

Call for EoI for assisting the Republic of Nauru to develop a National Water and Sanitation Policy Framework and Implementation Plan



SOPAC

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Pacific Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) National Planning Programme

Development of a National Water and Sanitation Policy Framework and Implementation Plan for the Republic of Nauru

BACKGROUND

The Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) currently executes the European Union (EU) funded **Pacific Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) National Planning Programme**. The Programme is designed to support 14 Pacific Island Countries to strengthen their governance structures and frameworks to mainstream IWRM and Water Use Efficiency (WUE) into national planning processes.

Through the Pacific IWRM National Planning Programme, SOPAC has been requested by the Government of Nauru to secure technical support to assist in the preparation of a **National Water and Sanitation Policy Framework (NWSPF) and associated Implementation Plan**.

Specifically, it has been requested that technical assistance be provided to support Nauru's Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment (CIE) to develop the Policy Framework and Implementation Plan with the active participation of stakeholders through the soon-to-be-formed *National Committee on Water, Energy and Waste* (NCWEW) and the existing Water Technical Committee (WTC). While CIE is Nauru's lead agency for water, it is acknowledged that the responsibility for managing this fragile resource is shared across various government and non-government stakeholders.

Nauru has no significant surface water resources, limited groundwater resources, and is highly vulnerable to drought. Water for domestic use is obtained from a mixture of desalinated supply delivered by truck, rainwater harvested from roofs, non-potable coastal groundwater, seawater, and limited use of a thin lens of fresh groundwater under Nauru's central plateau. Consumption of potable water is relatively low, particularly during times of extended drought.

Despite relatively good toilet facilities, sanitation remains a significant problem on Nauru due to the impact of the island's cesspits and septic tanks on coastal groundwater. While there is no documentary evidence of health issues arising from contaminated groundwater, Nauru has one of the higher rates of hospitalized diarrhoea in the Pacific region. The need for better water supply is widely acknowledged, but to date there has been relatively little engagement on the issues of sanitation and hygiene.

Nauru's historical reliance on subsidized desalination has permitted both the attrition of alternative water infrastructure and the degradation of its groundwater resources. While recent droughts and less reliable supplies of desalinated water have seen Nauruans embrace improvements to rainwater harvesting, these difficulties have also pushed people towards inappropriate use of polluted groundwater resources.

Despite Nauru's small size, it is not immune to many of the barriers to cross-sectoral coordination experienced worldwide. Nauru currently has no institutional, legislative or policy frameworks for the management of water and sanitation, leaving the country with no specific objectives or agreed targets for the management of its water resources, and no clear lines of responsibility for water resources planning and decision making. A further difficulty is that, despite a common concern about water, the citizens of Nauru are not effectively engaged in the protection of their water resources, and there is no clear mechanism in which to facilitate their participation in planning and management decisions.

There is a clear desire within Government to "do something about water," and CIE is in the process of establishing the NCWEW to advise Government on water resource and sanitation management issues. In addition to providing advice to Government on water, energy and waste, CIE intends for the NCWEW to be given the responsibility of providing multi-stakeholder advice on the development of an overarching Policy Framework and Implementation Plan.

The CIE has identified the absence of such a policy framework as being a fundamental barrier to the integrated management of the Republic's scarce water resources, and see its development as a priority for the implementation of IWRM on Nauru. It is intended that the Policy Framework be a practical, "directing" document – capturing the key objectives, principles, priority issues, actions and responsibilities necessary to drive the management of water resources and sanitation across relevant agencies and sectors. It should aim to mainstream water management into the annual cycle of Government business, and establish clear and practical roles for CIE, WTC and the NCWEW in the ongoing implementation, evaluation and assessment of the policy.

CIE has requested that the Pacific IWRM National Planning Programme support technical assistance to assist in the development of the Policy Framework and Implementation Plan. CIE has further directed that the development of the framework should incorporate input from Nauru's key water stakeholders (attached at Annex I), and acknowledge the process followed and lessons learned during the preparation of Nauru's National Energy Policy Framework. The energy framework was prepared by CIE with the assistance of the Pacific Islands Energy Policy and Strategic Action Planning (PIEPSAP) programme, and is considered by CIE to be a good example of a successful process.

These Terms of Reference outline the core activities of this technical assistance, however the details of individual tasks and their implementation will need to be determined during initial detailed discussions with CIE. It is crucial also that the Policy Framework and Implementation Plan be both consistent and, where appropriate, integrated with the broader policies and initiatives of Government, including Nauru's National Sustainable Development Strategy. As such, the development of the NWSPF and Implementation Plan should seek the active input and engagement of the Minister for Commerce, Industry and the Environment, and where appropriate, Cabinet.

ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

Position Title:	Water Resources Policy Specialist
Location:	1. Environment Division of the Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment, Republic of Nauru. 2. Consultant's home office.
Timing and Duration:	The work is required to be undertaken over a total of 7 weeks input during a period of 3 months (January to March 2011). This input will need to be split between 3 missions in-country of 1, 2 and 2 weeks respectively, and 2 weeks total input from the Consultant's home office.

SCOPE OF WORK

The overall objective of the project of which this contract is a part of is to contribute to the sustainable development of the Republic of Nauru through the integrated management of its water resources.

The objective of this technical assistance is to support Nauru, and in particular its Ministry for Commerce, Industry and the Environment, to draft a practical and overarching National Water Resources and Sanitation Policy Framework that provides for the sustainable development of the water sector, and a practical Implementation Plan for the framework. The development of the framework will consider key elements of the management of water and sanitation on Nauru, including but not limited to:

- The provision, maintenance and future development of water supply and sanitation services;
- Water resources data collection, management and assessment;
- Water safety planning and drinking water standards;
- Water source protection and control of polluting activities;
- Water use efficiency and demand management; and
- Engagement of the community in water, sanitation and hygiene issues.

In undertaking this work, the consultant will actively seek consensus among stakeholders through the effective engagement of Nauru's National Committee on Water, Energy and Waste.

To assist in the development of the NWSPF, the Consultant will conduct a comprehensive review of current water governance and institutional arrangements for water in Nauru (including the various water related donor programmes operating in Nauru) and identify gaps and measures to bridge these through the adoption of IWRM approaches and principles. This work will specifically consider the important issue of Nauru's capacity to adapt to the water-related impacts of climate change, with a view to ensuring that the NWSPF and Implementation Plan contain provisions to strengthen this capacity.

The Consultant will be required to work under the direction of CIE and within Nauru's existing institutional framework, including the NCWEW. In undertaking this work, the Consultant will contribute to building the ongoing capacity of both the NCWEW and staff of CIE. The Consultant will therefore be required to apply a highly participatory method during the assignment, and undertake coaching and targeted training of counterpart staff

in order to enable their meaningful participation in this and future policy development processes.

The Consultant shall perform the following services in accordance with the terms and conditions of these Terms of Reference.

Mission 1 (1 week, January 2011)

1. Attend an initial briefing session with CIE to discuss and finalise the detailed steps and approach necessary to achieve these Terms of Reference.
2. Within the confines of the Consultant's Terms of Reference, reach agreement with CIE on the design and schedule of a work plan for the consultation and development of the policy framework and implementation plan.
3. Conduct initial consultations with the Minister for Commerce, Industry and Environment in order to incorporate his input into the design of the consultation process and development of the policy framework and implementation plan, and to ensure that these are aligned with current and proposed Government programs and policy initiatives.
4. In accordance with the work plan, conduct a series of initial individual consultation meetings with the stakeholders listed in Annexe I of these Terms of Reference.
5. Undertake a review of water governance and institutional arrangements for the management of water and sanitation, incorporating advice on:
 - a. how the policy framework for water can be best integrated with existing legislative frameworks; and
 - b. how Nauru's existing water resources management frameworks could be improved;
6. Conduct a debriefing sessions with CIE, WTC and the NCEW.

Tasks to be conducted remotely (consultant's home office between missions)

7. Complete and transmit to CIE an Inception Report covering summary of consultations and the review of water governance and institutional arrangements.
8. Prepare all necessary training and workshop material for the Consultant's second mission.

Mission 2 (2 weeks, February 2011)

9. Attend a briefing session with CIE to refine the Consultant's work plan.
10. In accordance with the work plan, and through a series of appropriately facilitated workshops, consult with the NCWEW in order to develop the structure and key content of the draft NWSPF.
11. Provide coaching and targeted hands-on training in order to facilitate the active participation of CIE's policy officer in the policy development process, ensuring that capacity is effectively transferred.
12. Conduct debriefing sessions with the Minister for Commerce, Industry and the Environment, CIE and the NCEW.

Tasks to be conducted remotely (consultant's home office between missions)

13. Complete and transmit to CIE a draft of the NWSPF.

14. Prepare all necessary training and workshop material for the Consultant's third mission.

Mission 3 (2 weeks, March 2011)

15. Attend a briefing session with CIE to further refine the Consultant's work plan.
16. In accordance with the work plan, and through a series of appropriately facilitated workshops, consult with the WTC and NCEW in order to finalise the draft NWSPF and develop an appropriate Implementation Plan.
17. Continue the provision of coaching and targeted hands-on training in order to facilitate the active participation of CIE's policy officer in the policy development process, ensuring that capacity is effectively transferred.
18. Conduct debriefing sessions with the Minister for Commerce, Industry and the Environment, CIE and the NCEW.

Tasks to be conducted remotely

19. Complete and transmit to CIE a draft Mission Report detailing clear conclusions and recommendations in response to these Terms of Reference, and with all consultant outputs attached as appendices.
20. Finalise the Mission Report in the light of comments received and transmit to CIE.

OUTPUTS

Outputs to be delivered by the Consultant include:

1. A project inception report, including a work plan and schedule for the consultation and development of the policy framework and implementation plan;
2. A summary of results of consultation with all stakeholders;
3. A report on the review of water governance and institutional arrangements for the management of water and sanitation;
4. A draft National Water and Sanitation Policy Framework;
5. A draft Implementation Plan for the policy framework; and
6. A Mission Report, to be produced within the allocated time period for the study, detailing clear conclusions and recommendations in response to these Terms of Reference, and with outputs 1 to 5 above attached as appendices.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The consultant will be recruited and contracted by SOPAC in Fiji under the EU-funded Pacific IWRM National Planning Programme, being responsible to Ms Rhonda Robinson, Project Coordinator.

CIE, acting as the 'National Executing Agency' (NEA), is the legal entity responsible for executing the National Project, and will be responsible for the overall co-ordination, management and supervision of all aspects of the project.

Overall supervision of the consulting services will be undertaken by Mr Bryan Star, Water Resources Division, CIE. Daily technical supervision of the work of the Consultant will be undertaken by the Environment Division of Nauru's Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment.

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Expressions of interest are to include:

- The applicant's *curriculum vitae* highlighting experience relevant to undertaking the tasks described in these Terms of Reference;
- A short brief (no more than two pages) broadly outlining the approach to be adopted in undertaking the tasks;
- A brief work plan to match the scope of work required;
- Examples of relevant work undertaken in the past; and
- An indication of applicant charges per day.

Financial proposals shall include indicative costs detailing fees, travel and other relevant items required to successfully complete the assignment. The costs of implementing local consultations through workshop(s), and printing and copying facilities will be provided by the client at no cost and should not be included in the financial proposal.

Expressions of interest are to be addressed to the Director of SOPAC and e-mailed to the following e-mail addresses director@sopac.org and copied to dave@sopac.org, and fane@sopac.org with the subject heading "Expression of Interest to Develop a National Water and Sanitation Policy Framework for the Republic of Nauru".

Submission of Expressions of Interest must reach the SOPAC Secretariat no later than 1630h, Fiji Time, on 30th November 2010.

Late applications will not be considered.

Enquiries may be directed to Mr Dave Hebblethwaite on E-mail: dave@sopac.org or Telephone: (679) 3381377 (extension 309).

Expressions of Interest will be assessed based on both technical competency and the total professional cost for completing the work (technical weighting 85%, financial 15%).

SOPAC will contact selected applicants for further discussions.

Annex I: List of key stakeholders to be consulted during the development of the Policy Framework

NO.	STAKEHOLDER
1	CIE Environment Unit
2	Utilities
3	Eigigu
4	Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation
5	Ministry of Public Health
6	Public Health Officer (Water)
7	Department of Fisheries
8	Budget Officer, Department of Finance
9	AMU, Department of Finance
10	DPPD, Department of Finance
11	Women's Affairs, Department of Home Affairs
12	Department of Education
13	Nauru Independent Association of Non Government Organisations (NIANGO)
14	Department of Education
15	National Disaster Management Office