

## **FSM National Seabed Resources International Consultancy Opportunity**

The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) seeks well qualified individuals or firms to assist in seabed resources management planning at the Department of Resources and Development.

### **Background:**

FSM has potential for seabed mining based on surveys conducted since the 1990's to 2005 by the US, Korea, Japan and SOPAC, which identified numerous seamounts, with cobalt-rich crusts. There are also indications of hydrothermal vent sites, which suggest seafloor massive sulphide (SMS) potential, within the Western part of FSM's EEZ. A total of 38 seamounts have been identified within FSM.

The FSM participated in a four (4) year (2011-2014) Deep Sea Minerals project funded by the European Union to help Pacific Island countries to improve the governance and management of their deep-sea minerals. Through this project the critical need to develop a legal framework that regulates prospecting, exploration, and extraction of seabed minerals was proposed in order to effectively and sustainably achieve FSM's objectives to: 1) expand its resource base by capitalizing the EEZ; 2) protect its environment; 3) establish an equitable financial arrangement for the nation and its people, and; 4) adhere to international law, exercise due diligence and informed national decision processes. Collaboration between the SOPAC-SPC Deep Sea Minerals and FSM's Department of Justice (DOJ) resulted in a draft legislation in 2014, now known as the National Seabed Resources Act. The Act, 1) creates a legal framework for management and development of offshore minerals and to govern sponsorship arrangements with contractors to undertake mining activities in the Area beyond the national jurisdiction; 2) requires that sponsorship activities in the Area must be carried out in accordance with best international practice and environmentally sustainable principles; 3) Promotes a transparent decision-making process and fair regulatory environment for investors in offshore minerals; and, 4) Secures optimum benefits from offshore minerals for the citizens, via fees, taxes and royalties paid to National Government.

### **Scope of Work:**

We now have the Act in place to regulate Deep Sea Mining (DSM); however, the need to institutionalize and begin implementing the law remains. In house expertise in DSM is lacking, so there is a need to bring in professionals in this field to assist in developing an operations framework /guideline to effectively and sustainably implement the law and establish the National Seabed Resources Authority (NSRA).

The Consultant will provide guidance and mentorship to the Department of Resources and Development and more broadly to the Government of FSM to develop an operations framework to guide effective and sustainable development of seabed resources and others, as called for in the National Seabed Resources Act of 2014. This work will include:

1. Conduct desktop research and legislative reviews as needed;
2. Development of a roadmap and detailed TOR / operations framework for the National Seabed Resources Authority and needed staffing;
3. Development of a Strategic Plan outline tasks, milestones, and stakeholders for the program;
4. Work with FSM R&D staff and others (as assigned) to provide program capacity building, leadership and direction for FSM to create informed regulations and effectively operate; and,
5. Provide diverse reports to participating Government stakeholders as needed.

**Qualifications, skills, and experience:**

- Master's degree, or equivalent experience in Marine Science, Policy, Economics, Law, Sociology, Engineering, or a related field.
- Ten or more years of professional experience in government or relevant organization at a senior management level, strategic planning, and program development.
- Advanced strategic planning and vision capacity.
- Strong organizational and time management skills with the ability to manage, prioritize and track multiple tasks efficiently and successfully.
- Exceptional diplomacy, negotiation, and project management skills, including the ability to work with high level public officials, NGO's, and private sector leaders in a complex public policy process.
- Proven ability to engage effectively with a range of stakeholders, including Government staff and Secretaries, scientists and the general public.
- The ability to develop and implement advocacy strategies that advance project priorities with the FSM Government.
- Ability to work well independently and as part of a team.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills and the ability to positively influence others.
- Extensive budget and scheduling experience.
- Understands and is responsive to the needs of all stakeholders.
- Strong commitment to sustainable ocean management and environmental management.

**To Apply:**

Applicants must send the following documents: i) Technical and Financial Proposal, ii) Resume(s)

Submit application package by email to these addresses:

Office of Personnel  
P.O. Box PS-35  
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941  
Email: [personnel@personnel.gov.fm](mailto:personnel@personnel.gov.fm)

Department of Resources & Development – Division of Marine Resources  
P.O. Box PS-12  
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941  
Email: [fsmrd@fsmrd.fm](mailto:fsmrd@fsmrd.fm) and [freadv@yahoo.com](mailto:freadv@yahoo.com)

The Office of Personnel will be accepting application/resume from March 03, 2022 until it filled.