

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

RFT: 2026-ClimSA-002
File: AP_3/35
Date: 11 March 2026
To: Interested consultants
From: Naheed H, PM ClimSA

Subject: Request for tenders (RFT): Samoa Meteorological Service (SMS) Website Development for the European Union Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Application (ClimSA) project, EXTENDED

1. Background

- 1.1. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is an intergovernmental organisation charged with promoting cooperation among Pacific islands countries and territories to protect and improve their environment and ensure sustainable development.
- 1.2. SPREP approaches the environmental challenges faced by the Pacific guided by four simple Values. These values guide all aspects of our work:
 - We value the Environment
 - We value our People
 - We value high quality and targeted Service Delivery
 - We value Integrity
- 1.3. For more information, see: www.sprep.org.

2. Specifications: statement of requirement

- 2.1. SPREP and Samoa Meteorological Services (SMS) wishes to call for tenders from qualified companies (Developers) who can offer their services to design and implement a modern, responsive, and fully integrated website for the Samoa Meteorological Service.
- 2.2. A critical requirement of this project is interoperability with the existing SMS smartphone application. The website and mobile app must share design principles, data architecture, and user interface logic to ensure a seamless user experience.
- 2.3. The Terms of Reference of the consultancy are set out in Annex A.
- 2.3. The successful consultant must supply the services to the extent applicable, in compliance with SPREP's Values and Code of Conduct: <https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/sprep-organisational-values-code-of-conduct.pdf>. Including SPREP's policy on Child Protection, Environmental Social Safeguards, Fraud Prevention & Whistleblower Protection and Gender and Social Inclusion.
- 2.4. SPREP Standard Contract Terms and Conditions are non-negotiable

3. Conditions: information for applicants

- 3.1. To be considered for this tender, interested consultants must meet the following conditions:

- i. Submit a detailed Curriculum vitae for all proposed personnel, detailing tertiary qualification in website development or related fields and previous relevant experience for each proposed personnel;
 - ii. Provide three referees relevant to this tender submission, including the most recent (in the last 5-7 years);
 - iii. Complete the **tender application form** provided (*Please note you are required to complete in full all areas requested in the Form, particularly the Statements to demonstrate you meet the selection criteria – DO NOT refer us to your CV. Failure to do this will mean your application will **not** be considered*).
Provide examples of past related work outputs
For the Technical and Financial proposals you may attach these separately.
 - iv. Must meet local registration requirements where the consultant is based.
- 3.2 Tenderers must declare any areas that may constitute conflict of interest related to this tender and sign the **conflict of interest form** provided.
- 3.3 **Tenderer is deemed ineligible due to association with exclusion criteria, including** bankruptcy, insolvency or winding up procedures, breach of obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions, fraudulent or negligent practice, violation of intellectual property rights, under a judgment by the court, grave professional misconduct including misrepresentation, corruption, participation in a criminal organisation, money laundering or terrorist financing, child labour and other trafficking in human beings, deficiency in capability in complying main obligations, creating a shell company, and being a shell company.
- 3.4 Tenderer must sign a declaration of **honour form** together with their application, certifying that they do not fall **into** any of the exclusion situations cited in 3.3 above and where applicable, that they have taken adequate measures to remedy the situation.

4. Submission guidelines

- 4.1. Tender documentation should demonstrate that the interested consultant satisfies the conditions stated above and in the Terms of Reference and is capable of meeting the specifications and timeframes. Documentation must also include supporting examples to address the evaluation criteria.
- 4.2. Tender documentation should be submitted in English and outline the interested consultant's complete proposal:
- a) **SPREP Tender Application form and conflict of interest form.** (*Please note you are required to complete in full all areas requested in the Form, particularly the Statements to demonstrate you meet the selection criteria – DO NOT refer us to your CV. Failure to do this will mean your application will **not** be considered*).
Provide examples of past related work outputs
For the Technical and Financial proposals you may attach these separately.
 - b) **Honour form**
 - c) **Curriculum Vitae** of the proposed personnel to demonstrate that they have the requisite skills and experience to carry out this contract successfully.
 - d) **Technical Proposal** which contains the details to achieve the tasks outlined in the Terms of Reference.
 - e) **Financial Proposal** – provide a detailed outline of the costs involved in successfully delivering this project submitted in United States Dollars (USD) and inclusive of all associated taxes.
 - f) Where relevant provide:
 - i. Business registration/license (For Entities/ Individual consultant's as per relevant national legislations)

- ii. Tax Identification Number (TIN) Letter (If applicable for Individual consultant's as per relevant national legislations)

- 4.3. Provide three referees relevant to this tender submission, including the most recent work completed.
- 4.4. Tenderers/bidders shall bear all costs associated with preparing and submitting a proposal, including cost relating to contract award; SPREP will, in no case, be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.
- 4.5. The tenderer/bidder might be requested to provide additional information relating to their submitted proposal, if the Tender Evaluation Committee requests further information for the purposes of tender evaluation. SPREP may shortlist one or more Tenderers and seek further information from them.
- 4.6. The submitted tender proposal must be for the entirety of the Terms of Reference and not divided into portions which a potential tenderer/bidder can provide services for.
- 4.7. The Proposal must remain valid for 90 days from date of submission.
- 4.8. Tenderers must insist on an acknowledgement of receipt of tender.

5. Tender Clarification

- 5.1. a. Any clarification questions from applicants must be submitted by email to procurement@sprep.org before 23 March 2026. A summary of all questions received complete with an associated response posted on the SPREP website www.sprep.org/tender by 02 April 2026.
- b. The only point of contact for all matters relating to the RFT and the RFT process is the SPREP Procurement Officer.
- c. SPREP will determine what, if any, response should be given to a Tenderer question. SPREP will circulate Tenderer questions and SPREP's response to those questions to all other Tenderers using the SPREP Tenders page (<https://www.sprep.org/tenders>) without disclosing the source of the questions or revealing any confidential information of a Tenderer.
- d. Tenderers should identify in their question what, if any, information in the question the Tenderer considers is confidential.
- e. If a Tenderer believes they have found a discrepancy, error, ambiguity, inconsistency or omission in this RFT or any other information given or made available by SPREP, the Tenderer should promptly notify the Procurement Officer setting out the error in sufficient detail so that SPREP may take the corrective action, if any, it considers appropriate.

6. Evaluation criteria

- 6.1. SPREP will select a preferred consultant on the basis of SPREP's evaluation of the extent to which the documentation demonstrates that the tenderer offers the best value for money, and that the tender satisfies the following criteria:
- 6.2. A proposal will be rejected if it fails to achieve 70% or more in the technical criteria and its accompanying financial proposal shall not be evaluated.

I. Technical Score – 80%

PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa T +685 21929 F +685 20231 sprep@sprep.org www.sprep.org

A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

Criteria	Detail	Weighting
Qualifications	A minimum of a post graduate degree in website development, computer science, or a related field. Submissions must include Curriculum Vitae for all proposed personnel, including the designated Project Manager.	10%
Experience	Demonstrated 7–10 years of professional experience in delivering high-level digital solutions for meteorological and early warning. This must include a track record of 3–5 successfully completed projects of a similar type and scale (provide links to websites), specifically involving similar services (integrating web and mobile platforms) within the Pacific region.	10%
	Evidence of expertise in the recommended technology stack: HTML5, React.js/Vue.js (frontend), Strong UI/UX and web GIS integration skills and Node.js/PHP with Payload CMS (backend). Experience must specifically include web GIS integration (Leaflet.js/Mapbox), scientific programming, and the integration of meteorological or early warning data sources.	10%
	Demonstrated ability to manage complex timelines and coordinate with external teams (specifically the mobile app developers). Proven excellence in English verbal and written communication, project reporting, and the ability to work effectively under limited supervision.	15%
Technical Proposal / Methodology	A comprehensive methodology detailing all activities to deliver against the Terms of Reference. This must include a clear timeline with milestones (matching the 24-week schedule), a robust quality assurance plan, and detailed training and maintenance schedules with accompanying manuals.	35%

II. Financial Score – 20%

The following formula shall be used to calculate the financial score for ONLY the proposals which score 70% or more in the technical criteria:

$$\text{Financial Score} = a \times \frac{b}{c}$$

Where:

a = maximum number of points allocated for the Financial Score

b = Lowest bid amount

c = Total bidding amount of the proposal

7. Variation or Termination of the Request for Tender

- 7.1 a. SPREP may amend, suspend or terminate the RFT process at any time.
- b. In the event that SPREP amends the RFT or the conditions of tender, it will inform potential Tenderers using the SPREP Tenders page (<https://www.sprep.org/tenders>).
- c. Tenderers are responsible to regularly check the SPREP website Tenders page for any updates and downloading the relevant RFT documentation and addendum for the RFT if it is interested in providing a Tender Response.

- d. If SPREP determines that none of the Tenders submitted represents value for money, that it is otherwise in the public interest or SPREP's interest to do so, SPREP may terminate this RFT process at any time. In such cases SPREP will cancel the tender, issue a cancellation notice and inform unsuccessful bidders accordingly.

8. Deadline

- 8.1. **The due date for submission of the tender is: 10 April 2026, midnight (Apia, Samoa local time).**
- 8.2. Late submissions will be returned unopened to the sender.
- 8.3. Please send all tenders clearly marked **'RFT 2026-ClimSA-002: Samoa Meteorological Service (SMS) Website Development for the European Union Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Application (ClimSA) project, EXTENDED.**

Mail: SPREP

Attention: Procurement Officer

PO Box 240

Apia, SAMOA

Email: tenders@sprep.org (MOST PREFERRED OPTION)

Fax: 685 20231

Person: Submit by hand in the tenders' box at SPREP reception,
Vailima, Samoa.

Note: Submissions made to the incorrect portal will not be considered by SPREP. If SPREP is made aware of the error in submission prior to the deadline, the applicant will be advised to resubmit their application to the correct portal. However, if SPREP is not made aware of the error in submission until after the deadline, then the application is considered late and will be returned unopened to the sender.

SPREP reserves the right to reject any or all tenders and the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

SPREP reserves the right to enter into negotiation with respect to one or more proposals prior to the award of a contract, split an award/awards and to consider localised award/awards between any proposers in any combination, as it may deem appropriate without prior written acceptance of the proposers.

A binding contract is in effect, once signed by both SPREP and the successful tenderer. Any contractual discussion/work carried out/goods supplied prior to a contract being signed does not constitute a binding contract.

For any complaints regarding the Secretariat's tenders please refer to the Complaints section on the SPREP website <http://www.sprep.org/accountability/complaints>

Annex A: Terms of Reference

Website Development – Aligned with Smartphone Application

1. Assignment Title

Development of the Samoa Meteorological Service (SMS) website

2. Contracting Entity

Samoa Meteorological Service (SMS), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), Government of Samoa

3. Post Level

Company or Contractor (hereafter referred to as “Developer”)

4. Contract Duration

3 months of work spread over 6 Months (24 Weeks)

5. Background and Rationale

Samoa is highly exposed to natural hazards such as tropical cyclones, floods, tsunamis, droughts, earthquakes, and sea-level rise. The Samoa Meteorological Service (SMS) is mandated to provide timely and reliable weather, climate, and hazard information to support national preparedness, risk reduction, and resilience-building.

For many years, SMS has relied on a website built on outdated technologies, which has proven increasingly difficult to manage, maintain, and upgrade. The aging infrastructure has limited the service’s ability to deliver real-time information, integrate new data sources, and ensure accessibility across devices. This has resulted in delays, limited reach, and reduced impact of critical warnings and forecasts, especially during hazardous events when timely communication is essential.

With the development of a new smartphone application already underway, there is now an urgent need to upgrade the website to ensure that both platforms are fully aligned. It is mandatory that the website and mobile app are compatible and interoperable, sharing design, data architecture, and user interface principles, to ensure that the delivery of meteorological and climate services is seamless, real-time, and high-performing. Compatibility between these platforms will maximize efficiency, minimize duplication of effort, and ensure a consistent experience for all users.

This initiative is made possible through the support of the ClimSA (Climate Services and Related Applications) project, which aims to strengthen climate services across the region. Through this support, SMS now has the opportunity to build a modern, integrated, and resilient digital infrastructure that meets the growing needs of stakeholders and end-users across all sectors, from agriculture and water to disaster risk management and public safety.

The redevelopment of the SMS website will play a critical role in enhancing early warning dissemination, increasing public awareness, supporting decision-making, and building long-term climate resilience in Samoa.

6. Objectives

- To design and develop a new national website that aligns with the design, structure, and functionality of the SMS mobile application
- To ensure interoperability and data consistency between the website and mobile app
- To enhance the public's access to:
 - General and location-specific weather forecasts
 - Tropical cyclone tracking
 - Severe weather warnings
 - Earthquake and tsunami alerts
 - Drought and climate outlooks
 - Disaster reporting tools
 - Sectoral climate services

7. Scope of Work

The selected developer will design and implement a modern, responsive, and fully integrated website for the Samoa Meteorological Service. The website must align with the existing mobile app in terms of architecture, design, content, and data management to ensure a seamless and unified user experience across platforms.

7.1. Preliminary Review

- Conduct detailed needs assessments with SMS staff and key partners.
- Review the existing SMS web infrastructure, current content, and mobile app architecture to identify integration points and improvement areas.

7.2. Website Design and Frontend Development

Component A: User Interface and User Experience

- Align UI/UX design with the existing SMS mobile app (consistent colour schemes, icons, and layout logic).
- Ensure a mobile-first, responsive design compatible across all devices and browsers.
- Comply with international accessibility standards and web best practices (WCAG 2.2 and GDPR).

Core Pages to Include:

- **Home Page** with dynamic alert dashboard (all active warnings)
- **Forecasts:** Daily and 7-day weather outlooks
- **Cyclone and Tsunami Warnings**
- **Drought Outlook**
- **Earthquake Reports**
- **Marine and Aviation Forecasts**
- **Climate Outlooks and Summaries**
- **Traditional Knowledge Indicators**
- **Disaster Reporting:** Public-submitted forms with media upload capabilities
- **News and Media Releases**
- **Educational Resources and Public Awareness Materials**
- **Interactive Maps and Visualization Tools**

7.3. Backend Development and System Integration

Component B: Data Synchronization and Backend Logic

- Develop a robust backend infrastructure integrated with existing mobile app systems.

- Ensure real-time synchronization of all data sources used across both platforms.
- Implement shared APIs for weather alerts, forecasts, bulletins, and emergency notifications.
- Utilize a secure, scalable CMS to enable efficient content updates.
- Integrate with internal systems and third-party data providers (e.g., regional climate and hazard monitoring centers).
- Implement secure user authentication mechanisms where necessary.
- Enable data version control and auto-archiving features.

7.4. Unified Administration and Content Management

Component C: Administrative Dashboard

- Create a single, centralized administrative dashboard for SMS staff to manage both website and mobile app content.
- Capabilities include:
 - Publishing and updating forecasts and bulletins
 - Managing alerts and notifications
 - Uploading and archiving media and documents
 - Managing public-submitted disaster reports
 - Configuring and sending push notifications (if supported by mobile app platform)

7.5. Testing, Validation, and Launch

Component D: Quality Assurance and Interoperability

- Perform interoperability testing with the mobile app team to ensure cross-platform consistency.
- Conduct joint User Acceptance Testing (UAT) with SMS staff and selected end-users.
- Address and resolve any discrepancies in content display, navigation, or data accuracy.

7.6. Training, Documentation, and Support

- Deliver comprehensive training sessions for SMS staff on CMS usage, content updating, and basic troubleshooting.
- Provide user and technical documentation to support internal capacity building.
- Offer ongoing technical support and maintenance during the agreed post-launch warranty period.

7.7 Cloud Hosting, Redundancy, and Long-Term Security

To ensure the Samoa Meteorological Service (SMS) website remains available to users during critical natural disaster events, the Developer must establish a redundant and resilient high-performance cloud-based hosting solution. This environment must be configured to prioritize uptime and data integrity under high-traffic conditions.

The following requirements must be addressed in the Technical and Financial proposals:

- **Cloud Infrastructure:** The website must be hosted on a reputable cloud platform, such as Amazon Web Services (AWS) or Google Cloud Platform (GCP). The setup must include offsite backups and a staging server that synchronizes correctly with the production server.

- **10-Year Advance Hosting:** The Developer is required to facilitate and include in their financial proposal the advance payment for cloud hosting services for a period of ten (10) years. This is to ensure the long-term sustainability of the platform beyond the initial project lifecycle.
- **Security and Managed Services:** The proposal must include a security fee covering a 10-year period. This fee must encompass:
 - Continuous security monitoring and hardening against cyber threats (e.g., ransomware or DDoS attacks).
 - Maintenance of SSL certificates and secure authentication mechanisms.
 - Regular software and security patching for the CMS and backend frameworks.
- **Total Cost of Ownership (TCO):** The Developer must provide technical documentation detailing the hosting configuration, credentials, and a full TCO cost implication report for the entire 10-year period

Summary of Key Deliverables

- Modern, mobile-first website fully aligned with SMS mobile app
- Real-time data integration and alert synchronization
- Unified content management system and administrative tools
- Full stakeholder engagement, testing, and training
- Cloud hosting of the website and hosting security
- Compliance with security, accessibility, and performance standards

8. Deliverables

1	Inception report with work plan and timeline	Week 2
2	Wireframes and mockups based on mobile app design	Week 6
3	Final approved web UI/UX, aligned with app visuals	Week 10
4	Integrated backend with shared APIs & CMS, cloud hosting and hosting security	Week 14
5	Beta testing and app sync validation report CI/ CD tests on each Pull Request/ Merge Request • Coding standards • No deprecated function calls • Smoke test • No security patches required	Week 18
6	Final public launch of website Production code pushed to SPREP GitLab	Week 20
7	Technical documentation (admin guide, hosting, APIs)	Week 22
8	Staff training and project handover Final report detailing outcomes, challenges, and recommendations Open tickets pushed to SPREP GitLab	Week 24

9. Functional Requirements

All core functions of the mobile app must be mirrored or made accessible on the website, including real-time warnings, interactive maps, location-based forecasts, disaster reporting, and push or pop-up notifications.

- Real-time multi-hazard warnings (color-coded CAP-compliant)
- Interactive cyclone and tsunami tracking maps
- Location-based forecasts
- 7-day and severe weather outlooks
- Climate and seasonal bulletins (text & visual summaries)
- Drought status and projections
- Earthquake event logs
- Disaster reporting feature with geotag and image upload
- Push or pop-up notifications (browser-based alerts where applicable)
- Searchable archives and downloadable PDFs
- User feedback and engagement forms
- Prompt user to install the app
- Integration with the mobile app so that notifications or alerts are pushed out once but available on both platforms

Highly recommended (optional)

- Integration with the SPREP Virtual Library and Data Portal to harvest and display country specific publications, videos, resources and data using JSON:API and Open Project standard (OCOF reports, etc)

Non-functional Requirements

- Mobile-first, responsive design compatible across all devices and browsers.
- Meet Web Accessibility Standards (WCAG 2.2)
- Meet GDPR standards for privacy

10. Technology Recommendations

- Frontend: HTML 5 with React.js or Vue.js (mobile app uses Flutter)
- Backend: Node.js, PHP (mobile app uses Payload CMS)
- CMS: Open-source with API hooks (Drupal or Payload CMS)
- Mapping: Leaflet.js, Mapbox
- Hosting: Cloud-based (AWS, GCP)
- Integration: Shared APIs, notification services, real-time databases

11. Collaboration with Mobile App Team

The Developer must:

- Hold regular coordination meetings with the app development team
- Review app design and data models
- Share backend and API specs
- Align delivery milestones for consistency

12. Qualifications and Experience

Criteria	Detail	Weighting
1. Qualifications	A minimum of a post graduate degree in website development, computer science, or a related field. Submissions must include Curriculum Vitae for all proposed personnel, including the designated Project Manager.	10%
2. Experience	Demonstrated 7–10 years of professional experience in delivering high-level digital solutions for meteorological	10%

	and early warning. This must include a track record of 3–5 successfully completed projects of a similar type and scale (provide links to websites), specifically involving similar services (integrating web and mobile platforms) within the Pacific region.	
3. Technical Experience	Evidence of expertise in the recommended technology stack: HTML5, React.js/Vue.js (frontend), Strong UI/UX and web GIS integration skills and Node.js/PHP with Payload CMS (backend). Experience must specifically include web GIS integration (Leaflet.js/Mapbox), scientific programming, and the integration of meteorological or early warning data sources.	10%
4. Project Management & Communication	Demonstrated ability to manage complex timelines and coordinate with external teams (specifically the mobile app developers). Proven excellence in English verbal and written communication, project reporting, and the ability to work effectively under limited supervision.	15%
5. Technical Proposal	A comprehensive methodology detailing all activities to deliver against the Terms of Reference. This must include a clear timeline with milestones (matching the 24-week schedule), a robust quality assurance plan, and detailed training and maintenance schedules with accompanying manuals.	35%

13. Budget / Travel

Submit an itemized budget or financial proposal with cost breakdowns by task and resource. Separate the cost for travel associated with the delivery of this work from the consultancy fee and activity/tasks. Clearly indicate any shared development with the mobile app to avoid duplication.

14. Alignment with ClimSA Objectives

This proposal aligns with ClimSA's goals of strengthening access to climate services and improving the capacity of ACP countries to manage climate risks. The website upgrade directly supports improved climate data dissemination, enhances community resilience, and promotes informed decision-making across sectors

15. Submission Requirements

Applicants must provide:

- Company profile and relevant portfolio
- CVs of key personnel
- Methodology and work plan
- Budget/Financial proposal
- Warranty/support plan
- Business registration documents

16. Work Arrangements

The Developer (Company or contractor) will work under the direction of the SPREP Pacific Met Desk and coordinate with the RCC Coordinator, the Samoa National Technical Support Officer and the ClimSA Pacific Project to ensure all deliverables meet requirements. The

work can be delivered remotely with scheduled virtual or face-to-face consultations with Samoa Meteorological Services, SPREP and relevant agencies.