

CIRCULAR

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TO:

SPREP National Focal Points for Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu

DATE: 28 September 2023

CIRCULAR: 23/85

SUBJECT: Pacific BioScapes Programme Inaugural Steering Committee Meeting

Dear Members,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the Inaugural Steering Committee Meeting for the European Union funded Pacific Biodiversity and Sustainable Land/Seascapes Programme (Pacific BioScapes).

The Pacific BioScapes Programme seeks to contribute to the sustainable development of Pacific SIDS by supporting and improving the management and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, through the following two Key Result Areas (KRA):

Key Result Area 1: *Capacities of the Pacific region and countries to effectively manage coastal and marine biodiversity and enhance resilience to climate change are strengthened.*

Key Result Area 2: *Regional, national, and local efforts to assess, conserve, protect, manage and sustainably use marine and terrestrial biodiversity are supported.*

The purpose of this circular is to invite you to participate in the two (2) day Pacific BioScapes Programme Inaugural Steering Committee Meeting in Suva, Fiji on the 23rd to 24th November 2023. The meeting will seek to not only inform all participating countries of the programme goal and objectives, but to seek your strategic advice on the technical delivery of the programme's activities to be implemented 'on the ground' in 11 countries and regionally.

The Pacific BioScapes Programme will fund travel and DSA for one representative from each participating country, i.e., *Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu*, to Suva, Fiji, to participate in the meeting. Countries are welcome to nominate more than one participant, noting that SPREP-sponsored travel is only provided for one (1) representative per country.

We will provide more information about the Meeting including location details and a draft agenda in the coming weeks. Please advise the name and contact details of your country representative(s) to the Pacific BioScapes Programme Inaugural Steering Committee meeting to Mr. Etienne Delattre, Pacific BioScapes Programme Manager, via email at (etienned@sprep.org), with a copy to Mr. Elizur Nashon (elizurn@sprep.org).



Sustainable, transformative and resilient for a **Blue Pacific**

We kindly request that the meeting nomination is submitted no later than **Monday 9th October 2023** to allow us to complete logistics.

Yours sincerely,



Sefanaia Nawadra
Director General

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