

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultant

Development of a Sub-regional Resource Mobilization Strategy for the Pacific Island Countries

Assignment title:	Development of a sub-regional resource mobilization strategy for sustainable land management in the Pacific Island countries
Specialization:	Specialist in Natural Resources Management
Supervisor:	Programme Coordinator, Asia-Pacific, Global Mechanism
Duty station:	Home-based

A. Background

The Global Mechanism (GM) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) has developed the Integrated Financing Strategy (IFS) to support countries mobilise financial resources to fund activities in Sustainable Land Management (SLM). The ultimate objective of an IFS is to ensure adequate, predictable and sustainable financing in SLM, leading the way to the establishment of an Integrated Investment Framework (IIF). The UNCCD 10-Year Strategy calls specifically for the establishment of IIFs and for the alignment of National Action Programmes (NAP).

Article 11 of the Convention stipulates that affected country parties shall consult and cooperate to prepare sub-regional and/or regional action programmes (RAP) to harmonize, complement and increase the efficiency of national programmes. Such cooperation may include agreed joint programmes for the sustainable management of trans-boundary resources, scientific and technical cooperation, and strengthening of relevant institutions.

The **Pacific Island Countries (PIC)** face a number of environmental challenges linked to geographical isolation, climate change, soil and coastal erosion, land scarcity and water management. Mainstreaming land and environmental concerns into development frameworks both at national and regional levels is a key challenge for the region but a critical factor in the fight against land degradation. Strengthening communication, lobbying capacities within environmental negotiations and processes, and increasing resource mobilisation remain fundamental.

A Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 10th Conference of Parties to the UNCCD was held in Nadi, Fiji from 29 August to 2 September 2011, and was attended by 12 Pacific Island Parties to the Convention and Timor-Leste, partners, donors and non-governmental organizations from the region. The meeting highlighted priorities and recommendations regarding NAP alignment; Pacific participation in CRIC, COP and CST meetings; national monitoring and

information management systems; convention integration and coordination; financial flows; and regional support. A “One Pacific Voice” was emphasized as the way to reach consensus on challenges and gaps, and enhance a common position as region.

The GM has actively been supporting small island developing states (SIDS) to mainstream SLM into relevant policy and regulatory frameworks and to promote cooperation between countries and across different regions and sub-regions. This support has been channelled through the GM’s South-South cooperation programme, and in particular through the “scope|acp” project.

Scope|acp focuses on building capacities, sharing knowledge and forging partnerships among like-minded stakeholders, in order to increase financial resources for UNCCD implementation in the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) regions. The programme is the UNCCD component of a multi-partner EU funded initiative entitled ‘Capacity Building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries’ (ACP MEAs).

Scope|acp operates on the national, sub-regional and international levels in partnership with existing regional hubs, including the African Union Commission (AUC), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development (CNIRD), Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The project aims to strengthen the capacities of ACP country stakeholders to build interregional and sub-regional bridges on key issues and mobilize resources with the development of specific tools, such as IFs, to support national and/or sub-regional SLM priorities.

B. Organizational context

Against this backdrop, the GM has actively been engaging in the countries of the Pacific to mainstream SLM into important policy and regulatory frameworks. The scope|acp project, in partnership with SPREP, piloted a study entitled “Feasibility of Integrated Financing Strategies for Fiji and Samoa and regional inferences”, which was finalised in February 2012. The report underlines the various factors that influence the Pacific Island Countries’ ability to mobilise resources for SLM, including institutional, legal and financial frameworks. Mainstreaming SLM into country development frameworks is a condition for effective resource mobilisation. The report identifies challenges and ways to overcome them.

Under the framework of scope|acp, a **sub-regional resource mobilisation strategy (RMS) workshop** is planned to take place in Fiji in the second trimester of 2014. The GM is engaging a consultant to design and develop a **Sub-regional RMS for the Pacific**. The RMS is expected to strengthen existing country processes and help PICs develop an enabling environment for increased investments in SLM in the region. The strategy is expected to support improvement in the financing conditions for SLM and also contribute directly to the alignment processes of NAPs and SRAPs. Representatives from countries and territories that are part of the PIC will gather to discuss and technically endorse the strategy in the second trimester of 2014. Inputs from country representatives will then be included in the draft RMS before finalization and validation by governments.

C. Assignment description and objectives

Building on the outcomes of the above-mentioned IFS report and regional consultation, the objective of this strategy development phase, ie. the **objective of this consultancy**, will be to design a fully-fledged sub-regional resource mobilization strategy leading to increased financing for programmes and projects in SLM in the countries of the Pacific on national and sub-regional levels.

Activities to now have helped analyse existing financing options available, assessed potential financing instruments (from traditional as well as innovative sources), and highlighted challenges. The sub-regional RMS will seek to define common goals for PIC countries and aim to boost funding for the sustainable management of shared land and natural resources. Participants at the workshop will identify priority actions to implement the strategy and the roles and responsibilities of the main stakeholders. This will considerably increase regional cooperation and integration and ultimately help leverage resources for national level implementation.

The consultant will carry out, in close consultation with key stakeholders, including SPREP:

The full development of the RMS and of its implementation plan:

The consultant will develop a detailed and profound report that will propose how to increase finance for SLM in the region by:

- creating an enabling environment;
- increasing capacities of stakeholders in their resource mobilization efforts;
- analyzing costs and financing gaps;
- analyzing intervention sectors and propose activities.

D. Activities

The consultant will work under the direct supervision of the Global Mechanism's Programme Coordinator for the Asia-Pacific and the Programme Officer for South-South Cooperation, actively consulting with stakeholders in the countries of the region and with respective UNCCD National Focal Points. He/she will focus on the following:

1. Full development of the Resource Mobilization Strategy (RMS) for Pacific countries and of its implementation plan:

- (i) Propose an annotated outline of the RMS;
- (ii) Present the draft RMS at a regional launching workshop and finalize the document based on the outcomes of the Fiji workshop:
 - o Define the priority areas (and related key activities) of the RMS;
 - o Propose ways to better mainstream SLM into the development frameworks, both at the national and regional levels;
 - o Propose (a) coordination mechanism(s) for SLM in the region and the setup of a knowledge management component;

- Propose an advocacy, communication and awareness-raising plan for the implementation of the RMS.

2. Contribution to the workshops foreseen for the above activities:

- (i) Support the organization of one RMS endorsement workshop;
- (ii) Participate as resource person in above workshop;
- (iii) Present preliminary results of the study at above workshop;
- (iv) Compile workshop feedback into RMS;
- (v) Draft a workshop report.

E. Organization of work and an indicative schedule

Main deliverable: RMS for SLM in PIC elaborated

This consultancy service will be for the duration of 3 months from 1 April to 27 June 2014. At the beginning of service, the consultant will prepare a detailed organization of work and timetable.

#	Deliverables	Expected by
1	Draft RMS available	Before the workshop
2	Final version of RMS available	After the workshop

F. Contractual Terms

A contract will be issued for the period of 3 months, from 1 April to 27 June 2014. Fees will be based on qualifications and the level of experience.

G. Submission of applications

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to **staffing@unccd.int**, together with a UN Personal History Form or CV, specifying the position.

The deadline for applications is 31 March 2014. Only applications submitted by the deadline will be considered.

No telephone calls will be returned. Please address your application as indicated above and please do not address or copy your application to an individual at the Secretariat.