Terms of References – Research Assistant

RERIPA Call 1 Project "Mapping & Diagnosis of Research & Innovation Ecosystems, Network facilitation and Research & Innovation Strategy"

1- Objective of the project

This project "Mapping & Diagnosis of Research & Innovation Ecosystems, network facilitation and Research & Innovation Strategy" investigates the knowledge and understanding of Research & Innovation (R&I) Ecosystems in the Pacific Region, in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) and regional level goal. It explores the R&I interactions, throughout the different actors (scientists, academics, public and private sector) in order to develop a shared R&I vision and strategy in the Pacific. The project will strengthen a network of various Pacific stakeholders, working to enhance collective tools and processes to face CCI (Climate Change Impacts).

This proposal falls within the RERIPA project "Strengthening Research and Innovation ecosystems to address the Impact of climate change in the Pacific", funded by the European Union, under the ACP Innovation Fund.

2- Consortium

Lead applicant: The University of the South Pacific (USP)

Co-applicants:

- National University of Vanuatu (NUV)

Collaborators:
- University of New Caledonia (UNC)
- PACPATH – Pacific Ocean Pathways

3- Objective and Outcomes of the project

The project focuses on improving the knowledge and understanding of R&I Ecosystems at both levels (national and regional) and facilitating R&I interactions throughout the innovation chain, from users to scientists, to build up a shared R&I vision and strategy in the Pacific Region. This ambitious objective will be carried on in the following PICTs: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu to develop an inclusive and better structured R& I Ecosystems all over the Pacific Region.

Three outcomes have been identified to achieve the objective:
- Outcome 1 Identify stakeholders and their skills, relationships, interests, and activities
- Outcome 2: Determine R&I ecosystem strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT)
- Outcome 3: Boost R&I brokering by bringing stakeholders to exchange and collaborate following open innovation and participatory approach

4- Role and Responsibilities of the Research Assistant

The Research Assistant will report to the Project Coordinator (Professor Maurizio Cirrincione) and the Project Manager. He/She will also liaise extensively with the consortium members of the project.

The activities to be implemented by the Research Assistant are aligned with the objective and outcomes and identified as follow:

- Identify stakeholders in R&I Ecosystems and develop a questionnaire to submit to the identified institutions.
- Collect relevant data through interviews with local identified stakeholders.
- Help summarize stakeholders' locations, capacities, needs, expectations, strategies, and relationships around R&I ecosystems.
- Support the analysis of local and regional knowledge on Climate Change Impact (CCI)
- Liaise with the different members of the Call 1 Consortium regarding the mapping and diagnosis of regional stakeholders
- Facilitate networking activities to federate a multi-stakeholder community

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5- The Persons We Seek

Applicants for Research Assistant should meet the minimum following essential criteria;

1. Have completed or in the process of completing a bachelor's degree in Environmental, Social Sciences, Physical Sciences or a Bachelor in Engineering or another relevant field related to Environment and Climate.
2. Be willing to learn GIS tools or mapping software.
3. Knowledge of questionnaire design and interview approach.
4. Ability to communicate and liaise effectively with relevant stakeholders and staff
5. Competent in generating reports.
6. Good research skills, evidenced by publications.
7. Organization, Autonomy, Rigor, Curiosity, Proactivity, Capacity to work with a team.
8. Time management skills.

6- Desirable Criteria
1. PG in the areas of essential criteria and research experience.
2. Experience working with relevant regional organisations would be an added advantage.

7. Remuneration

Research Assistant will receive a gross stipend of 109,583 per month. The contract duration will cover a period of 10 months, and can be extended depending on the implementation of the project.

7-How to Apply

Please send your application (which includes a cover letter, resume, certified copies of qualifications and three references) to Robson.Tigona@univ.edu.vu.

Application close 26th January