

## CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS

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To: Interested Service Providers  
Contact: James Faiumu ([jamesf@sprep.org](mailto:jamesf@sprep.org))

**Subject: Request for Tenders - Finalising Samoa's Coral Reef Monitoring Plan and Advancing Coral and Mangrove Restoration and Community Planning**

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### **Question 1: Will SPREP cover international travel costs for the relevant consultant(s)?**

SPREP will cover a limited amount of international travel costs for the relevant consultant(s) to attend and support in-country activities and consultations in Samoa, in coordination with MNRE.

### **Question 2: How many in-country trips are anticipated for this assignment?**

The number of in-country missions will be determined jointly with MNRE. However, it is anticipated that at least one visit will be required for the finalisation of the Samoa National Coral Reef Monitoring Plan and at least one additional visit for the coral reef and mangrove restoration planning and implementation activities.

### **Question 3: Is the USD \$35,000 amount for project travel costs, additional to the project budget? Is it expected that a budget will be prepared for the travel cost amount? Is USD \$35,000 totally dedicated to consultancy fees?**

The indicative budget of USD \$35,000 is allocated solely for consultancy fees. A limited separate budget, managed by SPREP and MNRE, exists to support in-country travel, stakeholder consultations, venue hire, and other related activity costs.

However, consultants are expected to include in their proposal an estimated budget for travel and in-country visits to Samoa, outlining the proposed number of anticipated missions, duration, and indicative costs to support effective planning and coordination.

### **Question 4: Do you have expectations around the amount of community consultation required for the project, and to what extent consultation can be combined across the coral and mangrove components?**

The level and scope of community consultation will be determined in coordination with MNRE. MNRE will lead community engagement activities, with the consultant providing technical, facilitation, and documentation support as required. Where feasible, consultations may be combined across the coral and mangrove components to maximise efficiency and ensure integrated outcomes.

**Question 5: Are the 13 communities referred to geographically dispersed, and to what extent?**

Yes. The 13 participating communities are geographically dispersed across Samoa. However, it is not expected that the consultant will need to visit every site individually. Consultation and engagement activities will be prioritised and coordinated through MNRE to ensure representation and effectiveness.

**Question 6: Is the extent of coral reef to be monitored already determined in the monitoring plan?**

Yes. The extent and framework for coral reef monitoring have been defined in the existing national monitoring plan. The consultancy will focus on reviewing, refining, and finalising the plan in consultation with MNRE and national stakeholders.

**Question 7: Are all options for proposed coral reef restoration sites already identified?**

Preliminary restoration sites have been identified within the draft national monitoring plan. These sites will be reviewed and confirmed through this consultancy in collaboration with MNRE and relevant stakeholders.

**Question 8: Is it intended that the mangrove restoration plan applies to the Moata'a mangrove habitat or broader/elsewhere?**

The mangrove restoration plan will primarily focus on the Moata'a mangrove habitat as a key demonstration site. However, lessons learned, methods, and recommendations from this plan will be designed to inform broader national mangrove restoration and management initiatives led by MNRE.

**Question 9: Will the consultant be in charge of implementing the rapid assessment of mangroves and coral reefs, or only responsible for providing technical input and coordination support without field participation?**

The consultant will provide technical advice, guidance, and coordination support to MNRE during the rapid assessment activities. MNRE will lead field implementation, with the consultant participating as necessary to support methodological consistency, data interpretation, and integration of findings into the monitoring and restoration plans.

**Question 10:**

**"Facilitate and document two national stakeholder consultations, in conjunction with MNRE, to refine and validate the monitoring plan." Does this mean the consultant does not have to participate in these two consultations?**

The consultant is expected to actively support the facilitation and documentation of the two national stakeholder consultations, in close coordination with MNRE, and will be expected to attend at

least one if not both. These consultations are essential for incorporating feedback from the consultations, finalising and validating the Samoa National Coral Reef Monitoring Plan.

**Question 11: “Facilitate a community consultation process with the support from MNRE on the initial draft to gather feedback and ensure alignment with local values, knowledge, and priorities.” Does this mean the consultant does not have to participate in this consultation?**

This will be determined jointly with MNRE; however, the consultant is expected to support the facilitation and documentation of the consultation process. MNRE will lead the engagement with communities, while the consultant ensures technical quality and alignment with the project’s objectives and community priorities.

**Question 12: Can you please provide an indicative budget for this project?**

The overall Pacific BioScapes Programme budget for Samoa includes multiple activities implemented under different components and work streams. The consultancy forms one part of this broader investment, with an indicative allocation of USD \$35,000 for professional fees as specified in the Terms of Reference. SPREP will not be providing a further breakdown of the total budget, as it encompasses several interlinked activities delivered in partnership with MNRE and other national stakeholders.