
Establishment of a PET recovery and buy-back center by UNDP Comoros Country Office

To help reduce ocean plastic pollution, UNDP Comoros is helping the government of Comoros to introduce innovative financial mechanisms for plastics waste recovery, reuse, and recycling. The project will not only reduce plastics waste, but it will also create new economic opportunities for communities through the creation of plastic waste recovery and buy-back centers.

The project started in June 2021 with a 2-year workplan that will end in June 2024.

The project succeeded to achieve the following during the past 15 months:

- Selected 3 sites in Comoros to establish 3 collection centers for plastic and aluminium cans
- Finalized the procurement process to purchase 3 compactors and 3 tricycles to be used in the collection centers
- Finalizing the civil works to prepare and rehabilitate the 3 sites
- Developed the draft report on the proposed financing mechanism for the repurchase and recovery of plastic waste and cans in Moheli island
- Developed a draft report on the legal status of solid waste management in Comoros and the main legal issues in promoting the buy-back centers for plastic and aluminium waste.
- Started an awareness campaign to promote the recycling of plastic and aluminium cans in 3 islands in Comoros
- Started stakeholders' consultation workshops to present the proposed financial mechanism for collection and recycling plastic and aluminium cans



In the remaining period of the project, the team will finalize the installation of the equipment of the 3 buy-back centers and train the staff on how to operate and maintain this equipment. The team will also launch a social marketing campaign to promote the legal changes required for implement the proposed financial mechanism for the repurchase and recovery of plastic and aluminium waste.

The sustainability of this innovative project relies on the success in implementing the proposed economic model and financing mechanism. A win-win agreement between the private sector specialized in waste recovery and the manager of the financial mechanism will be developed. This developed partnership will encourage other national, regional and international actors to get involved and invest in the field.



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The national waste management agency will replicate this approach to plastic waste management on all the other islands in Comoros to completely eliminate plastic waste and cans. Similarly, the success of the financial instrument for plastic waste developed under this innovation will serve as a prototype and will be the basis for the development of an economic model for all categories of waste at the national level.