

Regional Pacific Ridge to Reef Project

Call for Submission of Expressions of Interest

Date: 10th November

Closing Date: 30th November, 2020

Background

The Pacific Ridge to Reef programme is a Global Environment Facility (GEF) multi-focal area programme guiding the coordinated investment of GEF grant funding across its focal areas of biodiversity conservation, land degradation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, sustainable land management and international waters in Pacific SIDs. It is a multi-agency initiative involving the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as GEF implementing agencies.

Executed regionally by the Pacific Community through the GEF Pacific Ridge to Reef International Waters project (GEF Pacific R2R IW), the operations of the R2R programme is supported in areas of science-based planning, human capital development, policy and strategic planning, results-based management, and knowledge sharing. Implemented through the GEF Pacific R2R IW project, the R2R national pilot projects are designed to strengthen R2R integration by establishing synergies between sector agencies and the GEF National R2R STAR Projects, governments and communities, civil society and the private sector.

The Vanuatu IW R2R project is a sub-project of the regional R2R project pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement between SPC and the Vanuatu government to deliver specific outputs and achieved mainstreamed R2R approach. The Program is hosted nationally by the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation under the Ministry of Climate Change and Adaptation, and thus invites qualified consultants or team of consultants to submit their expression of interest adjacent to the related consultancy work defined below.

Overview

The R2R Program incorporates a R2R Science to Policy Framework with significant focus towards the development of national and regional Strategic Action Frameworks for ICM/IWRM and the supporting documents, national State of the Coast Reports and Diagnostic Reports.

The SoC diagnostic technical reports (Site Diagnostic and Island Diagnostic reports) are important basis for the review and development of the Coast or State of the Islands (SOC or SOI) for evidence based decision making to mainstream the ridge to reef approach in natural resource management and planning. Understanding the present situation of the natural resources and its corresponding stressors will help ensure effective management and thus securing sustainable flow of goods and services.

Therefore, as outlined below are the consultant work overview.

Demonstration Site Diagnostic Analysis

The overall goal of site diagnosis is to allow for a precise characterization Tagabe Watershed Catchment in relation to Ridge to Reef objectives and program of activities. As such, the diagnosis provides a baseline, against which the effectiveness and efficiency of the project can be evaluated. To this end the operator will update this initial “picture” with mid-term and end-of-project diagnoses.

The objectives of the initial diagnosis will determine the subsequent guidance with respect to diagnosis’ contents. The common framework of Ridge to Reef allows the operator to carry out initial, mid-term and end-of-project diagnoses on the pilot sites in a coherent and consistent manner. As a guiding framework, it leaves room for adjustment to reflect each pilot site’s specificities.

The site diagnostic process provides a structured approach to identify, understand, and prioritize key issues impacting on the ecosystem goods and services. A range of risk assessment tools such as problem-tree and causal links analysis are available to the operator. The diagnostic analysis will scale the relative importance of source and causes (from the ‘immediate’ to the ‘root’) of the problems within the ridge to reef platform, and, to identify potential preventive and remedial actions.

Community led systems analysis is conducted at the identified priority site to articulate the most pressing environmental problems. Outcomes of this analysis, and data collected through the identification and characterization stage are used to identify the most feasible ICM/IWRM policy or intervention options. Focused group discussion and policy identification forums are central aspects of the diagnostic process.

Island Diagnostic Analysis (IDA)-State of Coast Diagnostic (SoC)

The Ridge to Reef Programme Island Diagnostic Analysis (IDA) is derived from the Global International Waters Assessment (GIWA), the GEF Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, and Pacific IWRM Diagnostic Analysis methodologies. The substance of these methodologies have been adapted to suit the broader ecosystem approach of the Ridge to Reef Programme and include terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

The main role of the IDA is to identify, quantify, and set priorities for environmental problems that are cross-sectoral (or from ridge-to-reef) in nature. In particular, the IDA aims to:

Agree on the scope, values, objectives, and responsibilities

Identify & prioritize the ridge to reef issues or problems

Gather and interpret information on the environmental impacts and socio-economic consequences of each problem

Analyze the immediate, underlying, and root causes for each problem, and identify specific practices, sources, locations, and human activity sectors from which environmental degradation arises or threatens to arise.

Identify and evaluate options for reform and action

The resulting approach is a highly collaborative process to be used as a major strategic planning tool for integrated coastal management in country. The IDA provides the factual basis for the strategic component of the IDA/SAP Process – strategic thinking, planning and implementation of the SAP. The IDA should be part of a larger facilitative process of engagement and consultation with all the key stakeholders from the initial IDA steps through to the subsequent development of alternative solutions during the formulation of the ICM/R2R Strategic Action Programme.

Expected Deliverable Outputs

The Consultant(s) must prepare and submit the following outputs: -

1. Proposal outlining a methodology, workplan and process on how the tasks required will be done. This covers a detailed field implementation plan for the diagnostic workshops and related activities.
2. Draft diagnostic workshop reports for the demonstration site diagnostic analysis.
3. Draft stakeholder consultations reports-whether it's a meetings, interview or inception workshops. It should capture workshop process and outcomes, training materials and outcomes.
4. Draft demonstration site diagnostic report with template provided.
5. Draft national diagnostic report which follows a template provided.
6. Finalize and submit both diagnostic reports and draft review by RPCU and the local watershed committee.

7. Collection of scientific and technical information from variety of sources nationally whether private sectors, NGOs and Community-based organizations and other active groups within the community.
8. Field survey notes from the Consultant(s) at the completion of the field surveys or diagnostic workshops; materials including maps, photos and presentation slides provided to the assignment team for final consultations with local communities.
9. Lessons learned report from demonstration site diagnostic analyses consultations and related forums and the preparation of diagnostic reports.
10. Consultancy report with a hard copy and e-copy in MS word version of all reports are to be submitted.
11. A power-point presentation of the diagnostic reports containing the highlights and key results and other relevant details – to be presented by the Lead Consultant and Team in a public seminar to the PSC. Similarly, a separate visit to key communities in a demonstration site can be arranged to present the results and reports.

Methodology

The methods and logistics should follow details set out in the IDA documentation. The main technical role of an IDA is to identify, quantify, and set priorities for environmental problems that are cross-sectoral in nature. The key steps in the TDA process are:

- (i) Collection and analysis of data/information.
- (ii) Identification & prioritization of the cross-sectoral (ridge to reef) problems. For instance, causal loop diagrams of inter-connecting problems for a catchment area
- (iii) Determination of the environmental and socio-economic impacts.
- (iv) Analysis of the immediate, underlying, and root causes – scaling the relative importance of sources and causes of the problem within R2R system or catchment area.
- (v) Identification of leverage points.
- (vi) Brainstorm/ priority systems and plans, ideas and options for reform, intervention, and action.
- (vii) Strategies the new ideas and opportunities– prioritizing alternatives.
- (viii) Drafting the R2R IDA reports (where desired).
- (ix) Policy evaluation: recommendations for policy or reform.

Based on the above, the IDA provides the factual basis for the strategic component of the IDA/SAP, and its process focuses on the following: -

1. IDENTIFYING and quantifying ridge to reef problems

- Identifying problems that are currently affecting the environment
- Take note on the magnitude of the problem, amount of area it affects, the number of household, etc.
- Identify the sources of these problems e.g. Hotel source? Village? Piggery?

2. PRIORITIZING the problems

- After identifying the problems, prioritize the problem - based on its magnitude and effect on the environment, livelihood and the socio-economics

- Prioritizing the problems will hopefully eliminate secondary or lesser problems, to highlight main issues that need urgent attention

3. Gather and Interpret information on the IMPACTS of each problem

- These impacts are obviously environmental and socio-economic in nature
- Note that there is a difference between the PROBLEM and the IMPACT of the problem

4. Analyze the CAUSES for each problem

- To identify causes we may need to dig a little
- The CAUSES may be deep like a tap-root system, so digging will help identify immediate, underlying and root causes of the problems
- This section would also include highlighting specific practices, sources, locations and human activities that have CAUSED the environmental problems or threats

5. Identification and evaluation of options for REFORM and ACTION

- This would be part of the next steps and the way forward
- The IDA actually provides the factual basis for the formulation of a Strategic Action Plan (SAP) for Ridge to Reef.

The IDA needs the establishment of a development team requiring fair representation of different community groups (site diagnostic) and agencies or organizations in government, private sector, civil society, NGOs, INGOs (island diagnostic).

Scope of Work

The main task of the consultant(s) is to undertake a diagnostic analysis for the Tagabe Watershed Catchment including amongst others, with following activities:

- i. Conduct and facilitate diagnostic analysis stakeholder consultations or workshops- for both demonstration site and national diagnostic analysis.
- ii. Problem articulation - Identify & priorities the challenges and problems associated within the Tagabe Watershed Catchment both the lower and upper catchment.
- iii. Problem understanding - Gather and interpret information on the environmental impacts and socio-economic consequences of each problem.
- iv. Data processing & reporting - Analyze the immediate, underlying, and root causes for each problem; and identify specific practices, sources, locations, and human activity sectors from which environmental degradation arises or threatens to arise.
- v. Policy evaluation - Identify and evaluate options for reform and action. Strategize the new ideas and opportunities – prioritizing alternatives.
- vi. Draft a diagnostic analysis report following given templates;

1. Demonstration Site (Tagabe Watershed Catchment) Diagnostic Analysis Report
 2. Island Diagnostic Analysis (IDA)
- vii. Presentation of the reports to Tagabe River Management Committee, Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation, and the Communities.
 - viii. Draft a Lesson Learned Report.
 - ix. Draft workshop reports-this includes inception meetings, interviews and stakeholder formal engagements.

Practically, the outlined activities are general and should be conducted in accordance to the Methodology proposed herein. Otherwise a detail guide can be accessed via project website.

Approach and Duration

The approach is participatory and supported by the establishment of a diagnostic development team. The duration expected duration of work is not more than 2-months and commencing on the date of signing the contract. The consultant shall be engaged to undertake the consultancy in accordance with a planned schedule.

The consultant, in consultation with the host agency and the Pacific Community (SPC) is expected to propose a work layout, plan, budget and timelines to achieve the expected outputs with the appropriate methodology.

Payment Schedule

Milestone/Outputs	Deadline (date)	% Payment
Submission of a (I) signed contract agreement by the consultant(s) and the host agency of the national IW R2R project, and the (II) work plan and related schedule.		20%
Draft submission for demonstration site diagnostic submission.		5%
Finalise Report for demonstration site diagnostic submission.		20%
Submission of other related reports such as; 1) lesson learned report and, 2) Workshop reports.		10%
Draft submission for national island diagnostic analysis		5%
Finalise Report for the national diagnostic report submission.		20%
I. Submission of other related reports such as; 1) lesson learned report and, 2) Workshop reports II. Final handover of all works completed including any documentation and raw or processed data, data sheets, imageries, photos, video clips, etc.		10%
Lessons learned reports and Presentations to TRMC, DEPC and Communities.		10%

The consultant(s) is expected to produce and submit final reports upon successful completion of activities according to the agreed schedules. The final reports will be reviewed, and clear recommendations and instructions provided through the Report Appraisal Form for Consultants. The appraisal may find that all deliverables meet the requirements of the contract and therefore recommend can proceed with final payments.

Consultancy Requirement

The supplier needed for this consultancy work should meet the following criteria preferable experiences.

Sectors/Field: Environmental, management, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, tourism, social inclusion, finance services, policy development, natural science, legislation.

Recommended Team Skills: Researcher, facilitator, report writer and editor.

At least more than 5 years' experience in watershed management planning in Vanuatu or in other Pacific Island countries.

Have well recognized university achievements in field related to environment management, natural resources management, water resources management and/or climate change.

Strong track record in project management including work planning, field assessment, stakeholder consultations and oversight, communication and reporting across diverse audiences in a multicultural and multi-disciplinary environment, monitoring and evaluation.

Excellent verbal and written communication and interpersonal skills in multicultural environment. A basic knowledge of the local language & culture would be an advantage.

An understanding of the importance of working alongside indigenous people and local communities to deliver the best conservation outcomes.

Institutional Arrangement

The consultant(s) or service provider will be monitored, overseen and supervised by the Head of the host agency of the national IW R2R project or GEF Focal Point, in close cooperation with the Regional Program Coordination Unit (RPCU), Pacific Community (SPC) Campus in Fiji.

The final reports should be presented to the host agency of the national IW R2R project, RPCU - Pacific Community (SPC) and the Project Steering Committee of the national IW R2R Project. The results and highlights of the reports are also expected to be presented to the local communities in the demonstration site and relevant national committees responsible for the environment.

Requirement for Submission

The consultant/team of consultants should consider the following requirements in their submission:

1. Complete and submit application form.
2. Submission of the required document stated in the application form.
3. A quotation for your consultancy work complimenting the work plan (above).

Application Submission Date & Additional Information

Applications submission should be address to Mr Ericksen Packett, IW R2R National Project Manager, PO BOX 9063, Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation. Submission via email is also possible to erickspackett@gmail.com. Please submit your application before **30th of November, 2020**. For further information do not hesitate to conduct the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation on 33430 or the said email address. Relevant documentation can be retrieved via Pacific Ridge to Reef Website.