



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

FOR SERVICES

Project Title:	Pacific Energy and Gender Strategic Action Plan (PEGSAP)
Nature of the services	Consultancy – Labour Market Assessment
Location:	Remote
Date of issue:	13/12/2023
Closing Date:	28/01/2024
SPC Reference:	RFP23-5989

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Part 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 About the Pacific Community (SPC)

The Pacific Community (SPC) is the principal scientific and technical organisation of the Pacific region, established by treaty in 1947 with the signing of the Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Commission (the Canberra Agreement).

SPC has our headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia and has regional offices in Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia and Vanuatu, as well as an office in France. SPC works across the Pacific and has staff in nearly all of our Pacific Island Country and Territory members.

SPC works for the well-being of Pacific people through the effective and innovative application of science and knowledge and is guided by a deep understanding of Pacific Island contexts and cultures. Our unique organisation covers more than 20 sectors and is renowned for knowledge and innovation in such areas as fisheries science, public health surveillance, geoscience and conservation of plant genetic resources for food security.

For more information about SPC and the work that we do, please visit our website: <https://www.spc.int/>.

1.2 SPC's procurement activities

SPC's procurement activities are guided by the principles of high ethical standards, value for money, open competition and social and environmental responsibility and are carried out under our Procurement Policy.

SPC's *Procurement Policy* provides the framework for ensuring that SPC obtains the best value for its purchases, in terms of both cost and quality; demonstrates financial probity and accountability to its members and development partners; manages and prevents the potential for conflicts of interest; reduces its environmental impact and manages any other risks.

At SPC, all procurement follows the same main steps: planning; statement of needs; requisition; solicitation; evaluation; award; receipt; and payment. Different procedures apply depending on the value of the goods, services and works to be procured.

For further information or enquiries about SPC's procurement activities, please visit the procurement pages on our website: <https://www.spc.int/procurement> or email: procurement@spc.int.

1.3 SPC's Request for Proposal (RFP) Process

At SPC, procurement valued at more than EUR 45,000 must be advertised through a Request for Proposal (RFP) with any bids received evaluated by SPC's Procurement Committee to determine the offer that provides the best value for money.

This RFP sets out SPC's requirements and it asks you, as a bidder, to respond in writing in a prescribed format with pricing and other required information. The RFP contains detailed instructions and templates to enable you to submit a compliant bid. It sets out the overall timetable; it confirms the evaluation criteria that SPC will use to evaluate proposals; it explains the administrative arrangements for the receipt of the bids; and it sets out how bidders can request further information.

Your participation confirms your acceptance of SPC's conditions of participation in the RFP process.

Part 2: INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

2.1 Background

SPC invites you to submit a bid to deliver the services as specified in [Part 3](#).

SPC has advertised this RFP on its website and may send it directly to potential vendors. The same specifications, submission and other solicitation requirements will be provided to all vendors.

SPC has compiled these instructions to guide prospective bidders and to ensure that all bidders are given equal and fair consideration.

Please read the instructions carefully before submitting your bid. For your bid to be considered, you must provide all the prescribed information by the closing date and in the format specified.

2.2 Submission instructions

Your submission must be clear, concise and complete and should only include information that is necessary to respond effectively to this RFP. Please note that you may be marked down or excluded from the procurement exercise if your submission contains any ambiguities or lacks clarity.

Your proposal must include the following documents (annexes of [Part 5](#) of the RFP):

- a) Bidder's Letter of Application (Annex 1);
- b) Conflict of Interest Declaration (Annex 2);
- c) Information about the bidder and Due diligence (Annex 3);
- d) Technical proposal submission form (Annex4);
- e) Financial proposal submission form (Annex 5).

Your proposal must be submitted in **two separate emails**.

You must submit your **Technical proposal** (Annexes 1 to 4 and all their supporting documents) in English as an attachment to one email. No financial information may appear in the technical proposal.

You must submit your **Financial proposal** (Annex 5) in a separate email. All prices in the proposal must be presented in USD. Your Financial proposal is to be password protected. SPC will request the password in the event that it is required.

Both emails are to be sent to procurement@spc.int with the subject line of your email as: **Submission RFP23-5989**.

Your proposal must be received no later than **28/01/2024** by **11.45PM Fiji Time**. Only one bid per bidder is permitted.

SPC will send a formal acknowledgement to each proposal received before the deadline.

SPC reserves the right to exclude from consideration any proposal not received by the deadline, with incomplete information or in incorrect form.

2.3 Clarifications

You may submit questions or seek clarifications on any issue relating to this RFP. The questions are to be submitted in writing to procurement@spc.int with the subject line: **Clarification RFP23-5989**. The deadline for submission of clarifications is **14/01/2024** by **11.45PM Fiji Time**.

Details will be kept of any communications between SPC and bidders. This assists SPC to ensure transparency

of the procurement process. While SPC prefers written communication in the RFP process, at any point where there is phone call or other conversation, SPC will keep a record or a file note of the exchange with prospective bidders.

2.4 Evaluation

Validity

Each proposal will be assessed for compliance with the submission requirements by the Bids Opening Committee. At this stage, basic due diligence will also be undertaken.

To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of proposals, SPC may ask the bidder for clarification of its proposal or additional information. The request for clarification will be in writing.

Technical

All valid proposals will be assessed against the technical evaluation criteria set out in Part 4. The criteria are provided with weighted scores according to the relative importance of each. SPC will not change the evaluation criteria set out in the RFP at any stage of the procurement process. Any changes in the evaluation criteria will result in the RFP process being re-issued.

Bidders are expected to familiarise themselves with local conditions and take these into account in preparing their proposal. Where minimum qualifications are set as specific evaluation criteria (which may include educational qualification, professional accreditation or certification, licensing, experience and expertise), proposals submitted must necessarily meet these criteria.

Pre-Bid Meeting

A Pre-bid Meeting will be arranged by SPC Procurement Team. The pre-bid meeting will be undertaken virtually. Bidders who are interested to attend the pre-bid meeting must register their attendance through the SPC procurement email (procurement@spc.int) by **4pm, Fiji Time on 4th January 2024**.

Shortlisted bidder's presentation

Bidders that are short-listed during the RFP evaluation process shall be required to conduct a presentation to, and respond to queries of, SPC's Procurement Technical Evaluation Committee. The bidders will be provided an opportunity to provide an overview of the operational aspect of the services they are proposing.

Financial

Any bids that pass the minimum technical evaluation requirements will pass onto financial evaluation.

During the financial evaluation, if there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the total price, the lower price shall prevail. If there is a discrepancy between words and figures the amount in words will prevail.

The total cost of the proposal must be submitted inclusive of taxes in accordance with the applicable legislation, and is not subject to revision.

2.5 Contract award

SPC may award the contract once the Procurement Committee has determined that a bidder has met the prescribed requirements and the bidder's proposal has been determined to be the most responsive to the RFP documents, provide the best value for money and best serve the interests of SPC.

SPC's [General Terms and Conditions of Contract](#) will apply to any contracts awarded under this RFP, unless otherwise agreed. Any requested changes to the General Terms and Conditions of Contract must be foreshadowed in the submission.

The award of the contract will be made by contract signed and dated by both parties.

2.6 Key dates

Please see the proposed procurement timetable in the table below. This timetable is intended as a guide only and while SPC does not intend to depart from the timetable, it reserves the right to do so at any stage.

STAGE	DATE
RFP advertised	13/12/2023
Pre-Bid Meeting	09/01/2023
Deadline for seeking clarification	14/12/2023
RFP Closing Date	28/01/2024
Award of Contract	29/02/2024
Commencement of Contract	11/03/2024
Conclusion of Contract	22/01/2025

2.7 Legal and compliance

Child and vulnerable adult protection: SPC is committed to the well-being of children and vulnerable adults. All SPC contractors are required to commit to the principles of SPC's Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy ([XI.G Manual of Staff Policies](#)). Breach of this requirement can result in SPC terminating any contract with a successful bidder. Any allegations of potential misconduct in relation to this RFP involving children or vulnerable adults should be sent to complaints@spc.int.

Confidentiality: Unless otherwise agreed by SPC in advance or where the contents of the RFP are already in the public domain when **shared** with the bidder, bidders shall at all times treat the contents of the RFP and any related documents as confidential. SPC will also treat the information it receives from the bidders as confidential.

Conflict of interest: Bidders must take all necessary measures to prevent any situation of conflict of interest. You must notify SPC in writing as soon as possible of any situation that could constitute a conflict of interest during the RFP process. If you have any familial connection with SPC staff, this must be declared, and approval will then be sought for you to engage in the RFP process. Breach of this requirement can result in the exclusion of the bidder from the RFP process or in SPC terminating any contract with a successful bidder.

Cost of preparation of proposals: Under no circumstances will SPC be liable for any proposal submission costs, expenditure, work or effort that you may incur in relation to your provision of a proposal (including if the procurement process is terminated or amended by SPC).

Currency, validity, duties, taxes: Unless specifically otherwise requested, all proposals should be in USD and must be net of any direct or indirect taxes and duties and shall remain valid for 120 days from the closing date. The successful bidder is bound by their proposal for a further 60 days following notification they are the preferred bidder so that the contract may be awarded. No price variation due to escalation, inflation, fluctuation in exchange rates, or any other market factors shall be accepted at any time during this period.

Eligibility: Bidders are required to disclose to SPC whether they are subject to any sanction or temporary suspension imposed by any international organisation, or whether they are subject to bankruptcy proceedings. You may not be bankrupt or suspended, debarred, or otherwise identified as ineligible by any international organisation. Failure to disclose such information may result in debarment and termination of any contract issued to the bidder by SPC.

Fraud and corruption: SPC has zero tolerance for fraud and corruption. All contractors have an obligation to report potential fraud and corruption. Breach of this requirement can result in the exclusion of the bidder

from the RFP process or in SPC terminating any contract with a successful bidder. Allegations of potential misconduct by an SPC staff member or contractor involving fraud or corruption can be sent to complaints@spc.int.

Good faith: The information in this RFP is provided by SPC in good faith. No representation, warranty, assurance or undertaking (express or implied) is or will be made, and no responsibility or liability will be accepted by SPC in relation to the adequacy, accuracy, completeness or reasonableness of this RFP or any information provided by SPC in relation to this RFP.

Modifications: Any clarifications, corrections or modifications will be published on the SPC website prior to deadline. In the event a bidder has submitted a bid before the clarification, correction or modification, the bidder will be informed and may modify the bid. The modified bid will still need to be received before the deadline.

No offer of contract or invitation to contract: This RFP is not an offer to contract or an invitation by SPC to enter into a contract with you.

Privacy: The bidder is to comply with the requirements of applicable legislation and regulatory requirements in force for the use of personal data that is disclosed for the purposes of this RFP. SPC will handle any personal information it receives under the RFP in line with its [Privacy Policy](#), and the [Guidelines for handling personal information of bidders and grantees](#).

Right to amend, seek clarity, withdraw, not award: SPC reserves the right to: (1) amend, add to or withdraw all or any part of this RFP at any time, or to re-invite bids on the same or any alternative basis; (2) seek clarification or documents in respect of any bidder's submission; (3) choose not to award a contract as a result of this RFP; (4) make whatever changes it sees fit to the timetable, structure or content of the procurement process, depending on approvals processes or for any other reason. Please note that while SPC will not change the evaluation criteria set out in the RFP without the RFP process being re-issued, SPC does reserve the right at the time of award of contract to vary the quantity of services and goods specified in the RFP and to accept or reject any proposal at any time prior to award of the contract without incurring any liability to the affected bidder or any obligation to inform the affected bidder/s of the grounds for SPC's action.

Right to disqualify: SPC reserves the right to disqualify: (1) any bidder that does not submit a proposal in accordance with the instructions in this RFP; (2) any bidder that misrepresents information to SPC; (3) any bidder that directly or indirectly canvasses any SPC employee concerning the award of a contract.

Use of material: Bidders shall not use the contents of the RFP or any related material for any purpose other than for the purpose of considering submitting, or submitting, a bid to SPC.

Warranty, representation, assurance, undertaking: The bidder acknowledges and agrees that no person has any authority to give any warranty, representation, assurance or undertaking on behalf of SPC in connection with any contract which may (or may not) follow on from this RFP process.

2.8 Complaints process

Bidders that consider they were not treated fairly during any SPC procurement process may lodge a protest. The protest should be addressed to complaints@spc.int. The bidder must provide the following information: (1) full contact details; (2) details of the relevant procurement; (3) reasons for the protest, including how the alleged behaviour negatively impacted the bidder; (4) copies of any documents supporting grounds for protest; (5) the relief that is sought.

Part 3: Terms of Reference

A. Background/context

Since 2003, the Pacific Community has been working towards mainstreaming gender in the energy sector, including clean and renewable energy. Beginning with the Pacific Energy and Gender Network, the first phase of implementation from 2003-2014 brought together key Pacific stakeholders to mainstream gender in energy policy and build knowledge, awareness, and research on gender and energy linkages. In 2020, SPC proceeded to then implement a gender-based assessment of a sample of Pacific Island Countries (PICs) ([Attachment 1](#)) to better understand the status of gender integration within the clean energy sector and to produce an evidence-based foundation for mobilisation and action on women in the clean energy transition.

One of the primary outcomes of the assessment was the development of the *Pacific Energy and Gender Strategic Action Plan* ([Attachment 2](#)). The PEGSAP aims to achieve meaningful gains in gender equity and equality in the renewable energy sector through improved gender responsive energy policy and institutional frameworks, as well as increased career and income generating opportunities for women and girls. As the regional organisation responsible for gender integration in the energy sector, SPC established within its Georesources and Energy Programme the *Pacific Energy and Gender Initiative*, whose Secretariat currently implements the PEGSAP activities.

In the gender-based assessment of the Pacific clean energy sector, the authors identified that women tend to be under-represented in the clean energy value chain, but that there are also potential entry-points for increasing women's engagement at various points as entrepreneurs and private sector employees. The assessment noted these entry points as:

- micro-entrepreneurs and community self-help groups in sales, distribution, and maintenance of renewable energy off-grid systems
- micro-entrepreneurs and community self-help groups in the efficient cookstove value chain
- entrepreneurs in the fisheries and agricultural sector (and related value-added industries) whereby increased access to clean energy could result in substantial business growth.

As part of the US Government funded *Promoting women's participation and leadership in the Pacific's clean energy transition* project ([Attachment 3](#)), SPC plans to build upon this initial assessment by conducting a detailed subregional gender-responsive labour market assessment to identify employment and income-generating opportunities for women in the clean energy sector. The assessment will assess suitable clean energy technologies for target communities in six PICs and provide recommendations on income-generating opportunities for women across the clean value chain. This will provide the foundation for the design of future project activities that aim to economically empower women and provide improved energy security and resilience.

This action is part of the PEGSAP, Sub-Objective 2.1: Facilitate the engagement of women in all stages of the clean energy value chain. Activity 2.1.1. Perform sub-regional market assessments to identify employment and income-generating opportunities for women in the clean energy sector, including assessment of potential for EE-RE business.

B. Purpose, objectives, scope of services

Purpose

The purpose of the consultancy is to identify improved income-generating opportunities for Pacific women in the clean energy value chain, including assessment of potential for EE-RE business.

This will inform project interventions that economically empower Pacific women and girls through access to clean energy technologies and improved energy security.

This action is part of the PEGSAP, Sub-Objective 2.1: Facilitate the engagement of women in all stages of the clean energy value chain. Activity 2.1.1. Perform sub-regional market assessments to identify employment and income-generating opportunities for women in the clean energy sector, including assessment of potential for EE-RE business.

Objective

The objective is to produce a gender-responsive labour market assessment that for each country context:

1. Identifies clean energy and productive technologies that could be best leveraged by women and girls for income-generating activities in the formal and informal business sectors.
2. Identifies parts of the clean energy value chain where women and girls are best placed to be able to enter as entrepreneurs, technical staff, or private sector employees.
3. Analyses capacity development and business support interventions that women and girls need to facilitate their entry into each part of the clean energy value chain.
4. Analyses potential risks and challenges for women and girls in entrepreneurship and employment in the clean energy value chain.

Scope

The consultant will propose an assessment methodology that best addresses the assessment objectives. However, SPC recommends the assessment takes a mixed-methods approach that combines qualitative and quantitative forms of data collection.

Data should be collected in six Pacific Island countries, with 2 countries drawn from each sub-region of the Pacific. The consultant can propose countries based on their methodology, however, SPC has pre-identified the following countries based on data on rates of clean cooking fuel utilisation, rates of rural electrification, female labour force participation rates, and enabling business environments:

- *Melanesia*: Vanuatu, Solomon Islands
- *Polynesia*: Samoa, Tonga.
- *Micronesia*: Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia.

The assessment should include rural/remote and urban communities, formal and informal business sectors, and purposefully include women with disabilities in the sample. The assessment should include off-grid solar home systems, clean cooking technologies, and productive uses of energy. SPC would also like the consultant to ensure that when identifying risks this includes gender-based violence, workplace harassment, and controlling behaviours.

Entry points for women in technical and management roles within clean energy companies in the private sector are included in the scope. However, SPC suggests that the assessment does not include national energy offices or energy/climate related roles within civil society and multilateral organisations to limit the time required, unless recommended by the consultant.

Tasks

1. Conduct a desk review of women in the clean energy value chain for the target countries.
2. Draft an inception report providing a detailed assessment methodology and assessment tools.
3. Finalise the inception report and assessment tools based on PEGI Secretariat comments.

4. Conduct data collection and data analysis in six countries Pacific Island countries, 2 countries from each Pacific subregion.
5. Conduct data validation workshop (virtual) for each country.
6. Draft gender-responsive labour market assessment report.
7. Review and respond to PEGI Secretariat comments on draft report.
8. Submit final report to PEGI Secretariat with adjustments made based on PEGI Secretariat comments.
9. Draft a policy brief for each sample country that includes context-specific recommendations.
10. Conduct 1-day capacity building workshop with PEGI Secretariat, including a virtual presentation to PEGI Stakeholders on the results of the assessment and recommended interventions.

Deliverables

- Draft inception report, including desk review of women in clean energy technologies, assessment methodology, and assessment tools.
- Final inception report and assessment tools that accounts for PEGI Secretariat comments.
- 6 x ½ day validation workshops (virtual) with key stakeholders from each country.
- Draft 60-page gender-responsive labour market assessment report that includes recommendations addressing the consultancy objectives, identifying employment and income-generating opportunities for women in the clean energy sector and including assessment of potential for EE-RE business.
- Comment matrix of issues resolved and changes made to draft report.
- Final gender-responsive labour market assessment report.
- 4-page policy brief for each country (6 total) designed for dissemination to key stakeholders in the target countries.
- 1 day capacity building workshop with PEGI Secretariat in Suva, Fiji.

C. Timelines

The contract duration is estimated to be 12 months and commence from March 2024. This will shift appropriately depending on the onboarding date of the consultant.

At the start of the project, the consultant will work with the PEGI Secretariat to develop a common understanding of agreed timelines for delivery of the activities and deliverables, including a clear work plan.

The following table provides target dates based on an assumed 11 March start date.

Tasks	Deliverables	Duration	Target Date
Conduct a desk review of women in the clean energy value chain for the target countries. Draft inception report, including desk review, methods, work plan, and data collection tools. Finalise inception report and assessment tools based on PEGI Secretariat comments.	Draft inception report Final inception report	Within 8 weeks of signing contract	6/5/2024
Conduct data collection and data analysis in six PICs, 2 countries from	6 x ½ day virtual data validation workshop with key	Within 6 months of acceptance of	6/11/2024

<p>each subregion.</p> <p>Conduct virtual data validation workshop in each country.</p> <p>Draft gender-responsive labour market assessment report.</p>	<p>stakeholders from each country.</p> <p>Draft gender-responsive labour market assessment report</p>	<p>final inception report.</p>	
<p>Review and respond to PEGI comments on draft report.</p> <p>Submit final report with adjustments.</p>	<p>Comment matrix of issues resolved, and changes made.</p> <p>Final gender-responsive labour market assessment report.</p>	<p>Within 4 weeks of submission of draft report.</p>	<p>4/12/2024</p>
<p>Draft a policy brief for each country context.</p> <p>Conduct capacity building workshop with PEGI Secretariat. Including presentation to key PEGI stakeholders.</p>	<p>6 x Policy Brief (1 per country)</p> <p>1 x capacity building workshop for PEGI Secretariat in Suva, Fiji.</p>	<p>Within 7 weeks of acceptance of final report.</p>	<p>22/01/2025</p>

D. Reporting and contracting arrangements

The consultant will be reporting to the PEGI Project Manager based at the PEGI Secretariat in the SPC Georesources and Energy Programme in Suva, Fiji.

Concise monthly progress updates are expected. These should outline progress against the current deliverables, challenges that have been faced, support that is needed from the PEGI Secretariat, and potential risks that may need to be mitigated. These should be submitted via email to the PEGI Project Manager by the last day of each calendar month.

The consultant can be home-based except for travel to countries for data collection field work and to Fiji for the capacity building workshop. The consultant will not be expected to be physically present in the SPC Fiji office during the consultancy.

E. Skills and qualifications

The consultant is expected to have:

Essential criteria

- Advanced university degree in marketing, commerce, economics, socio-economic development, development planning, clean energy technologies, engineering, or other related fields.
- Minimum 10 years of relevant professional job experience.
- Demonstrated experience working on women's economic empowerment programming.
- Previous experience conducting market systems analysis and/or labour market assessments.

Desired criteria

- Prior experience working with Pacific people and understanding of Pacific cultures.
- Familiarity with clean energy technologies and the clean energy supply chain in the Pacific region.

F. Scope of Bid Price and Schedule of Payments

- Payments will be made as lump sum payments upon the PEGI Project Manager’s acceptance of achievement of the contract milestones. A breakdown of the percentage of total payment is included in the table below.
- The applicant’s financial proposal should include a budget narrative detailing how the budgeted costs were calculated.
- Any expected travel in relation to delivery of the consultancy will be fully covered by SPC according to its travel policy. SPC can provide desk space when in Suva but will not provide IT equipment and related services, these should be covered by the consultant.
- Terms of payment will be in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 of the SPC General Conditions. Payment terms follow SPC finance policy (30 days from acceptance of invoice).

Milestone/deliverables	% payment
Final inception report	15
Data validation workshops/draft assessment report	40
Final gender-responsive labour market assessment report	25
Capacity building workshop	20
TOTAL	100

G. Annexes to the Terms of Reference

Attachment 1: Gender-Based Assessment: Clean Energy Sector Analysis
Attachment 2: Pacific Energy and Gender Strategic Action Plan
Attachment 3: Pacific Energy and Gender Initiative Project Brief

Part 4: PROPOSAL EVALUATION MATRIX

4.1 Evaluation criteria & Score Weight

A two-stage procedure will be utilised to evaluate the proposals, with evaluation of the **Technical proposal** being completed prior to any **Financial proposal** being opened and compared.

The competencies which will be evaluated are detailed in [Part 3](#).

The evaluation matrix below also reflects the obtainable score specified for each evaluation criterion (technical requirement) which indicates the relative significance or weight of the items in the overall evaluation process.

The technical component, which has a total possible value of 700 points, will be evaluated using the following criteria.

Evaluation criteria	Score Weight (%)	Points obtainable
Mandatory requirements		
E-mail 1: Annex 1 – Bidders letter of application signed. Annex 2 – Completed and signed conflict of interest declaration Annex 3 – Information about the bidder and due diligence Annex 4 – technical submission including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company’s registration certificate, or other legal document as per local legislation from the country of residence of the bidder • business license, Tax Identification Number or legal document as per local legislation from the country of residence of the bidder • demonstrate at least two similar services undertaken in the past ten years. 		Bidders will be disqualified if any of the requirements are not met
E-mail 2: Annex 5 – financial submission (password protected)		
Technical requirements (as per section E of this RFP)		
Technical Requirement 1		
Academic Qualifications of the Consultant (s)	10%	70
Technical Requirement 2		
A minimum of ten (10) years demonstrated experience	20%	140
Technical Requirement 3		
Demonstrated experience working on women’s economic empowerment programming.	20%	140
Technical Requirement 4		
Demonstrated experience conducting market systems analysis and/or labour market assessments.	30%	210

Technical Requirement 5	10%	70
Demonstrated experience of previous assignments in the Pacific		
Technical Requirement 6	10%	70
Familiarity with clean energy technologies and the clean energy supply chain in the Pacific region.		
Total Score	100%	700
Qualification score	70%	490

4.2 Financial evaluation

The financial component of the proposal will be scored on the basis of overall costs for the delivery of the services and financial incentives and benefits provided to SPC. The lowest financial proposal will be awarded maximum 300 points and other financial offers and incentives will be awarded points as per the formula below:

$$\text{Financial Proposal score} = (\text{Lowest Price} / \text{Price under consideration}) \times 300$$

Part 5: PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORMS

Annex 1: BIDDER'S LETTER OF APPLICATION

Dear Sir /Madam:

Having examined the Solicitation Documents, the receipt of which is hereby duly acknowledged, we the undersigned, offer to supply the required services for the sum as may be ascertained in accordance with the Financial Proposal attached herewith and made part of this proposal.

We acknowledge that:

- SPC may exercise any of its rights set out in the Request for Proposal documents, at any time;
- The statements, opinions, projections, forecasts or other information contained in the Request for Proposal documents may change;
- The Request for Proposal documents are a summary only of SPC's requirements and is not intended to be a comprehensive description of them;
- Neither the lodgement of the Request for Proposal documents nor the acceptance of any tender nor any agreement made subsequent to the Request for Proposal documents will imply any representation from or on behalf of SPC that there has been no material change since the date of the Request for Proposal documents, or since the date as at which any information contained in the Request for Proposal documents is stated to be applicable;
- Excepted as required by law and only to the extent so required, neither SPC, nor its respective officers, employees, advisers or agents will in any way be liable to any person or body for any loss, damage, cost or expense of any nature arising in any way out of or in connection with any representations, opinions, projections, forecasts or other statements, actual or implied, contained in or omitted from the Request for Proposal documents.

We undertake, if our proposal is accepted, to commence and complete delivery of all items in the contract within the time frame stipulated.

We understand that you are not bound to accept any proposal you may receive and that a binding contract would result only after final negotiations are concluded on the basis of the Technical and Financial Components proposed.

For the Bidder: *[insert name of the company]*

Signature:

Name of the Bidder's representative: *[insert name of the representative]*

Title: *[insert Title of the representative]*

Date: *[Click or tap to enter a date]*

Annex 2: CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

What is a conflict of interest?

A conflict of interest may arise from economic or commercial interests, political, trade union or national affinities, family, cultural or sentimental ties, or **any other type of relationship or common interest between the bidder and any person connected with the contracting authority** (SPC staff member, consultant or any other expert or collaborator mandated by SPC).

Always declare a conflict

The existence of a potential or apparent conflict of interest does not necessarily prevent the bidder concerned from taking part in a tender process. **However, the declaration of the existence of such a conflict by the persons concerned is essential and allows SPC to take appropriate measures to mitigate it and prevent the associated risks.**

Bidders are therefore invited to declare any situation, fact or link which, to their knowledge, could generate a real, potential or apparent conflict of interest.

Declaration at any time

Conflicts of interest may arise at any time during the procurement process or the implementation of a contract (e.g. new partner in the project) or as a result of a change in personal life (e.g. marriage, inheritance, financial transaction, creation of a company). If such a relationship is found and could be perceived by a reasonable person as likely to influence a decision, a declaration of the situation is necessary. In case of doubt, a conflict situation must be declared.

Declaration for any person involved

A declaration must be completed for each person involved in the tender (principal representative of the bidder, possible subcontractors, consultant, etc.)

Failure

Failing to declare a potential conflict of interest may result in the bidder being refused a contract or placed on SPC's list of non-responsible suppliers.

DECLARATION

I, the undersigned, *[name of the representative of the Bidder]*, acting in the name and on behalf of the company *[name of the company]*, declare that:

<input type="checkbox"/>	To my knowledge, I am not in a conflict-of-interest situation
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is a potential conflict of interest with regard to my <i>[Choose an item]</i> . relationship with <i>[name of the person concerned]</i> in his or her capacity as <i>position/role/personal or family link with the person concerned</i> , although, to the best of my knowledge, this person is not directly or indirectly involved in any stage of the procurement process
<input type="checkbox"/>	I may be in a conflict of interest with regard to my <i>[Choose an item]</i> relationship with <i>[name of the person concerned]</i> in his or her capacity as <i>position/role/personal or family link with the person concerned</i> , as this person is, to the best of my knowledge, directly or indirectly linked to the procurement process
<input type="checkbox"/>	To my knowledge, there is another situation that could potentially constitute a conflict of interest: <i>[Describe the situation that may constitute a conflict of interest]</i>

In addition, I undertake to:

- declare, without delay, to SPC any situation that constitutes a potential conflict of interest or is likely to lead to a conflict-of-interest;
- not to grant, seek, obtain or accept any advantage, whether financial or in kind, to or from any person where such advantage constitutes an unfair practice or an attempt at fraud or corruption, directly or indirectly, or constitutes a gratuity or reward related to the award of the contract;
- to provide accurate, truthful and complete information to SPC in connection with this procurement process.

I acknowledge that I and/or my company and/or my business partners who are jointly and severally bidding on the RFP *[SPC Reference]* may be subject to sanctions such as being placed on SPC's list of non-responsible vendors, if it is established that false statements have been made or false information has been provided.

For the Bidder: *[insert name of the company]*

Signature:

Name of the representative: *[insert name of the representative]*

Title: *[insert Title of the representative]*

Date: *[Click or tap to enter a date]*

Annex 3: INFORMATION ABOUT THE BIDDER AND DUE DILIGENCE

Please complete the following questionnaire and provide supporting documents where applicable.

VENDOR INFORMATION					
Are you already registered as an SPC vendor?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
1. Please provide information related to your entity.					
Company name	[Enter company name]		Address	[Enter address]	
Director/CEO	[Enter name of the executive person]		Position	[Enter position of the executive person]	
Business Registration/License number	[Enter company registration/license number (or tax number)]				
Date of business registration	[Enter date of business registration]				
Country of business registration	[Enter country of business registration]				
Status of the entity: <input type="checkbox"/> For-profit entity (company), <input type="checkbox"/> NGO, <input type="checkbox"/> International organisation, <input type="checkbox"/> Government body, <input type="checkbox"/> University, <input type="checkbox"/> Association, <input type="checkbox"/> Research Institute, <input type="checkbox"/> Other: [insert details]					
2. Please provide relevant documentation to support and verify the legal existence of the entity, the authority of its officer and proof of its address, such as:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Delegation of authority or power of attorney document <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of business registration/license <input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum, Articles or Statutes of Association <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone, water, or electricity bill in the name of the entity <input type="checkbox"/> Bank account details bearing the name of the entity					
3. How many employees does your company and its subsidiaries have?				[provide answer]	
4. Do you have professional insurance against all risks in respect of your employees, sub-contractors, property and equipment?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'No', what type of business insurance do you have?				[provide answer]	
5. Are you up to date with your tax and social security payment obligations?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'No', please explain the situation:				[Provide details]	
6. Is your entity regulated by a national authority?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes', please specify the name:				[Insert name of the national regulation authority]	
7. Is your entity a publicly held company?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
8. Does your entity have a publicly available annual report?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Please send SPC your audited financial statement from the last 3 financial years if available					

DUE DILIGENCE					
9. Does your entity have foreign branches and/or subsidiaries?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If you answered 'yes' to the previous question, please confirm the branches:					
• Head Office & domestic branches				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
• Domestic subsidiaries				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
• Overseas branches				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
• Overseas subsidiaries				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10. Does your entity provide financial services to customers determined to be high risk including but not limited to:					
Foreign Financial Institutions	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Casinos	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Cash Intensive Businesses	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Foreign Government Entities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Non-Resident Individuals	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Money Service Businesses	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Other, please provide details:			[Provide details]		
11.If you answered 'yes' to any of the boxes in question 10, does your entity's policies and procedures specifically outline how to mitigate the potential risks associated with these higher risk customer types?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes', please explain how:		[Provide explanation]			
12.Does your entity have a written policy, controls and procedures reasonably designed to prevent and detect fraud, corruption, money laundering or terrorist financing activities?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes', please send SPC your policy in English.					
If 'No', what process does your entity have in place to prevent and detect money laundering or terrorist financing activities?				[provide answer]	
13.Does your entity have an officer responsible for anti-corruption, or anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing policy?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes', please state that officer's contact details:		[Insert name and contact details]			
14.Has your entity or any of its current or former directors or CEOs ever filed for bankruptcy?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes', please provide details:		[Provide details]			
15.Has your entity or any of its current or former directors or CEOs ever been the subject of any investigations or had any regulatory or criminal enforcement actions resulting from violations of any laws or regulations, including those relating to money laundering or terrorism financing?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes', please provide details:		[Provide details]			

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY (SER)

16.Does your entity have a written policy, controls and procedures to implement its Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) commitments?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes', please send SPC your policy in English.					
If 'No', what process does your entity have in place to ensure your social and environmental responsibility?				[provide answer]	
Does your Policy or Process cover the followings?					
<input type="checkbox"/> Child protection <input type="checkbox"/> Human rights <input type="checkbox"/> Gender equality <input type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual harassment, abuse or exploitation <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental responsibility					
Please, outline the major actions you have undertaken in these areas:		[provide answer]			
17.Does your entity have an officer responsible for Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER)?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes', please state that officer's contact details:		[Insert name and contact details]			

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (where relevant)

• Business registration/license proof	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Bank account details document	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Address of the entity and Authority of officer proofs	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Audited financial statement from the last 3 financial years	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Fraud, corruption, anti-money laundering and counter terrorist financing Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
• SER Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>

I declare that the particulars given herein above are true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge, and the documents submitted in support of this form are genuine and obtained legally from the respective issuing authority.

I declare that none of the funds received or to be received by my company will be used for criminal activities, including financing terrorism or money laundering.

By sending this declaration to SPC, I agree that my business and personal information may be used by SPC for due diligence purposes. I also understand and accept that SPC will treat any personal information it receives in connection with my proposal in accordance with its [Privacy Policy](#), and the [Guidelines for handling personal information of bidders and grantees](#).

For the Bidder: *[insert name of the company]*

Signature:

Name of the representative: *[insert name of the representative]*

Title: *[insert Title of the representative]*

Date: *[Click or tap to enter a date]*

Annex 4: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

Technical Requirements	
<i>Evaluation criteria</i>	<i>Response by Bidder</i>
Experience and specified personnel/sub-contractors	
Experience: the bidder must demonstrate at least 5 years' experience and must provide details of two reference clients demonstrating their experience in providing services similar to those referred to in the terms of reference at part three. Bidders must provide the contact details of a referee for each contract and any supporting information, if necessary.	Experience: <i>[insert details of relevant experience]</i>
	Details for three references:
	1. Client's name: <i>[insert name of client 1]</i>
	Contact name: <i>[insert name of contact]</i>
	Contact details: <i>[insert contact details]</i>
	Value contract: <i>[insert value of contract]</i>
	2. Client's name: <i>[insert name of client 2]</i>
	Contact name: <i>[insert name of contact]</i>
	Contact details: <i>[insert contact details]</i>
	Value contract: <i>[insert value of contract]</i>
Personnel: <i>[insert details of the personnel/sub-contractors required]</i>	Details about personnel/sub-contractors
	Manager's experience: <i>[insert details about manager's experience]</i>
	Consultants' experience: <i>[insert details about consultants' experience]</i>
Technical Requirement 1	
Academic Qualifications of the Consultant (s)	<i>[Bidder's answer]</i>
Technical Requirement 2	
A minimum of ten (10) years demonstrated experience	<i>[Bidder's answer]</i>
Technical Requirement 3	
Demonstrated experience working on women's economic empowerment programming.	<i>[Bidder's answer]</i>
Technical Requirement 4	
Demonstrated experience conducting market systems analysis and/or labour market assessments.	<i>[Bidder's answer]</i>
Technical Requirement 5	
Demonstrated experience of previous assignments in the Pacific	<i>[Bidder's answer]</i>
Technical Requirement 6	
Familiarity with clean energy technologies and the clean energy supply chain in the Pacific region.	<i>[Bidder's answer]</i>

For the Bidder: *[insert name of the company]*

Signature:

Name of the representative: *[insert name of the representative]*

Title: *[insert Title of the representative]*

Date: *[Click or tap to enter a date]*

Annex 5: FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

In their financial proposal, bidders should detail as much as possible the price requested in response to the technical specifications.

Wherever possible, this should be stated as a lump sum and then as a total amount (e.g. lump sum can be: daily rate for a consultant, a project manager, a developer, a scientist, lump sum for the organisation of an event, price of a consultation and total amount can be: number of days of drafting required to produce the report, number of meetings required, number of conferences, workshops, etc.).

Good detail in their financial proposal helps bidders to give clarity and transparency to their proposal and makes it easier for SPC to score the proposals received.

The contract to be concluded with the selected bidder must mention all the costs incurred for the execution of the assignment entrusted to him. No additional costs can be claimed from SPC after the contract has been signed. Bidders must mention in their financial proposal all additional costs foreseen for the execution of the contract (material, equipment, travel, etc.). These costs will either be included in their fees, paid or reimbursed by SPC upon presentation of supporting documents. In any case, they must be estimated by the bidder in its financial proposal and will form an integral part of SPC's evaluation of proposals.

Bidders must also mention any special conditions relating to the amount of their proposal or the terms of payment.

The financial proposal must be submitted inclusive of taxes in accordance with the applicable legislation. However, the final amount of the awarded contract may be paid to the successful bidder inclusive or exclusive of taxes, depending on the tax exemptions enjoyed by SPC as an intergovernmental organisation in its member countries and territories.

The following form is given as an indication, the bidder may submit its financial proposal to SPC in another format, provided that it complies with the instructions detailed in this RFP/RFQ and in particular:

BIDDER'S FINANCIAL PROPOSAL – SERVICES

All costs indicated on the Financial Proposal should be **inclusive** of all applicable taxes. The format shown below should be used in preparing the price schedule. All prices in the proposal must be presented in **USD**.

Particulars	Amount (USD)
Professional fees	Day rate: USD _____
Other expenses (please specify)	
TOTAL	

Bidders financial proposal should include a budget narrative detailing how the budgeted costs were calculated.

Professional fees: Staff salaries, consultant fees and any other professional costs (with details on the level of effort of each person on the team if applicable. i.e. 50% full time, full-time, etc.).

SPC will not cover separate lines for overheads/running costs, contingencies... If these apply, the costs are to be considered in the professional fees charged for the delivery of the specific services.

SPC does not provide or reimburse insurance for consultants travel or health, professional indemnity or any other risks or liabilities that may arise during the consultancy (this includes any subcontractors or associates the consultant may hire). SPC is also not responsible for any arrangements or payments related to visas, taxes or duties for which the consultant may be liable.

Any Travel under this consultancy will be organised by SPC.

SPC will not cover any IT and communication equipment for the duration of the assignment. The consultant is to ensure stable internet connection for virtual interactions when necessary.

No payment will be made for items which have not been priced. Such items are deemed to be covered by the financial offer.

Bidders will be deemed to have satisfied themselves, before submitting their proposal and to its correctness and completeness, taking into account of all that is required for the full and proper performance of the contract and to have included all costs in their rates and prices.

For the Bidder: *[insert name of the company]*

Signature:

Name of the representative: *[insert name of the representative]*

Title: *[insert Title of the representative]*

Date: *[Click or tap to enter a date]*