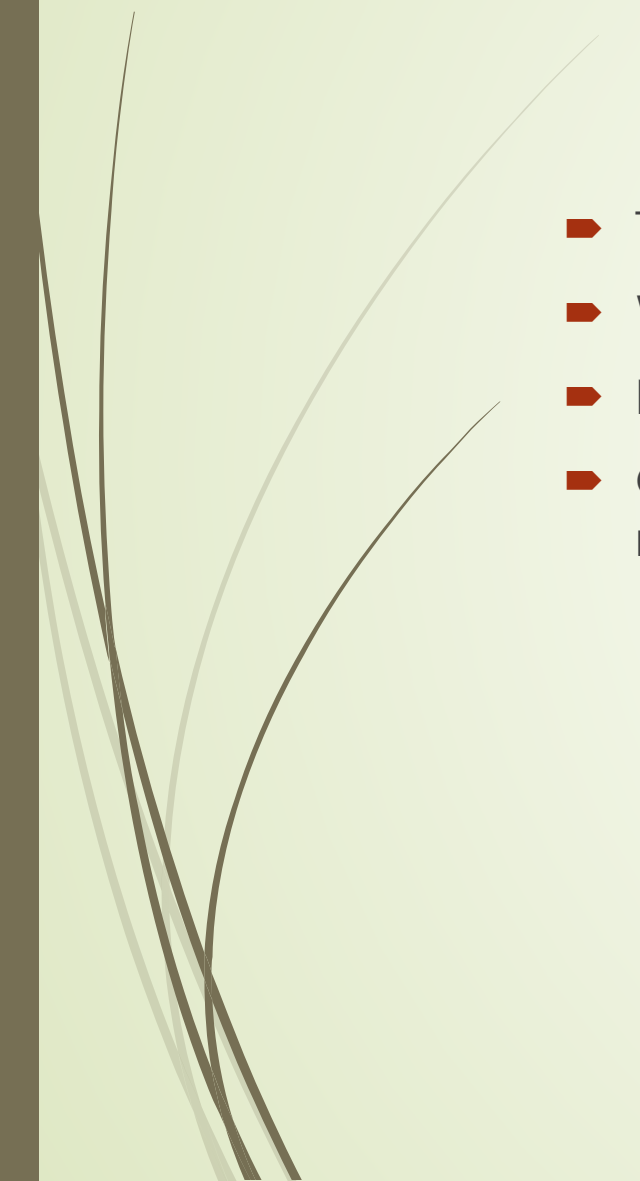


Tuvalu and the Jaipur Declaration on 3R and Circular Economy (2025-2035).



Introduction/Background

- ▶ Tuvalu is a small Island Nation
 - ▶ Waste Management is a rising problem in Tuvalu
 - ▶ New Government – 21 Priorities, Waste Management is Priority 17
 - ▶ Government of Tuvalu committed to invest in sustainable waste management solutions – 3 Rs
- 



Key Waste Management Policies and Acts

- Tuvalu Integrated Waste Policy and Action Plan 2017 -2026. It focuses on strengthening institutional systems, establishing public-private-partnerships, improve waste services, and enhance the capacity of waste practitioners.
- Waste Operation and Service Act 2009
- Public Health Act (Revised 2008)
- Environmental Protection Act 2008
- Waste Management Prohibition on Importation of Single Use Plastic Regulation 2019



Key milestones achieved

Achievements	Jaipur Declaration Principles	Recommendations for Tuvalu
Regulation on the ban on Single-Use Plastics (2019)	Reduction of plastic pollution	Strengthen enforcement, expand bans to more non-recyclable plastics
UBC Recycling	Resource recovery & circular economy	Scale up to include PET bottles, e-waste, and organic waste composting
Waste Collection (100% coverage in Funafuti) (70 coverage in outer islands)	Inclusive waste management systems	Extend services to outer islands with decentralized solutions (e.g., community-led recycling depots)
Green Waste Composting Programme	Organic waste valorization	Promote urban farming partnerships to utilize compost locally



Challenges & Jaipur Declaration solutions

Tuvalu's Challenges	Jaipur Declaration Solutions	Refined Actions for Tuvalu
Limited landfill space	Zero-waste-to-landfill targets	Invest in waste-to-energy (small-scale biogas) and material recovery facilities
High equipment costs	Public-private partnerships (PPPs)	Seek international funding (Green Climate Fund, SPREP) for recycling infrastructure
Lack of human resources	Capacity building & training	Partner with regional bodies for technical upskilling
Transportation barriers for outer islands and difficulty to secure potential buyers	Localized circular economy models, continue forster collaborations with overseas markets	Establish micro-recycling hubs on each island to minimize transport needs



Case study/Best practices – The UBC Recycling

- **Policy Applied**

- Integrated Waste Policy & Action Plan 2017 -2026



- **Relevant clause**

- Section 4.2 (Recycling & Recovery targets)

- Monitoring & Evaluation Framework, Indicator 2



- **Actions**

- Bailer machine installed (Community collection campaigns)

- 1st Export in June 2021 (2 containers of cans)



- **Output**

- Income generating for local residents

- This project focused on collecting & processing aluminium cans that demonstrate a commitment to turning waste into a resource, which contributes the CIRCULAR ECONOMY



Way forward

➤ Policy Strengthening:

- Enact **Kaupule (local council) Bye-Laws** mandating waste segregation.
- Integrate **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** for imported products.

➤ Community & Partnerships:

- Awareness campaigns- to revive declining public engagement.
- Regional collaboration (e.g., Pacific Islands Forum) for waste export markets.

➤ Innovation:

- Pilot **plastic-to-fuel** or **upcycling** initiatives for non-recyclables.
- Digital tracking for waste collection efficiency (e.g., GIS mapping).



Conclusion

- ▶ Tuvalu's efforts align well with the Jaipur Declaration but require;
 - ▶ **scaling up circular economy practices,**
 - ▶ **stronger enforcement,** and
 - ▶ **regional partnerships.**
 - ▶ By refining its approach—particularly in **outer-island inclusivity, diversified recycling,** and **sustainable financing**—Tuvalu can become a **model for small island states** in the 3R and circular economy transition.
- 