



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



10th Pacific Islands Conference

**NATURE CONSERVATION
AND PROTECTED AREAS**

Nature Conservation Action for a Resilient Pacific

Noumea, New Caledonia

19-24 April 2020

ANSWERS TO CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS

File: AP_2/35/1
Date: 11 March 2020
To: Interested suppliers
Contact: Maraea S. Pogi maraeap@sprep.org
Subject: Request for tenders: **Training Provider to Scope, Design and Deliver Training on Nature-Based Solutions for Infrastructure Providers in Fiji and Solomon Islands.**

Q1. Target audience. If possible, we wish to know the level of the target audience. Will they be junior/mid/senior level participants? Also, I understand the target audience is a mix of people working in government procurement, engineers, etc., in the infrastructure space but would the majority of the audience be from the public or private sector?

Response: Target audience will be technical and management level (mid/senior). Public/private split is not clear at this point. We will aim for a 50:50 split to include government procurers and private sector contractors.

Q2. Partners. Are there any particular organisations locally or internationally that you wish us to partner with?

Response: We would look to include slots for Monash University's RISE project in Fiji (<https://www.rise-program.org/>). The training provider will be expected to engage with IUCN and incorporate the new Global Standard for the Design and Verification of Nature-based Solutions (<https://www.iucn.org/theme/ecosystem-management/our-work/a-global-standard-nature-based-solutions>). The Ministry of Waterways and Environment in Fiji has a riverbank stabilisation programme using vetiver grass and is developing a technology for plantable 'gabion baskets'. They also have a programme to dredge 130 rivers in Fiji to improve water flow and reduce flood risk. [See Fiji Sun article 9/10 March]. It would be a good idea to also touch base with the Geoscience Division at SPC for possible relevant inputs. In Solomon Islands links should be established with the 'Climate Resilient Honiara' Project (CRH) undertaken by UN-Habitat and RMIT in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Land, Housing and Survey.

Q3. Training venue logistics. How much SPREP presence/support will we have on the ground?



SPREP

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



10th Pacific Islands Conference

NATURE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTED AREAS

Nature Conservation Action for a Resilient Pacific

Noumea, New Caledonia

19-24 April 2020

Response: SPREP will arrange and support the workshops on the ground. SPREP will cover all workshop and travel costs so these costs do not need to be reflected in your financial proposal.

Q4. Participant profiles. When will you share us the participant profiles and will you share us their contact details prior to the consultation workshop? For instance if we were to include an online engagement aspect to this project, are we allowed to engage them prior to the workshop?

Response: Yes that would be fine. We will work towards establishing the participants list once the training provider is recruited and dates are confirmed.

Q5. Risk management - with the current corona virus situation, is there a possibility to do the training online if not possible to enter into these countries, or will dates be pushed back in this instance?

Response: We will consider this option depending on how the situation develops. We need to complete this activity by June as it is being facilitated by the PEBACC project which ends in July. We can reflect in the contract that the training is subject to travel and participation restrictions that may eventuate due to the COVID-19.

UPDATE - SPREP will likely postpone the training to later in the year if it becomes unrealistic to hold it earlier given the developing COVID-19 pandemic. The decision would be made in consultation with the donors and our government partners.

Q6. Daily rates. Are there any particular organisation rates you are used to (e.g. European Commission, UN) as we wish to align with that when considering personnel rates for the financial proposal?

Response: No but for Daily Subsistence Allowance we use 80% of the UN rate.

Q7. It would be appreciated if you can share with us (and prioritise if possible) the areas which are most critical in Fiji and Solomon Islands?

Some focus areas to consider are:

- Transport
- Water resources
- Materials Management
- Waste management
- Energy and ICT
- Buildings
- Geotechnical



SPREP

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



10th Pacific Islands Conference

NATURE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTED AREAS

Nature Conservation Action for a Resilient Pacific

Noumea, New Caledonia

19-24 April 2020

We appreciate that all of these areas are interrelated and important, however could you please respond to this question by either:

- a. listing your critical areas by prioritising the most important to least,
- b. listing your top three most important areas of concern or,
- c. responding in any manner you feel is appropriate

Response: Waste water (from agriculture, industry, settlements, resorts and construction sites) is a priority as it is impacting on the biodiversity and ecosystem services provided by aquifers, rivers and coastal waters. Riverbank and coastal erosion are issues as is coastal infrastructure such as roads, drainage and seawalls. Solid waste management is another but would fall more in the sphere of local government.

Q8. Can you please provide further information about the financing of infrastructure projects in Fiji and Solomon Island? Can your response please refer to the mix of public and private funding?

Response: It is a mix of public and private funding (Fiji: loans; SI: loans and grants. ADB and WB are players in infrastructure support).

Q9. Under "Budget and Payment Schedule", the RFT says "Travel, subsistence and workshop training costs will be covered by SPREP."

Does this mean that the expenses by the selected provider related to these items will be in addition to the indicative budget mentioned (i.e. US\$70,000)?

Response: Yes

Q10. The tender specifies a need for 'certified' traders. What forms of certification are acceptable? Are university lecturers considered to be equivalent to 'certified trainers'?

Response: Yes, but prior experience in applied industry training preferred

Q.11 With the COVID-19 situation, many events and much work-related travel has been cancelled or postponed. We have heard some events due in May have been postponed to October.

Does SPREP expect that the timeframe for this work would shift to later in the year?

Or, alternatively would SPREP consider suspending this tender, and re-issuing it at a later date?

Response: See response to Q5



SPREP

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



10th Pacific Islands Conference

NATURE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTED AREAS

Nature Conservation Action for a Resilient Pacific

Noumea, New Caledonia

19-24 April 2020

Q12. Section 2 of the ToR states that SPREP is seeking applications from **accredited** training providers to do this work. Can i check whether this (i.e. accreditation) is a pre-requisite for this assignment? Or are non-accredited trainers also eligible to tender?

Response: Non formally accredited training providers will be considered, but would have to demonstrate a solid track record in delivering quality training to a similar mix of government and industry stakeholders. All applications should include contact details for three referees.