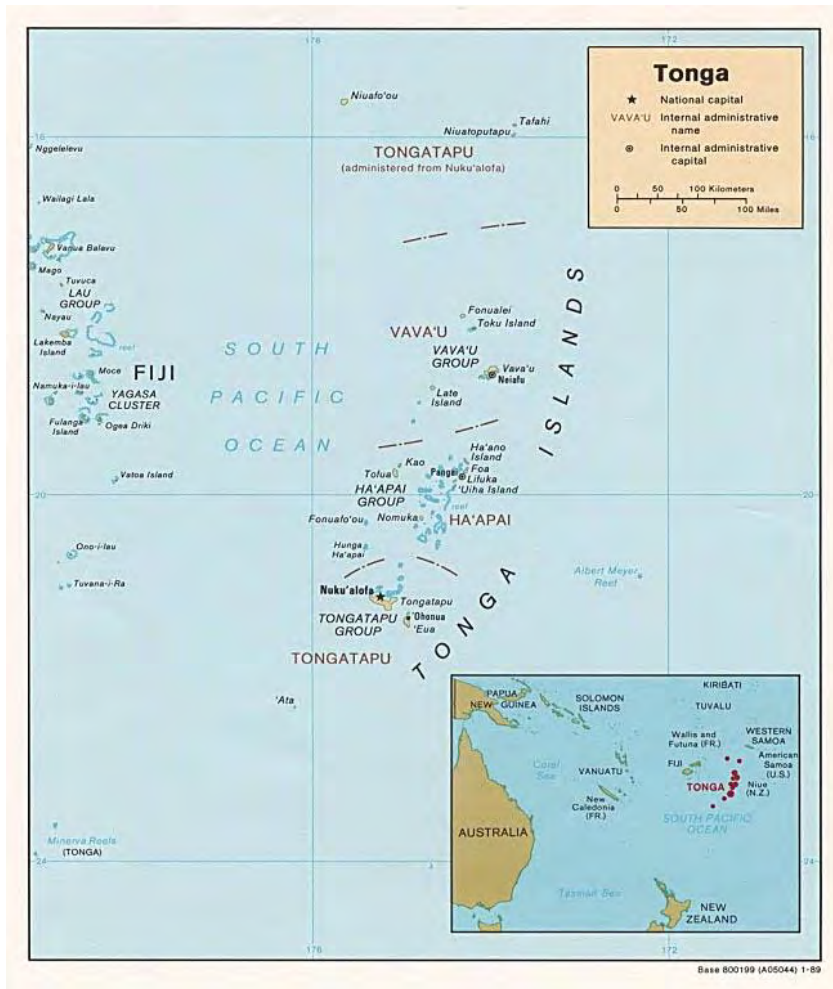
Presentation Outline

- Background
- 3R Initiatives
- Challenges
- Way Forward





Background



- Lies bet 15° and 213.5° S Latitude and 173° to 177° W Longitude
- Combined Land/Sea area of $720,000\text{km}^2$
- 172 named islands with an area of 747km^2
- 36 inhabited islands cover an area of 650km^2
- Consist of four clusters of islands; Tongatapu, 'Eua, Ha'apai, Vava'u and the Niuas
- Capital Nuku'alofa, Tongatapu
- Most islands originate from coralline, flat and encircled by fringing reefs. Some atolls and some of volcanic origin
- Population of just over 100,000
- Agricultural based economy
- Tropical climate of wet and dry seasons



3R Initiatives

Legal Mandate	Policies/Plans/Strategies	Projects
Waste Management Act 2005	Solid Waste Management Plan 2000	GEF ISLANDS (GEF/SPREP)
Hazardous Wastes and Chemicals Act 2010	Draft National Waste Management Strategy	PacWastePlus (EU/SPREP)
Public Health Act 1992	Climate Change Policy	JPRISM III (JICA)
Environment Management Act 2010	Water Policy	Fourth National Communications (GEF/UNDP)
Litter Control Regulation 2016	Joint National Action Plan (JNAP)	SWAP (AFD)
Public Health Act 1992	National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP)	POLP (AUSAID)
	National Implementation Plan (NIP)	Clean School Programmes
	Tonga Energy Road Map (TERM)	Waste to Energy Projects



REDUCE

Reduce the amount of waste generated e.g
School composting
competition





REUSE

Reuse of unwanted items for new purpose
e.g Clean School Programmes

Unwanted item: soda can

New purpose: wall decoration





RECYCLE

There are private recyclers who accept aluminium cans, steel/tin cans, scrap metals and car batteries





Challenges

- Limited number of human and financial resources
- Weak political support and commitment
- Weak coordination within governments, NGOs, civil societies and private sectors
- Lack of awareness programmes
- Lack of in-country trainings



Way Forward

- Increase financial support from Government towards the implementation of waste programmes
- Inclusion of high level segment where appropriate will ensure strong political support and commitment
- Strengthen the existing coordination system to strengthen networking and partnerships within government, NGOs, civil societies and private sectors and donor/development partners
- Information management system to be improved for accessibility and effective dissemination of waste information to public
- Training on waste issues should be conducted



Malo 'Aupito

