

ANSWERS TO CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS

File: AP_2/39
RFT: 2021/020
Date: 05 March 2021
To: Interested suppliers
Contact: Maraea S. Pogi maraeap@sprep.org
Subject: Request for tenders: **Consultancy to undertake Rapid Biological Assessments (BIORAPs) in Vanuatu**

Question 1:

The RFT states that the 'supplier' must reside in Vanuatu. I am assuming that means any outside NGO, regardless of their experience, is not eligible. Can you verify that?

Response:

Refer to RFT 3.1. To be considered for this tender, interested suppliers must meet the following conditions:

a. Currently reside in Vanuatu and be able to demonstrate that he/she is legally entitled to work in Vanuatu **or** be able to demonstrate that the team members that will conduct the survey work currently reside in Vanuatu and are able to demonstrate that he/she is legally entitled to work in Vanuatu.

Question 2:

Is there flexibility for the timing of the surveys and report outputs to the extent that the project could be undertaken in mid to late 2021?

Response:

The timetable provided in the RFT is indicative. SPREP and the Department of Environment, Protection and Conservation will consider each application on their merit. If the consultants are able to demonstrate they have greater expertise to complete the work than other applicants but provide a work plan that sets out delivery milestones later than those indicated then these factors will be considered together and a decision made.



Question 3:

The RFT refers to the SPREP Guidelines for BIORAPs as well as some Vanuatu-specific methods for particular components. The technical nature of the Vanuatu-specific methods has implications for being able to deliver rapid biological assessments for those components, as well as some other requirements of the consultancy relating to training communities in scientific methods and presenting preliminary results during the assessment missions. Please advise if there is scope to either simplify or adjust those services/deliverables that are incompatible with the more technical BIORAP methods being requested or to increase the available budget so all deliverables can be met within the scope of the RFT?

Response:

Interested applicants should note the weighting assigned to each of the criteria listed in section '6. Evaluation criteria'. The percentages assigned to each criteria convey the importance of each and how the evaluation panel will assess submissions. Therefore, in this case, as criteria 6.1.j. has a 5% weighting, applicants should put greater emphasis on satisfying the criteria with higher percentages and may wish to put in applications above USD 75,000 if they feel it is necessary. Alternatively, applicants may wish to submit two options, one that sets out the work that can be delivered with the identified budget of USD 75,000 and one that they feel fully satisfies criteria 6.1.a to 6.1.i. and requires more than USD 75,000 to complete the work.