



CLARIFICATIONS

Date:	3 December 2024
To:	Interested service providers / consultants
Contact:	SPC Procurement – procurement@spc.int
Subject:	Clarifications
Procurement Reference:	RFQ24-7295
RFQ Title:	Research, assess and advise on sustainable financing considerations for the Pacific Research Vessel

Feasibility Study and Cost Estimation

For a copy of the Feasibility Study and the Operating Cost Estimation Presentation, please contact procurement@spc.int.

Anticipated Timelines

We are working towards an early 2027 delivery.

Funding Status

Approximately EUR 25 million have been secured and SPC is confident it will raise the additional required funding well before the availability of funds becomes an issue.

This consultancy is focussed on the funding for the operations of the research vessel after commissioning, not on securing funds to complete the vessel construction. Contracting a shipyard and a vessel management company (VMC) is proceeding (albeit with some delays mainly experienced as a consequence of the unrest in Noumea earlier this year).

This RFQ is focussed on establishing a model for SPC to sustain the annual operations of the vessel. It is not so much concerned with SPC securing sources of funding that are sustainable. This is because, while many sources of SPC funding have served the organisation well over a long period of time, that funding cannot be considered sustainable as it varies from year to year. This means SPC accesses a wide variety of funding sources that all contribute to sustaining its operations.

Joint Venture

It is unlikely that SPC would consider a joint venture (along the lines of the Pacific Forum Line when it was first established), given the relatively small size of the vessel and the specific fisheries research needs of SPC members.

This consultancy could usefully assess the resourcing needs of SPC to effectively sustain the financial requirements of the vessel. This might be a responsibility assumed solely by SPC or a responsibility shared with the VMC.

Experience

Experience in offshore vessels would be an advantage as it is quite a specific field.

If you have already made a submission and wish to amend it, you can submit a revised proposal before the deadline. In that case, please state that you wish to use your last submission when you resubmit.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

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