



CONSULTANCY

TITLE: Scientific writer

SECTOR OF ASSIGNMENT: Marine Program, Marine and Coastal Biodiversity in Pacific Island Countries (MACBIO) project.

LOCATION: IUCN ORO, Suva, Fiji

DURATION: 14 months

REPORTING SUPERVISOR: IUCN MACBIO Senior Project Officer

BACKGROUND:

Natural resources in marine and coastal areas are economically important for Pacific island countries and sustain the livelihoods of coastal communities. However, the need to conserve and use marine resources sustainably is not sufficiently reflected in national planning processes, due in part to a lack of information regarding their economic value. Existing marine protected areas (MPAs) have often been developed opportunistically, lack a clear design and spatial planning process and are not managed in a way to secure associated biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Improved management of marine and coastal biodiversity on volcanic islands (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu) and atolls (Kiribati, Tonga) will help countries to meet their commitments under the Convention of Biological Diversity Strategic Plan 2011—2020 and the relevant Aichi targets, including the Programme of Work on Protected Areas and the Programme of Work on Island Biodiversity.

The Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management in Pacific Island Countries (MACBIO) project has four main outputs including which aim, amongst other things, to support marine spatial planning, mainstream and extend re-designed MPA networks using seascape-level planning and to demonstrate effective approaches to site management, including payment for ecosystem services. Tried and tested concepts and instruments will be adopted throughout the Pacific community and disseminated internationally.

Enhanced ecosystem-based management and more effectively managed marine resources will lead to more resilient coastal and marine ecosystems and more effective conservation of marine biodiversity. It will contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation, as well as to securing and strengthening local livelihoods.

The MACBIO project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) through their International Climate



Initiative (IKI) and being implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in close collaboration with the IUCN Oceania Regional Office and SPREP to achieve the following outcome and outputs.

Outcome (overarching project goal): The sustainable management of marine and coastal biodiversity in selected Pacific island states is strengthened by ecosystem service valuation, marine spatial planning and advice on protected areas.

Outputs (specific project goals):

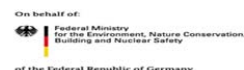
- The economic value of marine and coastal ecosystem services is considered in national development planning
- An Exclusive Economic Zone-wide spatial planning framework that takes into account the results of regional ecosystem based workshops and provides the basis for aligning national marine and coastal protected area systems with the requirements of ecosystem conservation, allowing further expansion of these systems.
- Best practices for the management of marine protected areas, including payment for environmental services, and the resulting benefits, are demonstrated at selected sites.
- Tried and tested concepts and instruments for the sustainable management of marine and coastal biodiversity are disseminated regionally and internationally.

TASKS:

The Consultant will assist the MACBIO team to achieve the above project outcome and outputs. Specific tasks and deliverables are listed below.

As part of this work, over the next year and a half, the MACBIO project will be required to prepare a number of reports based upon desktop studies and/or collation of workshop information. These may include, but are not limited to:

1. A literature review on the benefits and costs of pelagic marine managed and marine protected areas.
2. A literature review on pelagic habitats and communities as they pertain to the design of networks of marine managed and marine protected areas with regard to criteria such as size, percentages, minimum amounts, distances between marine managed and marine protected areas.
3. An assessment, for four MACBIO countries of
 - a. All known marine species in each of countries
 - b. Cross reference this against species/habitats listed under CITES, the IUCN Red List, the Convention on Migratory Species and RAMSAR (to answer the question: what species/habitats exist in my country that are on these lists)
 - c. Cross reference both (1) and (2) against the legislation (to answer the question: what species/habitats are listed within any legislation and which of these are also listed under CITES, Red List, CMS or RAMSAR)
4. A report of a planned workshop describing special, unique marine areas of Vanuatu



5. A report of a planned workshop describing special, unique marine areas of the Solomon Islands
6. A report of a planned workshop describing marine bioregions for Tonga
7. A report of a planned workshop describing marine bioregions for Vanuatu
8. A report of a planned workshop describing marine bioregions for the Solomon Islands
9. Fact sheets to address frequently asked questions that stakeholders may have as we approach implementation of marine spatial plans in Pacific Island Countries
10. Tailored toolbox to support marine spatial planning in the Pacific
11. A planned regional marine spatial planning workshop report

SELECTION CRITERIA:

The successful consultant will have:

1. Over 5 years' knowledge of tropical marine ecosystems, ideally in the Pacific
2. Over 5 years' experience in accessible scientific writing, including writing reports intended for lay audiences
3. Experience in the Pacific
4. Patience
5. Flexibility
6. Demonstrated track record of on-time delivery
7. Demonstrated ability to deliver high quality products with attention to detail

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Please submit a Curriculum Vita with full contact details of two referees together with a letter explaining why you are suitable for this position. The letter should address, individually, each of the selection criteria listed above. The application should also estimate the costings of each individual deliverable listed in the tasks. The full application can be delivered either electronically to leanne.fernandes@iucn.org or by mail to IUCN Oceania, 5 Ma'afu Street, Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji. **Closing date for applications is 20 March 2017.** Only short listed applicants will be informed.

Remuneration will be discussed with the short-listed applicants only