

## CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS

RFT: 2025-GEFIS-001  
File: AP\_6/5/9  
Date: 04 March 2024  
To: Interested Service Providers  
Contact: Maraea S. Pogi ([maraeap@sprep.org](mailto:maraeap@sprep.org))

**Subject: Development of a landfill wall design for Kiribati under the GEF ISLANDS Pacific Project**

Question	Response
1. Do you have any idea what the budget is?	Approximately USD 114,000
2. If the water is passing under the wall and through the sand of the existing seawall, is there a chance the existing wall is being undermined? Are there any recent surveys of it?	There is a likelihood that the existing wall is undermined at some spots, the key issue is that water moves through the sand naturally, the wall will need to be well keyed to the sand base to stop these flows. interactions of water from inside to outside should be at the speed at which water moves THROUGH sand, not over it. There are photos of the current walls.
3. Although the process appears to be working well now, is it possible it will fail in future? ie will the sand substrate reach "saturation" levels of contaminants at some point, or lose their ability to remain active (like active carbon in a filter)?	If the pathway of the lachate from the landfill to the surrounding waterbody is sufficiently long, this is unlikely to happen before the landfill is completely full. The depth of landfill above the sand substarte is likely of the order of 4m and the type of waste going in is also a factor in mitigating this problem. Betio Landfill has been filled for about 30 years and most just capped off and this saturation point does not appear to have been reached.
4. Is the substrate the same where the new wall is planned? Do you have any plans of where the new wall is planned?	yes, very similar conditions at all potential new sites as existing sites, as new landfill is most likely an extension onto existing landfill areas

5. Do you have any plans and cross sections of the existing walls?	We have simple schematics across the walls, but we do have a number of photos of the original construction process that will be available for review and inspection. Also, one of our team was involved in the original construction work.
6. Are there any existing geotechnical studies available for the proposed landfill sites, or will new investigations be required?	No formal Geotech has been done, and there is no legislative requirement for a geotech in Kiribati.
7. Where is the project footprint, and what is the length of the proposed wall and area of reclamation?	The tender requirement for new landfill wall is to devise a largely generic wall design and costing that can be used to develop specific projects to improve and extend existing landfills on Tarawa into the lagoon.
8. Do we have current surveys of the area?	We have drone surveys of the landfills themselves. Other survey data may be available from GIS sources in Kiribati, we don't know.
9. Can you provide more details on the availability and sourcing of local materials (what material is available). Are there any anticipated challenges with sourcing local materials?	A local SOE operates a Clam type dredge operation. The existing walls were built using locally sourced sand and aggregate. This is a significant part of the challenge. Importing aggregate at large scale is very expensive and expected to be prohibitive. There is obviously no local hard rock, we are on an atoll.
10. What would be the project timeframe for using the reclamation (this can inform reclamation methods if you wish to build light industry on top).	The tender does not require any look into reclamation methods, we have experience in that area. Fill times of typical landfill space here is of the order of 10 - 20 years before turning to a light industrial or recreation use.
11. Are there any anticipated challenges in meeting the local regulatory standards with the current landfill design?	Any bidder should anticipate challenges at every step. The involvement and coordination with the Ministry of Infrastructure will address these points, and allowing sufficient time in visits to properly consult with the Ministry to ensure that any design that is developed is acceptable to them is essential to mitigate such challenges.
12. The RFT does not give information on the proposed new landfill site(s). Are these still in the process of being identified	locations are not yet fixed, but the topography and geotech aspects will all be very similar for all potential locations;

or can location(s) be provided to support tender response?	
13. Further to the above, are the structural seawall design drawings intended to be generic across Tarawa (and wider pacific atolls), i.e. not site specific.	Yes, the design will largely be generic to assist with planning and budgeting for future landfills, and quite possibly assist other Pacific Atoll nations;
14. Can you provide indication of the available budget for this work to allow respondents to understand expected level of effort.	Refer Q1.  We expect a detailed effort to produce a generic costed design that is built using materials and equipment typically likely to be available on atolls in the pacific.

**NOTE:**

1. Please find additional information resources have been uploaded that provide some additional insight to atoll landfill construction design requirements and considerations that may be useful to proposal designs.
2. This tender has been extended to **19 March 2025, midnight Apia Samoa time.**