

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)

FOR SERVICES

Project Title:	Event Management Consultant for Pacific Women Lead at SPC (PWL at SPC) and the 2024 Triennial.
Nature of the services	The Pacific Community (SPC) Human Rights and Social Development (HRSD) division, through Pacific Women Lead at SPC, is seeking a consultant to coordinate participant travel and attendance, event planning, merchandise and collateral, and other logistics for the 15 th Triennial Conference for Pacific Women and 8 th Women's Ministerial meeting, being held from 20-26 July 2024.
Location:	Suva, Fiji
Date of issue:	27/02/2024
Closing Date:	5/03/2024
SPC Reference:	24-6246

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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).

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.

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 Quotation (RFQ) Process

At SPC, procurement valued at more than EUR 2,000 and less than or equal to EUR 45,000 requires an evaluation of at least three quotations to determine the offer that provides the best value for money through a Request for Quotation (RFQ) process.

This RFQ sets out SPC's requirements for a project and it asks you, as a bidder, to respond in writing in a prescribed format with pricing and other required information.

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

Part 2: INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

2.1 Background

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

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 quotation to be considered, it is important that you provide all the prescribed information by the closing date and in the format specified.

2.2 Submission Instructions

You must **submit your quotation and all supporting documents** in English and as an attachment to an email sent to pwl@spc.int and with the subject line of your email as follows: **Submission RFQ24-6246**. The email should also be copied to rfq@spc.int.

The supporting documents expected in this RFQ are:

- [The Conflict-of-Interest Declaration form](#) completed
- A Cover Letter
- Completed Technical Proposal Form, responding to the RFQ Scope of Services.

- Completed Financial Proposal Form outlining all costs, in line with the milestones of this RFQ (refer to Section F).
- Current resume with at least the names of two referees with contact details.
- Copies of Business Registration and TIN Registration are mandatory requirements for local vendors (Fiji Citizens).
- Work Plan & Budget

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

Bids will be evaluated on the basis of information received by **11.45pm Fiji (GMT+12) on 5/03/2024**.

2.3 Evaluation & Contract Award

Each quotation validly received will be assessed against the evaluation criteria matrix set out in [Part 4](#). Any changes in the evaluation criteria will result in the RFQ process being re-issued.

SPC may award the contract once it has determined that a bidder has met the prescribed requirements and the bidder’s proposal has been determined to be substantially responsive to the RFQ documents, provide the best value for money (highest cumulative score) and best serve the interests of SPC.

In the event of a bid being accepted, procurement will take place under SPC’s [General Terms and Conditions of Contract](#) and depending on the value or nature of the procurement, the award will be made by issuing a purchase order or a signed and dated contract, or both.

2.4 Key Contacts

Please contact SPC should you have any doubt as to what is required or if we can help answer any questions that you may have.

Jacqui Berrelll will be your primary point of contact for this RFQ and can be contacted at jacquelineb@spc.int, and will be guide by, and report to the HRSD management team leading the Triennial coordination. . You should copy any communications into rfq@spc.int.

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 RFQ process, at any point where there is phone call or other conversation, SPC expects to keep a file note of the exchange, with all forms of communication with prospective bidders to be retained as source documents for the procurement of the services.

2.5 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
RFQ sent to potential vendors	27/02/2024
RFQ Closing Date	5/03/2024
Award of Contract	11/03/2024
Commencement of Contract	13/03/2024
Conclusion of Contract	30/09/2024

2.6 Legal and compliance

Confidentiality: Unless otherwise agreed by SPC in advance or where the contents of the RFQ are already in the public domain when shared with the bidder, bidders shall at all times treat the contents of the RFQ 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 RFQ 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 RFQ process. **In support of your response to this RFQ, you must submit to SPC [the Conflict-of-Interest Declaration form](#) available on our procurement page website: <https://spc.int/procurement>.**

Breach of this requirement can result in SPC terminating any contract with a successful bidder.

Currency, validity, duties, taxes: Unless specifically otherwise requested, all proposals should be in FJD 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.

No offer of contract or invitation to contract: This RFQ 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 RFQ. SPC will handle any personal information it receives under the RFQ in line with its [Privacy Policy](#), and the [Guidelines for handling personal information of bidders and grantees](#).

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 RFQ process.

2.7 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

The **Pacific Community (SPC)** is the principal scientific and technical organisation in the Pacific region, supporting development since 1947. We are an international development organisation owned and governed by our 27 country and territory members. In pursuit of sustainable development to benefit Pacific people, our organisation works across more than 20 sectors. We are known for our knowledge and innovation in such areas as fisheries science, public health, geoscience, and conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

The **Human Rights and Social Development (HRSD) Division** has a vision for just, equitable and resilient Pacific societies. It aims to achieve this by advancing human rights, equality and social inclusion for all Pacific people, grounded in cultural values and principles.

As the key implementing partner for the Pacific Women Lead portfolio, SPC leads the **Pacific Women Lead at SPC programme (PWL at SPC)**, located within SPC's HRSD Division. The PWL at SPC programme goal is that Pacific women and girls, in all their diversity, are safe and equitably share in resources, opportunities and decision-making, with men and boys.

A Consultant or Vendor – individual or organisation – is being sought to provide logistics and coordination support for the 15th Triennial Conference for Pacific Women and the 8th Women's Ministerial meeting. The HRSD division, including PWL at SPC, is leading the Triennial's coordination. Support will be delivered from Fiji, ideally Suva, for the Triennial event that is being held as a hybrid event hosted in the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI), from 20-26 July 2024.

It is estimated the Vendor will commit up to 50 days, starting with 1 day per week and then building up to 5 days per week during July when the event is being held, likely offering remote support from Fiji for the hybrid event hosted in the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI). In summary, over 5 months working up to 50 days (March to July 2024).

B. Purpose, objectives, scope of services

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The 15th Triennial Conference for Pacific Women and 8th Women's Ministerial meeting (hereafter referred to collectively as "the Triennial"), is being held from 20-26 July 2024.

The Triennial plays a key role in linking to other intergovernmental fora due to its convening of national women's machineries and women's rights organisations and is an opportunity to reflect on the progress in the implementation of the revised Pacific Platform for Action (PPA) on Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights. It is a flagship event for SPC, held every three years.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Vendor will assist the HRSD division, through the PWL at SPC programme, with the successful implementation of event planning and coordination for the Triennial. The vendor will work directly with HRSD management leading the Triennial activity, and in collaboration with the finance, procurement and PWL at SPC team for up to 50 days (early March to 31 July 2024).

Resourcing for the Vendor's approach should consider either one person, or a team, coordinating:

1. Event coordination – high-level event planning and coordination skills required, including the provision of high-level advice and recommendations to guide the Triennial’s overall planning.
2. Administrative assistance – general assistance to support the significant volume of logistics such as flight and accommodation bookings including transfers; extensive levels of communications and coordination with participants; and ongoing administrative tasks.

Tasks to be undertaken will include:

- Planning the event from start to finish according to requirements, target audience and objectives
- Design an event plan that considers all logistics for the event, in line with SPC policies and procedures and HRSD objectives.
- Continuously update and manage the budget, originally prepared by HRSD management.
- Manage a run sheet of tasks outlining outputs and timeframes, in consultation with HRSD management and the HRSD’s implementation team.
- Procurement of goods and services will be a key requirement in this role, ensuring catering, merchandise and other suppliers are contracted in line with SPC policies and procedures.
- Monitor the completion of tasks, ensuring timeframes are actively managed.
- With guidance from the HRSD team, the vendor will arrange, manage and coordinate all aspects of participants’ access and attendance, from travel to accommodation bookings in line with the SPC Procurement Guidelines. This covers:
 - Support to participants including through on call support to travelling participants;
 - Air travel: itinerary and e-ticketing, working with the HRSD Finance team;
 - Accommodation: confirm bookings for all travelling participants at the designated hotel(s). Noting this vendor is in charge of transit accommodation. Separately, they will also work with HRSD staff in RMI for the accommodation in RMI.
 - Transfers: Car/Shuttle arrangement from airport to hotel and meeting venue
 - Assist with visa information (relevant visa for passport holders)
 - Tracking of e-tickets (used/unused/non-refundable)
 - E-tickets to be sent with a Logistics Note five days prior to travelling.
 - Any other logistic coordination to ensure successful delivery of the event
- Active participation in the one-week event in July 2024. Noting this may be remote assistance or in-person assistance, with this to be confirmed by the HRSD team (any travel and associated costs would be covered by HRSD through the PWL at SPC programme). As a result, potential travel may be required.
- Coordinate the Participant List as required by SPC Finance, including a final list of confirmed invitees for each of the 3 days, then upon completion of the event a scanned PDF copy of the final list signed by participants each day.
- As required, liaise with all stakeholders involved in the event, including coordination and follow-up communications. Stakeholders will include, but not be limited to, participants, donors, rapporteurs and other suppliers/consultants.
- Liaise with HRSD management and HRSD’s implementation team on meeting venue requirements including equipment, ICT, materials and stationery, seating and special disability access requirements. SPC will provide guidance on environmental, dietary and access requirements.
- In line with SPC policies and procedures, liaise with the relevant ICT personnel to coordinate activities that require technical ICT support and/or audio-visual equipment and liaise with contractors for the provision of relevant equipment as required.
- Pre-event follow up with all suppliers.
- Prior to and during the event provide updates as requested to the designated HRSD team.
- Coordinate a post-event reflection meeting, as required, with key stakeholders to capture achievements, successes and lessons learned and provide an end-of-assignment report.

C. Timelines, Work Plan and Budget

The vendor will commence work as soon as the contract has been signed.

All applicants are expected to submit a Work Plan and budget that outlines all deliverables and costings in accordance with the timeframes for the event (costs for their delivery; excluding event costs).

The vendor will ideally be based in Suva, and be available on-call to attend the SPC Nabua, Suva, office that houses HRSD. There should be no travel costs associated with attending the Suva office for work.

For the one-week event in RMI, active participation is required. Noting this will likely be remote assistance from Suva rather than on-site assistance in RMI, with this modality to be confirmed by the HRSD team closer to the event date. Any overseas travel and associated costs will be covered by the PWL at SPC programme, should they arise as a requirement to support the event in RMI.

D. Reporting and contracting arrangements

The vendor(s) will ideally be based in Suva, Fiji, for ease of meeting at SPC's Suva office, however this is flexible. The vendor will report to their designated contact at HRSD for sign off and approvals of deliverables, however, daily activities will be guided by HRSD's designated implementation team.

Upon completion of the event, a final report of approx. 2 pages will be required from the vendor, with required content such as lessons learned to be specified by the HRSD implementation team.

E. Skills and qualifications

- At least 7 years of experience in event management including leading the coordination of similar regional and multi-country events
- Ability to provide a Police Clearance Certificate as a requirement for working with young people under 18 years of age
- Excellent planning, organisational and coordination skills
- Excellent communication skills and ability to work within a diverse environment
- Ability to work independently and to apply creative problem-solving skills
- Experience working in Pacific contexts
- Familiarity with concepts associated with child protection, safeguarding, human rights, gender equality, social inclusion, and culture

F. Scope of Bid Price and Schedule of Payments

The Event Management Vendor is to provide one quote, with itemised costing.

The contract will be paid on a milestone basis, with supervisor confirmation or acceptance of the associated deliverables required before payment. As part of solicitations, the consultant is expected to provide a confirmation of time required for the scope of services.

TABLE 1: Triennial

Milestone/deliverables	Deadline
Milestone 1 - Approved Work Plan for the event; reviewed budget, and Project Management Runsheet (ie excel spreadsheet) .	March. 2024

<p>Milestone 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Event Plan and draft Runsheet - Venue confirmed and procurement requests finalised (pending contracts) - initial list of speakers and participants finalised (100 minimum) and invitations sent. RSVPs being coordinated. 	<p>May</p>
<p>Milestone 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final Event Plan and final Runsheet - Procurement contracts in place (ie rapporteur, catering, photographer, etc) - Confirmation of attending participants, with a minimum 20 participants' flights and accommodation booked. -finalise list of attending participants, with flights booked plus DSA and other arrangements for travellers completed. 	<p>June</p>
<p>Milestone 4</p> <p>End-of-assignment report detailing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Successful completion of the convening event - Completion of post-convening reflection - Completion of end of assignment report including lessons learned, and feedback from MEL evaluation survey 	<p>August 2024</p> <p>(Final report by 30 September 2024)</p>

G. Annexes to the Terms of Reference

- Link to the Triennial webpage hosted by SPC: [Triennial Conference of Pacific Women | Human Rights & Social Development \(spc.int\)](https://www.spc.int/triennial-conference-of-pacific-women-human-rights-social-development)
- Pacific Women Lead at SPC webpage link: [Pacific Women Lead | Human Rights & Social Development \(spc.int\)](https://www.spc.int/pacific-women-lead-human-rights-social-development)

Part 4: PROPOSAL EVALUATION MATRIX

4.1 Competency Requirements & Score Weight

The evaluation matrix below 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.

Evaluation criteria	Score Weight (100%)	Points obtainable
Mandatory requirements		
Mandatory requirements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Cover Letter • Completed Technical Proposal Form, responding to the RFQ Scope of Services. • Completed Financial Proposal Form outlining all costs, in line with the milestones of this RFQ (refer to Section F). • Current resume with at least the names of two referees with contact details. • Copies of Business Registration and TIN Registration are mandatory requirements for local vendors (Fiji Citizens). • Work Plan & Budget 		Mandatory requirements. Bidders will be disqualified if any of the requirements are not met
Technical requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ability to work independently and to apply creative problem-solving skills 	10%	100
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Excellent planning, organisational and coordination skills 	10%	100
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At least 7 years of experience in event management including leading the coordination of similar regional and multi-country events 	20%	200
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience working in Pacific contexts, ideally based in Suva to perform online and in-office work as required. 	20%	200
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Familiarity with concepts associated with child protection, safeguarding, human rights, gender equality, social inclusion, and culture. This includes ability to provide Police Clearance Certificate if contracting is to progress. 	10%	100
Total Technical Score	70%	700
Financial		
Price and payment terms	30%	300
Total Score	100%	1,000