

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (CONSULTANT SERVICES)

SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SPECIALIST

Federated States of Micronesia

Pacific Regional Connectivity Project 2: Palau - FSM Connectivity Project
World Bank Project Number P130592, Asian Development Bank Grant Number
D004-FM

In 2014 the World Bank (WB) approved the Palau - FSM¹ Connectivity Project (P130592)². The Project Development Objective is to reduce the cost and increase the availability of Internet Communication Technology (ICT) services needed to support social and economic development in the Recipient's territory.

The project includes the following three components:

- Component 1: International Connectivity Infrastructure. The construction of a new cable system for FSM to connect Yap State to the proposed SEA-US Cable and a new cable system to connect Chuuk State to Pohnpei State.
- Component 2: Technical Assistance. Technical assistance, including training, for the ongoing operations and maintenance of the infrastructure, and reformation and development of the FSM Telecommunications Corporation (FSMTC).
- Component 3: Project Management Support. Project management and coordination resources and training, financial management, auditing, monitoring and evaluation and other matters relating to managing the project.

The FSM Government is seeking additional financing from the WB to finance FSM's participation on a regional cable which would link Kiribati, Nauru and Kosrae State to the existing Hannon-Armstrong (HANTRU)-1 cable that connects Pohnpei to Guam. Concurrently, the Kiribati Government is seeking financing from the WB to finance Kiribati's participation, and the Nauru Government is seeking financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The FSM Department of Transportation, Communication, and Infrastructure (DTCI), as the Implementing Agency for project, is seeking the services of a Social Safeguards Specialist to complete a social assessment of the Kosrae-Kiribati-Nauru connection to HANTRU-1 Cable and prepare the relevant land acquisition and resettlement instruments.

The Social Safeguards Specialist will work with an Environmental Specialist (engaged under a separate terms of reference) to complete an environmental and social impact assessment (including environmental and social management plan), land acquisition and resettlement assessment and preparation of due diligence documents and Resettlement Action Plans as appropriate.

The Consultant's scope of services includes the following key tasks:

¹ Federated States of Micronesia

² Co-funded with the Asian Development Bank

1. Preparation of a Social Assessment of the benefits and impacts of the project in each country / state, to contribute to the full Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for each country, incorporating an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the design, pre-construction, construction and operational phases;
2. Verification of the project's zone of impact, / area of influence, land and resource ownership and use of the foreshore and sea-bed and verification of land ownership and use of land-based infrastructure, identification of social impacts and preparation of Resettlement Action Plan³ where infrastructure is to be sited on non-Government land; and
3. Preparation of a consultation plan, and assistance to the implementation agencies to undertake consultation with stakeholders and affected local communities in each country.

The Social Assessments and mitigation measures are to be prepared in accordance with the respective country systems supplemented as required by the requirements of development partner safeguards policies. For Kiribati and FSM this is World Bank Operational Policy (OP) 4.01 Environmental Assessment and for Nauru this is the ADB's SPS. Country specific issues will need to be addressed individually with each participating country to ensure proper review and clearance by each country's approval authorities.

The consultant will be expected to visit each country to meet with implementing agencies, conduct surveys, collect data, identify land ownership and use and assist the implementing agency to conduct consultations. The total workload to complete all tasks and deliverables in country and in the home office is estimated at 30 days.

The consultant will need to coordinate site visit with the Environmental Safeguards Specialist, the technical consultant (representing the joint interests for regional cable development of the three participating countries) and the availability of the implementing agencies.

It is expected that the work for this position will begin immediately upon contracting.

The detailed tasks for this position are outlined in the TOR, which is available from DTCI. The TOR is to be read in conjunction with the projects detailed technical specifications and all other relevant project documents.

DTCI now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above-mentioned services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, CVs).

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's [*Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers*](#) (January 2011 edition).

³ In compliance with WB OP 4.12 this will be an Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (ARAP) and complying with ADB's SPS this will be a resettlement plan commensurate with level of impact.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below electronically or by calling during office hours [*9 a.m.- 5p.m. Pohnpei time*]. Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by **September 15, 2016**.

Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure, ICT Division

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