



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



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Coordinated Approach for Waste Management in NIUE

**Sustainable Financing/ Advanced
Recovery Fee and Deposit Systems**

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What is the Waste Management Bill?

The proposed Niue Waste Management Bill is a legislative instrument designed to provide for a coordinated management of solid waste in Niue.

The Bill seeks to provide safe and effective management of all waste produced in Niue to decrease impacts to the environment and community health. It will provide a consistent best-practice standard for operation of the landfill, recycle centre, and other waste related facilities and services in Niue.

The proposed Niue Waste Management Bill will also form the basis for a Sustainable Financing Regulation, the proposed Niue Advanced Recovery Fee and Deposit system.

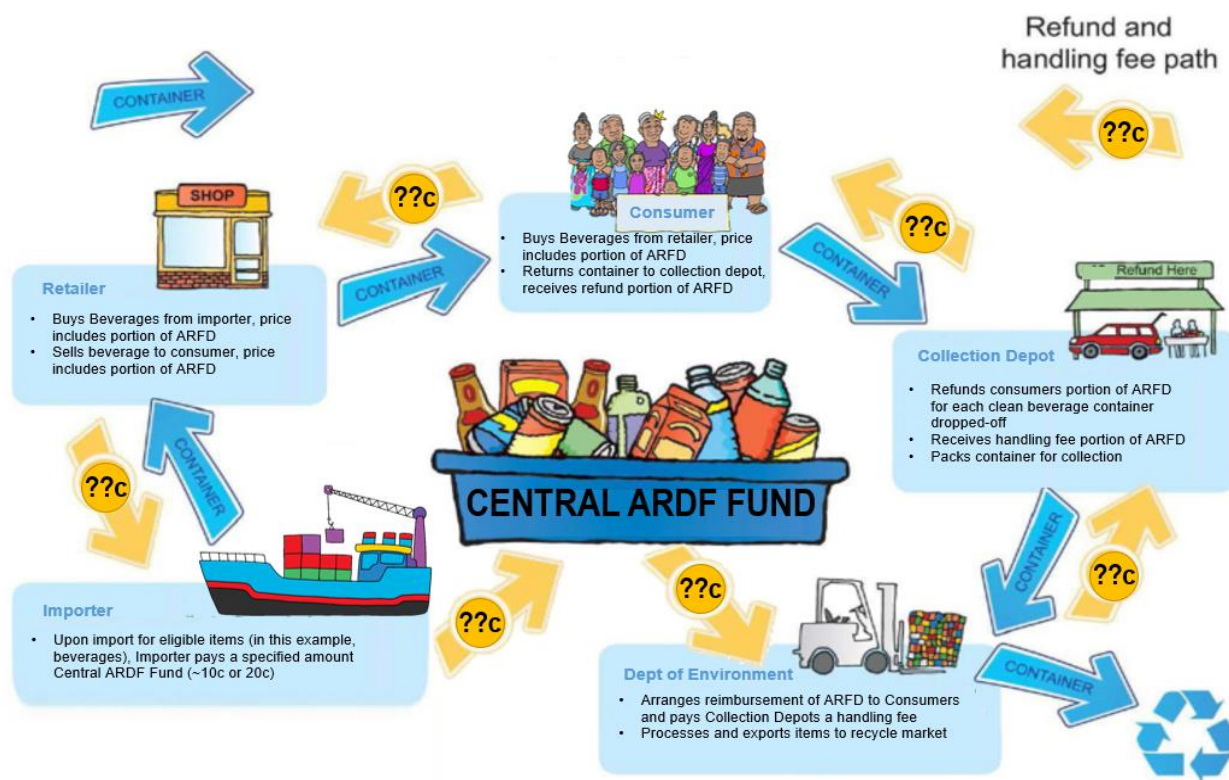
What is the Advanced Recovery and Disposal Fee Regulation?

The proposed Niue Advanced Recovery Fee and Deposit (ARFD) system is a legislative instrument designed to create a way to sustainably fund waste management and recycling.

These systems are used successfully around the world to encourage recovery of end-of-life products, and to ensure governments have access to enough funds to divert recoverable items from landfill and into reuse or recycling.

Five schemes are currently in operation in the Pacific, with many other countries actively designing systems for implementation.

How Do Sustainable Financing/ Advanced Recovery Fee and Deposit Systems Work?



Purpose

Systems are designed to improve rates of recycling, through:



“deposit” provides an incentive for consumers to recycle, providing an immediate financial reward when they drop items at a depot, changing behaviour away from littering, burning, or disposing to landfill



“fee” provides for the collection, processing, and export/recycling of items, providing an economically viable and self-sustainable way to undertake these activities long term, not reliant on government funds

Schemes in the Pacific

Country	Items included (\$)
FSM	
• Yap	Aluminum cans/PET (beverage and oil)/glass (USD 6c)
• Kosrae	Aluminum cans/PET (beverage and oil)/glass (USD 6c), lead-acid battery (USD \$4)
• Pohnpei	Aluminum cans (USD 6c)
Kiribati	Aluminum cans/PET (AUD 4c)/car batteries (AUD \$5)
Palau	All beverage containers (USD 10c)
RMI	Aluminum cans/PET/glass (USD 6c)
Tuvalu	Aluminum cans/PET/glass (AUD 10c), lube oil (AUD 40c/L), nappy (AUD 5c), whiteware (AUD \$100/\$60/\$30), heavy equipment (AUD \$2000/\$1000/\$500), vehicle (AUD \$300), motorbike (AUD \$200), lead-acid battery (AUD \$60/\$30/\$10)

Benefits found from Schemes in the Pacific:



Increased Recycling - in over 10 years of operation, Palau has experienced an **87% recovery rate of recyclable items**, the FSM state of Yap experiences a **99% recovery of aluminum cans**



Less Litter – an immediate benefit of all schemes was found to be the **reduction of litter in the environment and public places**



Job and Income Opportunities – all schemes experienced an **increase in employment in the recycling industry**, schemes also provide for **income generation to unemployed or marginalised groups** (through collection and redemption of discarded items)



Long-term Benefits – the schemes **provide a long-term solution for waste management**, most schemes in the Pacific have been operating over 10 years (Kiribati operating since 2004, states of FSM since 2005, Palau since 2011, RMI since 2016, and Tuvalu since 2019)



Regular Revenue – schemes generally **operate non-reliant on regular government funding**. The scheme in Palau is providing funding for all waste management outcomes (collection, recycling, staff, equipment procurement and maintenance, facility operation, etc)



Scope for Extension – schemes can provide for **financing to manage problematic waste items** in excess of beverage containers and car batteries. The scheme in Tuvalu includes lube oil, whiteware, heavy equipment, vehicles, motorbikes, and lead-acid batteries.



Outer Islands – schemes can provide for **long-term financing collection and export of recyclable items** from Outer Islands

Benefits to Niue

Environmental



- Reduced litter and dumping of waste and packaging will reduce risk of soil and water contamination and danger to marine and terrestrial wildlife
- Reduced burning will reduce air pollution and emissions release
- Divert approximately 40%+ of waste from landfill

Economic



- User-pays system, less reliant on taxes to fund waste management
- Reduce the cost of roadside collection and landfill operation
- Reduced litter and dumping contribute to improved aesthetics of public places, increasing tourist satisfaction

Social



- Provides opportunities for participation of vulnerable groups and individuals to collect ARFD items and use deposits as a way to supplement their income
- Socially inclusive, and will provide for recyclables collection from all communities
- Provides for increased employment in recovery industry
- Reduced litter and burning may have positive effects on community health

Items targeted potentially included in the Niue Sustainable ARFD project:



Aluminium



PET Plastic
Bottles



End-of-Life
Whiteware



Electronic

PacWastePlus investment to provide for:



LEGISLATION

Assistance for drafting and approval of legislation to empower the ARFD system (Waste Management Act and ARFD Regulation)



FACILITY

Construction of Advance Recovery Fee and Deposit depot facilities in all communities



EQUIPMENT

Purchase of electronic waste dismantling equipment



SYSTEM

Support to update customs and finance systems to provide for the operation of the ARFD system



TRAINING

Capacity building of staff to operate an electronic waste dismantling center



LEGACY WASTE

Collection, processing and export of legacy electronic waste from stockpiles



COMMUNICATIONS

Implementation of ARFD and E-waste education and awareness actions

Purpose of Beca Visit

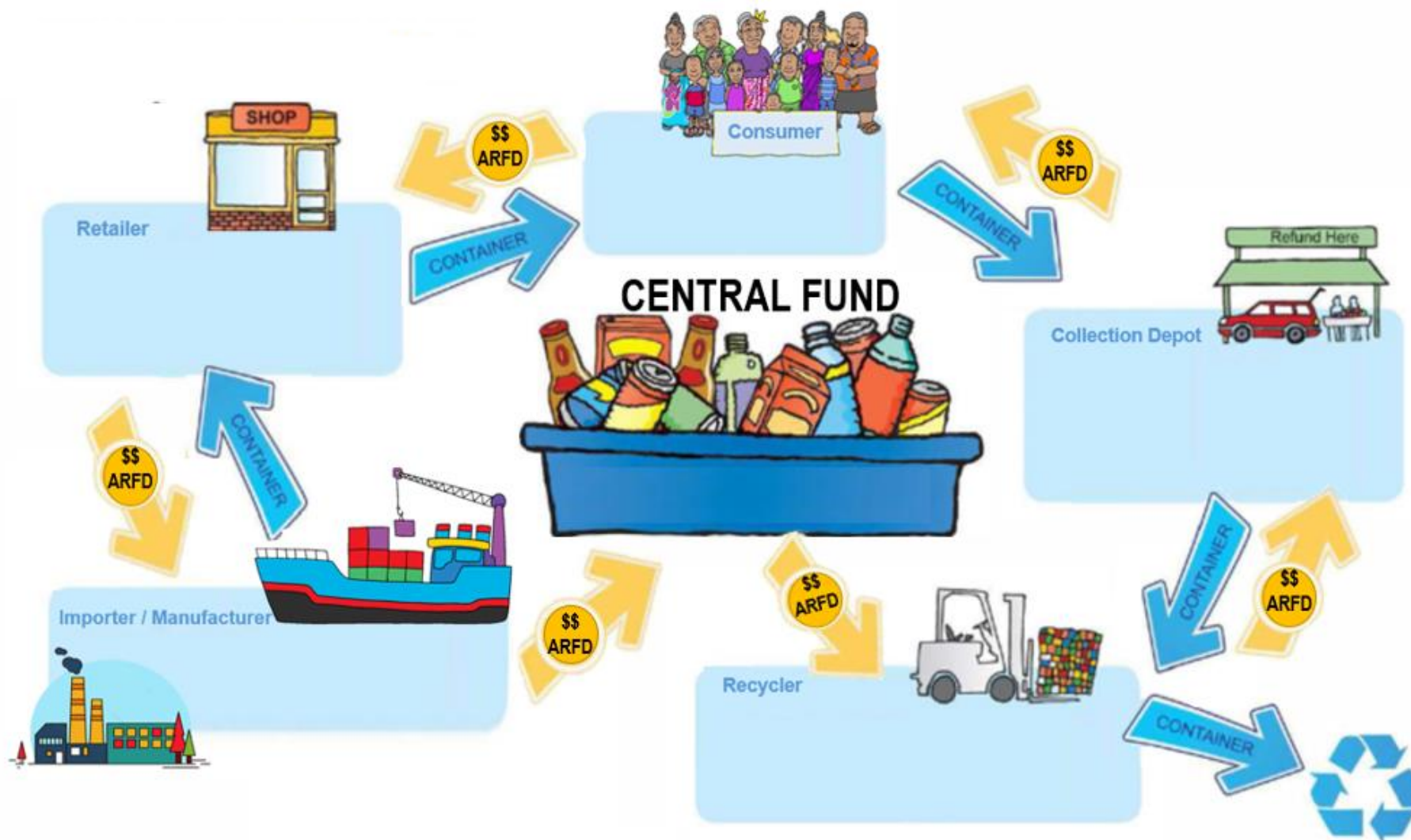
At the request of the Niue Department of Environment, Beca International Consultants Limited (Beca), through the SPREP PacWastePlus project, will visit Niue to undertake consultation and site visits to enable the design and drafting of the two proposed legislative instruments: The Waste Management (WM) Bill, and Advanced Recovery and Disposal Fee (ARFD) Regulation.

Effective legislation is not able be designed and implemented without meaningful engagement and input from stakeholders and partners. The Department of Environment and Beca will use this visit to obtain as much as that engagement and input as possible, through:

1. Conducting site visits to waste management infrastructure and facilities and meet with stakeholders
2. Liaise with members of ARFD Working Group (collectively and/or individually), and other interested stakeholders, to confirm the information to go into the SW Bill and ARFD Regulation
3. Confirm remaining actions, dates, and responsibilities to progress draft SW Bill and ARFD Regulation

If you want to learn more or be involved in these discussions, please reach out to the Department of Environment.

Have your input – write down factors that are important to your community or department/agency on steps in an ARFD scheme:



For more information please contact:



The PacWastePlus team on pwp@sprep.org



Or visit - <https://www.pacwasteplus.org>

(post project please email sprep@sprep.org)

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