



KINGDOM OF TONGA COUNTRY REPORT

12th Regional 3R and Circular
Economy Forum, Jaipur, India on
3rd – 5th Mar 2025





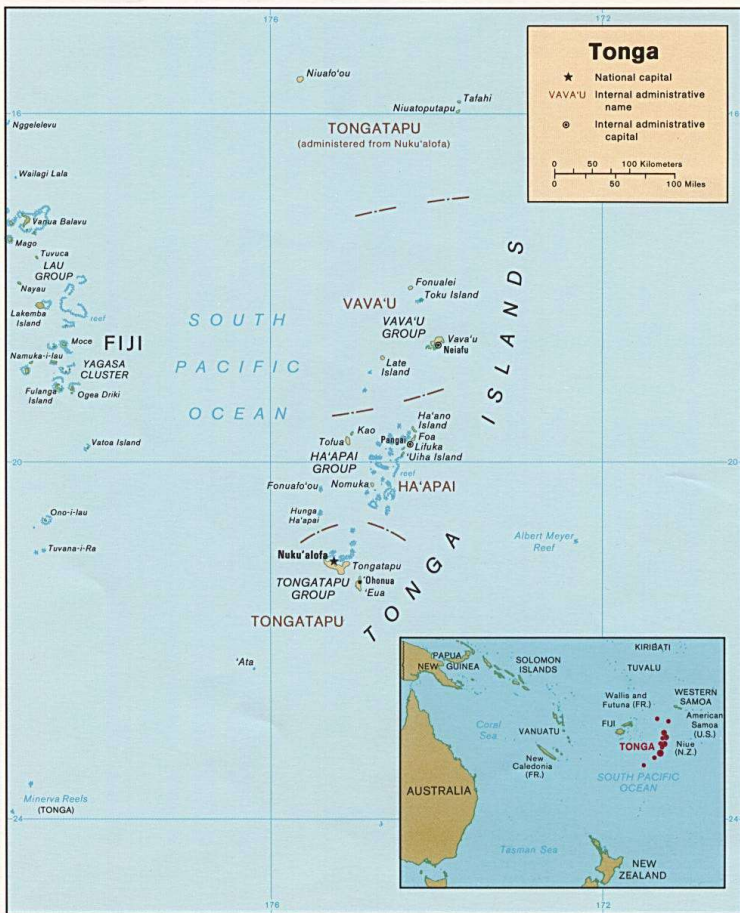
Presentation Outline

1. BACKGROUND
2. 3R INITIATIVES
3. CHALLENGES
4. WAY FORWARD





BACKGROUND



- South Pacific Island Kingdom of Tonga
- Combined Land/Sea area of 720,000km²
- 172 named islands with an area of 747km²
- 36 inhabited islands cover an area of 650km²
- 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 100,179 (Gov't of Tonga: Census 2021)
- Based economy: Agricultural, Fisheries, Tourism, Remittance reliance
- Tropical climate of wet and dry seasons





Current 3R INITIATIVES and Upcoming

3R New Initiative	Reduce Reuse, Recycle approach	Concept of Circular Economy existed
Pet Bottles and aluminum cans Recycling (Coca Cola)	Recycle	Yes
E-Waste Recycling (Blue Orca/Samsung NZ)	Reuse, Recycle	No
Landfill Rehabilitation (JPRISM 3)	Reuse, Reduce, Recycle	Yes
SWAP-1 and SWAP-2 (AFD) (Marine litter, used oil, solid waste)	Reuse, Reduce, Recycle	Yes
Clean Seas – Marine Litter Prevention (GIZ)	Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	Yes
PacWastePlus	Reduce	No
GEF Islands	Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	Yes



Current 3R INITIATIVES and Upcoming



- * Coca Cola with Tonga Recyclers to **R**ecycle all PET bottles and aluminium cans
- * SWAP-1 approaches community on clean marine litter but proposes SWAP-2 on activities that involve community on **R**educing marine pollution, enhance **R**ecycling activities
- * PacWastePlus introduce policies to **R**educe and ban the use of Asbestos
- * JPRISM is promoting solid waste management with best practices of all 3**R** especially at landfill



CHALLENGES



* Institutional Capacity

1. Weak governance and enforcement mechanism to draw plan and coordinate policies, aids, to empower separate clear responsibility to all sectors which it'll identify individual task that secure financial stability in 3R
 1. NGOs, Civil Society, and Private Sector
 2. Business Sector includes recycler
 3. Regional and Global Organizations



CHALLENGES



* Infrastructure

1. Poor Infrastructure not a motivation to drive the industry
2. Equipment's is not available due to its high cost for locals business such as baler, compactor, crusher, etc.
3. Limited in the amount of recyclables waste to attract investors and even local recyclers

* Financing

1. Financial limitation for high cost of Infrastructure, machinery, and equipment's
2. Sustainable markets for Recyclers and especially the key waste collector entity
3. Lack of capacity on Circular economy principles



WAY FORWARD



- * Keep knocking on Government budgetary support for local funded initiatives
- * Comply with Donor/Development partners and support programme relevant to in-country implementation
- * Strengthen the partnership with Recyclers, NGOs, Civil Societies, and Private Sectors
- * Continue and maintain Institutional Capacity building throughout the National level
- * Compile Information and Improve accessibility and dissemination of waste information and data to the public
- * High Level and Political support and involvement

MALO 'AUPITO!!

