

## Clarifications

### **RFP23-6018 – Preferred supplier for services to support the work of SPC FAME in aquatic biosecurity and aquaculture**

**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024

#### **RESPONSES TO QUERIES**

##### **Clarification 1: Scope**

**Question:** We could potentially provide professional services and act as a service provider for several, if not all, of the 4 work areas disclosed in the tender document. However, the full scope of what may be required is not entirely clear from the materials provided. Is there any other background information that relates to this tender, perhaps which includes the identity of the various aquatic species, the likely amount of time involved, and how the tender fits into the Pacific's Regional Framework on Aquatic Biosecurity?

**Answer:** Although there are multiple services being advertised, it is not expected that one bidder will be able to satisfy all of these. Bidders are instead invited to apply for one or more of these according to their background, skills and experience. The range of projects and services being anticipated is dependent on available funding. At the present time, SPC-FAME has funding to undertake the shellfish quality assurance work during 2024 but will need to seek additional funding for other work. As such, the objective here is to get suitable consultants/organisations added to preferred supplier list so that they can be drawn upon when funds become available.

##### **Clarification 2: Focus**

**Question:** Is SPC looking for experience working with the financial realities of supply chains' environmental, social and governance (ESG) work and industry development, or will SPC's upcoming projects be in more of an academic/review orientation?

**Answer:** The projects will focus on technical aspects of food safety and disease management. Although environmental, social and governance forms a component of each of the projects, it is not the primary component.

##### **Clarification 3: Experience**

**Question:** Are you a priori looking for deep regional experience, or will you consider deep project work in similar sustainable small-scale fisheries (SSF's) in developing and emerging countries as relevant background?

**Answer:** Deep regional experience is not the overarching experience. Our focus is more on technical services and support.

#### **Clarification 4: Language**

**Question:** Are French language skills mandatory for all experts?

**Answer:** Although considered useful, French language skills are not considered mandatory. The majority of countries in the Pacific use English rather than French as their primary language.

#### **Clarification 5: Multiple Bids**

**Question:** Can experts be present on more than one bid, or must they be exclusive to one bid?

**Answer:** Experts can apply for one or multiple work areas, as part of a single bid.

Experts can also be present on more than one bid, but in a support role, not as the lead bidder.