



FIJI, THE FIRST PACIFIC NATION TO JOIN (THE FLAGSHIP GROUP OF NATIONS OF) THE ACCELERATOR FOR PLASTIC POLLUTION (CAPP) PROGRAM

Fiji has joined the CAPP program, as one of its first partners, to help incubate and facilitate local, regional and global projects for reducing plastic pollution.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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In a world of growing environmental concerns and challenges, the Commitments Accelerator for Plastic Pollution (CAPP) is a new global program which brings together transparency, community and action to reduce and eliminate plastic pollution. The country of Fiji is one of the three partners to launch the CAPP program, representing the Pacific region, and becoming part of CAPP's international community which convenes to improve strategies, projects, outcomes, and research for reducing plastic waste.

Minister for Environment Hon Dr Mahendra Reddy, while officiating the event said "Fiji is proud to be an early collaborator joining the CAPP (Commitments Accelerator for Plastic Pollution) community of Flagship Nations. This program will help defeat plastic pollution through community, transparency, and well-informed, coordinated action".

CAPP's global team of experts on plastic pollution, island economies, network design and collaboration, is pleased to announce its first three collaborating nations for the program, which along with Fiji, include Curacao and Seychelles. Each of these "flagship" nations will bring CAPP's knowledge, learning and programming back to their regions.

Any organizations (corporate, government, NGO, academic, investor or institution) will be welcome in the CAPP program, a global community and a diverse set of stakeholders. CAPP will offer a digital platform for learning, tracking and scoring, applied knowledge for replicable processes, and action learning on topics of development, governance, community-building, science and the monitoring of plastic pollution.

"Fiji has been a leader in sustainable development for several years, so our collaboration comes at little surprise. We are delighted to work with Fiji and other islands to create an impact that will inspire the rest of the world," explained Arno Boersma, founding partner of social

enterprise Island Impact. "It is a wonderful opportunity to have early collaborators Fiji, Curacao and Seychelles join the CAPP program, and it is a fitting follow-up to Fiji's hosting of our <u>Plasticity Forum</u> in March 2019, that focused on innovations and <u>solutions for plastic</u> in its second life, so it doesn't become waste." said Douglas Woodring, Founder and Managing Director, Ocean Recovery Alliance, an NGO which has always been committed to creating strategic, long-term solutions to reduce plastic pollution on land and water.

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About the CAPP Program:

The Commitments Accelerator for Plastic Pollution brings together transparency, community and action to reduce and eliminate plastic waste. Members convene to discuss strategies, projects, outcomes, and research. They engage in formal training. They benchmark their performance and track their progress. They replicate and scale high-impact projects and programs with expert and peer mentoring—moving their commitments into achieved milestones. The flagship nations that have joined as launching partners are Fiji, Curacao and Seychelles. In addition to the Ocean Recovery Alliance, other founders of the consortium are Island Impact, Columbia University, Influent Solutions, and Frontline Waste.

More information can be found at www.CAPP.global

About Ocean Recovery Alliance

Ocean Recovery Alliance is an NGO based in Hong Kong and California, with over 10 years of focused work on bringing creative solutions to the reduction of plastic pollution to businesses, governments, education and the global community. It has worked with the World Bank, UN Environment (UNEP) and Clinton Global Initiative, and was awarded the 2018 Prince's Award from Prince Albert of Monaco for its work for the ocean across a broad spectrum of users, from youth, to companies and governments. Its programs include the Global Alert app which allows people to report trash hotspots anywhere in the world's waterways and coastlines, the Plastic Disclosure Project (PDP), a methodology for businesses and governments to measure their plastic footprints, and the Plasticity Forum on innovations for plastic in its second life. The group uses environmental entrepreneurship to bring awareness, education, innovations and solutions to reduce plastic pollution on a global scale, which can be replicated across communities in any country.