

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (CONSULTANT SERVICES)

### *ENVIRONMENTAL 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*

### **OVERVIEW OF PROJECT**

In 2014 the World Bank (WB) approved the Palau - FSM<sup>1</sup> Connectivity Project (P130592)<sup>2</sup>. 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 the project, is seeking the services of an environmental consultant to complete two key tasks:

1. Palau - FSM Connectivity Project safeguards implementation
2. Kosrae-Kiribati-Nauru connection to HANTRU-1 Cable environmental and social impact assessment preparation and the supervision and coordination of a Social Safeguards Specialist who will be responsible (under a separate terms of reference) for land acquisition and resettlement assessment and preparation of due diligence documents and Resettlement Action Plans as required.

### **TASK 1 PALAU –FSM CONNECTIVITY PROJECT SAFEGUARDS IMPLEMENTATION**

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<sup>1</sup> Federated States of Micronesia

<sup>2</sup> Co-funded with the Asian Development Bank

The Yap cable will be a 265km 'spur' from the SEA-US cable, landing at Magachgil. The Chuuk cable will be a spur on the HANTRU-1 cable, with a link approximately 10km offshore from Pohnpei, or alternatively a direct link to the existing Pohnpei landing station. The landing site is the Weno airport, within Chuuk lagoon. The project will be restructured in the near future to include the connection of the State of Kosrae to the HANTRU-1 cable, with links and landing sites yet to be identified.

The Consultant is required to support the DTCI, under the coordination and supervision of the DTCI Project Coordinator, to carry out responsibilities relating to safeguards implementation to ensure compliance with all of the World Bank's triggered safeguards policies and the environmental, social and land laws, regulations and procedures related to the cable projects.

It is expected the supervision tasks will require a commitment of up to 60 days over a 12 month period. At least two missions to the FSM will be conducted by the Consultant during this time.

**TASK 2: KOSRAE-KIRIBATI-NAURU CONNECTION TO HANTRU-1 CABLE:  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND LAND ACQUISITION AND  
RESETTLEMENT**

The project will finance the preparation of the safeguards instruments required by the development partners for the Kosrae-Kiribati-Nauru cable.

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

1. Project manage the delivery of the relevant safeguards instruments for each country, with the timeframe specified in the Terms of Reference. This includes coordinating the contributions of a Social Safeguards Specialist, and regularly communicating with the technical team to provide input on the design details such as locations of landing sites and key infrastructure. The Consultant is expected to communicate regularly (weekly/bi-weekly) to the Project Manager in DTCI to keep track of progress.
2. Preparation of a relevant Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for each country, incorporating an Environmental and Social Management Plan for the design, pre-construction, construction and operational phases (incorporating the social impact assessment work of the Social Safeguards Specialist);
3. Assistance to the respective country implementation agency in preparing and submitting an application for development approval and environmental permits as required under country systems and national/state legislation;
4. Assist the Social Safeguards Specialist and the implementing agencies to conduct consultation with stakeholders and affected local communities in each country; and
5. Assessment of institutional capacity assessment of the implementing agencies in each country with respect to safeguards implementation.

The Consultant is expected to visit each country/State to meet with implementing agencies and stakeholders, conduct surveys and collect data. The consultant will need to coordinate site visits with the Social 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. The total

workload to complete all tasks and deliverables in country and in the home office is estimated at 40 days.

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).

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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