

27 August 2011 **The theme for the 2011 Clean-up the World Event inspires and empowers communities in Tonga and around the world to 'Clean, fix and conserve their environment.'**

Clean Up the World Weekend in Tonga was held from 26-27 August, where groups, organisations, schools and businesses from all over Tonga unite on 'Clean Up the World' weekend to take action at a local level to address global environment issues.

The initiative was led by the Government's Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and the Ministry of Health in a joint effort with the Tonga Waste Authority in organizing and promoting the event.



Last year, Tonga held the 7th Clean-up the World event where over 500 people signed up to participate in the nationwide clean-up programme.

This year, across many regions communities implemented recycling programmes, restoration projects, tree planting and educational activities in support of the United Nations 2011 International Year of Forests.

It is expected that millions across the globe cleaned their local parks, waterways and forests in a bid to restore and protect nature on Clean Up the World Weekend, which was held globally on 16 - 18 September, and included an estimated 35 million volunteers from 130 countries.

The campaign, held in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), is in its 19th year and works at the grassroots level to mobilise global communities to clean up, fix up and conserve their local environments.

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