

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Building Loss and Damage Experiences and Knowledge in the Pacific and Southeast Asia region

“Towards Economic Resilience in the Pacific and Southeast Asia: Reducing Risk of Loss & Damage in the Tourism and Agriculture Sectors from Extreme and Slow-Onset Events through Improved Assessments and Education”

Terms of Reference

1. Background and Justification

Climate change associated risks (e.g. sea level rise, salinization, drought, extreme storms etc.) are expected to increase. The IPCC Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) (IPCC SREX 2012); as well as recent disasters, such as Cyclone Evan in Samoa in December 2012 and the combination of storm surges and high tides flooding in the Marshall Islands all underscore the necessity to revisit and enhance knowledge on how to reduce and prevent the risk of loss and damage. The project intervention is in line with the climate change priorities identified in the S.A.M.O.A pathway outcome document regarding the need to build strategies to deal with Loss and Damage from climate change and extremes events.

The project focuses on loss and damage from climate change associated impacts in the Asia-Pacific countries. It aims to generate and share new knowledge, improved understanding, and awareness on loss and damage to adverse impacts of climate change. It will also provide new insights into how to enhance tools and approaches to address loss and damage in the tourism and agriculture sectors in the Pacific and Southeast Asia LDCs/SIDS. It will cover four countries in the Pacific region namely: Cook Island, Solomon Island, Fiji, Samoa; and two countries in Southeast Asia: Timor Leste and Malaysia

The project will provide a systematic and in-depth review and evaluation on loss and damage ground realities, experiences, and best practices through case studies in the respective countries in the agriculture and tourism sectors. Regional and national consultative meetings/specialised workshops, desk study, focus group discussions, expert interviews, in-depth interviews and household surveys will be used to gather information and data on loss and damage in the Pacific and Southeast Asia region. The project will facilitate the dissemination of knowledge, information and new insights to national experts, decision makers, climate change negotiators and practitioners, through different communication channels including brochures, leaflets and mass media.

2. Objective

1. To showcase loss and damage realities, experiences in LDCs/SIDS in the Pacific and Southeast Asia regions;
2. To present best experiences and lessons learned as well as new insights into how to strengthen existing/new tools for reducing risk to loss and damage;
3. To assess capacity needs on loss and damage in the agriculture and tourism sectors;
4. To carry out capacity-building and training as well as share information on reducing risk of loss and damage;

5. To build-up networks, share new knowledge, and provide relevant technical, policy and strategic recommendations regarding how to integrate improved knowledge and tools (risk information and EWSs) into planning and development process in the key economic sectors of the respective countries. This will also include providing scientific insights/advice to LDCs/SIDS on loss and damage negotiations.

3. Outputs/Results

The UNESCO Apia Office for the Pacific States Natural Science Programme Specialist the project leader. He will be responsible for the overall planning, coordination and reporting to the donor and UNESCO Headquarters. The international consultant will be responsible for the implementation of the project. The senior programme specialists/advisor from UNESCO Jakarta will also provide strategic advice and guidance for the implementation of the project and liaison with Malaysian counterparts and donor.

The international consultant (and team) will be responsible and carry out the following:

- a. In close consultation and collaboration with the project leader, prepare a detailed project work plan, methodology and budget proposal, as well as key risks to the project and how to mitigate/address these potential risks;
- b. Report to and coordinate with the project leader on matters relating to the implementation of activities under the project;
- c. Manage and coordinate specific project activities with national consultants, UNESCO technical support staff regarding the day-to-day activities;
- d. Review the six selected countries exposure, vulnerability, risk and impacts to climate change and climate variability focusing on the tourism and agricultural sectors;
- e. Review and examine key climate change adaptation tools and methods used in the agriculture and tourism sector in the six selected countries
- f. Organise one regional Think Tank meeting /panel discussion on Loss& Damages in the Pacific and South-East Asia countries (UNESCO already implementing this part);
- g. Collaborate and network with key partners and institutions in the Pacific and South East Asia regarding L & D from climate change and climate variability;
- h. Collect data in the six selected countries using both qualitative methods (in-depth interviews and focus group discussions) and quantitative methods (a questionnaire survey);
- i. Using a case study approach, analyse, contrast and assess how existing adaptation solutions (tools and methods) have addressed both extreme and slow onset hazards and impacts. In terms of L& D what was avoided, un-avoided or was unavoidable in the selected countries?
- j. Identify gaps and or limits of adaptation?
- k. Identify capacity building needs;
- l. Based on evidence, prioritise and propose how to address these gaps or limits of adaptation in the selected countries. How to enhance existing tools and develop innovative solutions to reduce L & D from climate change associated impacts in small Island context?
- m. Communicate key findings through different channels;
- n. Organise training/capacity building workshops in the selected countries
- o. Prepare project reports and formulate key L& D related policy recommendations.

4. Activities

- a. To review climate exposure, vulnerability, risk and impacts in the tourism and agricultural sectors in the six selected countries;
- b. To organise a regional Think Tank meetings/panel discussion on Loss & Damage (UNESCO currently implementing this activity);
- c. To conduct field surveys and consultations in the six selected countries
- d. To identify climate change adaptation tools and methods used in the agriculture and tourism sector respectively;
- e. To identify /analyse gaps and limits of adaptation;
- f. To identify/propose new solutions/tools and methods to deal with L & D;
- g. To strengthened collaboration and networks with key partners and institutions in the Pacific and South-East Asia regarding L & D from climate change and climate variability;
- h. To share knowledge acquired through mini-training/ capacity building workshops;
- i. To prepare progress reports and final project report with key policy relevant recommendations.

5. Inputs

The international consultant is welcome to make use the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States and facilities¹. An intern could be made available to support the project leader and the consultant (s). He /She will need to sub-contract the project with at least one national expert (e.g. agriculture and tourism sectors) from each of the six countries involved in the project. Hard and soft copy of all data and information collected during field work.

6. Timing

The project is expected to be completed in 9 months (March –December 2015) from the time of signing of the contractual agreement. The indicative timeframe for the project will be as follows:

Timing	Required Output
End of March	Contractual agreement signed
End of April	First Progress Report (Review climate exposure, vulnerability, risk and impacts)
End of July	Second Progress Report (survey, consultations, tools, gaps, limits of adaptation, capacity building needs/ new solutions identified/proposed etc)
End of November	Third Progress Report (Capacity building and knowledge sharing)
End of December	Deliver Final Report and data base. Allow one week of feedback to be incorporated into the final report

¹ Subject to space availability during the consultancy

7. Reporting

Submission of three Progress Reports, Mission Reports, Technical Reports and Final Report

8. Minimum content of proposals

The proposal should be structured into the technical and financial proposal. The financial proposal should show the following cost:

1. Consultant fees
2. Travel/Mission cost
3. Any other costs

9. Eligibility /qualifications/experience requirements

- At least a Master's degree (Environment, Climate Change, and Disaster Risk) A PhD would be preferable
- Strong experience in climate–environmental related research/projects
- Good understanding of climate change, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development issues
- Strong team work and ability to negotiate conduct consultation processes with various groups, national consultants and stakeholders;
- Good understanding of both qualitative and quantitative analysis;
- Very good oral and written communication skills in English;
- Ability to write high quality project reports;
- Good understanding of the Pacific SIDS;
- Knowledge of climate change adaptation is required. Knowledge on L & D would be an advantage Involvement in the preparation of projects and implementation plans is desirable;
- Knowledge of UNESCO will be an advantage

10. Expression of Interest

All expressions of interest, containing the curriculum vitae(s) of consultant(s), team or organisation and up to 3 written pages indicating knowledge and expertise in this area and availability to undertake the tasks must be received by UNESCO Office for the Pacific States **by Monday 2nd March 2016.**

Short listed candidates will be notified no later than two weeks after the initial closing date.

Additional information can be obtained from the Project **Leader**: Dr. Denis Chang Seng
UNESCO Natural Science Programme Specialist for the Pacific States

E-Mail: d.chang-seng@unesco.org

Expressions of interest should be marked “**Building Loss and Damage Experiences and Knowledge in the Pacific and Southeast Asia region**”and must be submitted **by post in sealed envelope to the following address:**

The Director
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