



Terms of Reference: International Consultant

Overview

Position: International Consultant “Climate-resilient food security for farming households across the Federated States of Micronesia”

Location: Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)

Background

The FSM government project “Climate-resilient food security for farming households across the Federated States of Micronesia” (funded by Green Climate Fund, [SAP020](#)) is a multi-year project started in January 2022 and is the **first comprehensive national effort** to focus on increasing the resilience of FSM’s most vulnerable communities to food insecurity in the face of climate change. The project targets all households in the FSM high islands undertaking some form of farming, totaling approximately 68,250 direct beneficiaries (across the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) with 63% of HHs conducting some form of agriculture and forestry). The project specifically works to improve technical capacity and coordination for Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) planning and policy, support improved decision-making for agriculture through descaled climate information, increase availability, stability, and accessibility of locally grown food for food security, improve nutritional outcomes for vulnerable households, develop new opportunities for income and household productivity, and strengthen climate resilient value chains across the agriculture sector by implementing three interrelated components:

1. **Establishing an enabling environment for adaptive action and investment:** This includes institutional coordination, undertaking descaled integrated vulnerability assessments, incorporation of climate change into State and national planning and policy, developing a network of farmer associations, and disseminating tailored communications for informed decision-making. These outputs will specifically help to better target adaptation investments based on community-level vulnerabilities, improve technical capacity for climate smart planning and policy, cement political commitment and accountability for CSA, and drive informed decision-making for farmers, all of which will increase the adaptive and anticipatory capacity of FSM and lay the foundation for improved strategic planning for food security and climate resiliency.
2. **Enhancing the food security of vulnerable households by introducing CSA practices:** This includes establishing agroforestry systems, capacity building for extension agents, awareness building and training for FSM households, and developing reserve capacity for climate disruption. This will increase availability, stability, and accessibility of locally grown food for food security, improve nutritional outcomes for vulnerable households, develop new opportunities for income and household productivity, and drive a national change in awareness and utilization of CSA for improved resiliency.
3. **Strengthening climate-resilient value-chains and market linkages across the agriculture sector:** This includes the development of new markets for local agriculture, enhanced food processing and preservation, and increasing awareness and consumption of local food). This will strengthen climate resilient value chains across the agriculture sector, improve food security gaps through



storage and processing, significantly transform opportunities for improved livelihoods thereby driving increased adaptive capacity, and create a strong incentive framework for local farmers to leverage CSA packages beyond the life of the project to secure a long-term shift towards improved climate resiliency with regards to food security.

Implementing Organization

The Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) is the Accredited Entity (AE) for the project and is responsible for supervising the implementation, financial management, evaluation, reporting and closure of the project, as well as having overall fiduciary responsibility for the project. The FSM national government, acting through the Department of Resources and Development (R&D) and the Department of Environment, Climate Change & Emergency (DECEM), as well as the College of Micronesia (COM-FSM) will serve as the Executing Entities (EE). The FSM government and COM-FSM have overall responsibility for the effective delivery of required inputs in order to achieve the expected project outputs. The FSM government is responsible for Component 1 and COM-FSM will be responsible for Components 2 and 3.

Overview of the Role

As an Executing Entity of SAP 020, Climate Change and Food Security for households in FSM, the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management (DECEM) is currently engaged in the implementation of the project. This project aims to enhance climate resilience in agriculture and improve food security across vulnerable communities.

Effective and strategic communication is critical to ensure that the project achieves its objectives. It also plays a vital role in knowledge sharing, behavior change, policy advocacy, and the dissemination of tools and applications that can benefit farmers, policy-makers, and stakeholders across FSM.

The International Communication Consultant will support DECEM and the SAP020 project team by designing and implementing a comprehensive communications strategy. A key component of the role includes the development and deployment of dissemination tools and access points tailored for **farmers and local communities** to access climate change information, adaptive farming techniques, early warning systems, and food security guidance across FSM.

Under the supervision of DECEM and in collaboration with national and state stakeholders, the Consultant will:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive **SAP020 Communication Strategy/Framework**, aligned with DECEM's national climate policies.
- Organize and support **communication training workshops** for local stakeholders, extension officers, and DECEM staff.
- Conduct a **needs assessment** to determine information and technology gaps among farmers and local communities in FSM.



- Lead the design and oversee the **development of access points** that:
 - Provide real-time and seasonal **climate information and advisories**.
 - Offer **climate-smart agricultural guidance**.
 - Include **early warning systems** for droughts, storms, and other hazards.
- Coordinate with **ICT experts, local developers, and development partners** to ensure sustainability and scalability.
- Lead user testing and feedback loops to refine tools before rollout.
- Develop a **Knowledge Sharing Plan** for project outputs, best practices, and lessons learned.
- Support the creation of a **digital knowledge platform** linked to DECEM's website for project resources and updates.
- Provide technical input to SAP020 M&E and reporting components regarding communication outcomes and outreach.
- Train local staff and community representatives in the use of the developed communication tools.
- Develop knowledge products, including reports and best practice guidelines.
- Review and enhance project components related to climate vulnerability assessments, agroecological zone mapping, and adaptive farming systems.
- Collaborating closely with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to incorporate diverse inputs into project proposals and ensure alignment with national priorities.
- Enhancing the knowledge and skills of local stakeholders, including smallholder farmers and state-run agricultural associations, in planning and managing climate-smart agriculture and irrigation practices.
- Developing frameworks to assess the effectiveness of implemented strategies, ensuring that projects meet their objectives and contribute to sustainable development goals.
- Advising on policy reforms to promote the adoption of climate-resilient practices in the agriculture sector, thereby facilitating a supportive environment for sustainable food security initiatives.
- Translating technical climate forecasts, weather patterns, and agricultural data into easy-to-understand formats.
- Creating simplified reports, infographics, and visual tools tailored for farmers with varying levels of literacy (Using local languages and culturally relevant storytelling techniques to convey information).
- Collaborate with Communication Officer on Conducting workshops, field demonstrations, and training sessions on climate-smart agriculture. Teaching farmers how to interpret basic weather forecasts, early warning alerts, and soil health reports.



Desired Qualifications

Education: Master's Degree in Agriculture, Environment Science, Geospatial Science or related field.

Experience: At least five years of similar work experience is required. Candidate should be able to work independently – with minimum supervision and guidance from supervisors. Demonstrated and extensive social media experience is an added advantage.

- **Skills:** Excellent written and oral English communication skills is required. Knowledge of other local languages is an asset. She/he should have advanced working knowledge of MS Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Publisher). Candidates with basic design and layout skills and adept in using Adobe Photoshop and PageMaker are an added advantage. Demonstrated and extensive social media experience is an added advantage.
- Advanced degree in Climate Science, Food Security, Environmental Policy, or a related field.
- Minimum of 10 years of experience in climate resilience, food security, or related areas.
- Demonstrated expertise in climate-smart agriculture, adaptation planning, and policy development.
- Experience in working with international organizations, governments, and local communities.
- Strong analytical, research, and report-writing skills.
- Excellent communication and stakeholder engagement capabilities.

Price Proposal

The consultant is required to submit a financial proposal with a single, all-inclusive lump sum amount that covers every cost associated with completing the assignment. This includes their professional fee, travel expenses, living allowance (if working outside their usual location), and any other relevant costs. The agreed-upon contract price will remain fixed, regardless of whether the project takes longer than initially specified.

Duration

5 months

Documentation Required:

Please provide:

- **Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability.**
- Personal CV indicating all past experience from similar projects, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of the Candidate and at least three (3) professional references.
- A completed FSM Government Employment Application

Send to: (Electronic submissions preferred)





X-ner Luther
SAP020 Project and Grants Manager
Micronesia Conservation Trust
P.O. Box 2177
Pohnpei, FM 96941

AND

Gienah Narruhn
Project Manager
Project Management Unit
Department of Resources and Development
Palikir Pohnpei, FM 96941

xluther@ourmicronesia.org and cc copy gnarruh@rd.gov.fm with the subject line “[Last Name], [First Name] – International Consultant GCF SAP020”.

Deadline: Applications accepted until filled.

