

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)

FOR SERVICES

Project Title:	Safe Agriculture trade Facilitation through Economic integration in the Pacific (SAFE Pacific) project
Nature of the services	Procurement of Kava Processing Equipment for Ariana Trading, Tonga under SAFE Project - Value Chain
Location:	Nuku'alofa, Tonga
Date of issue:	13/09/2023
Closing Date:	26/09/2023
SPC Reference:	RFQ 23-5707

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Part 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 About the Pacific Community (SPC)

The Pacific Community (SPC) is the principal scientific and technical organisation of the Pacific region, established by treaty in 1947 with the signing of the *Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Commission* (the Canberra Agreement).

Our unique organisation covers more than 20 sectors and is renowned for knowledge and innovation in such areas as fisheries science, public health surveillance, geoscience and conservation of plant genetic resources for food security.

For more information about SPC and the work that we do, please visit our website: <https://www.spc.int/>.

1.2 SPC's procurement activities

SPC's procurement activities are guided by the principles of high ethical standards, value for money, open competition and social and environmental responsibility and are carried out under our Procurement Policy.

For further information or enquiries about SPC's procurement activities, please visit the procurement pages on our website: <https://www.spc.int/procurement> or email: procurement@spc.int

1.3 SPC's Request for Quotation (RFQ) Process

At SPC, procurement valued at more than EUR 2,000 and less than or equal to EUR 45,000 requires an evaluation of at least three quotations to determine the offer that provides the best value for money through a Request for Quotation (RFQ) process.

This RFQ sets out SPC's requirements for a project and it asks you, as a bidder, to respond in writing in a prescribed format with pricing and other required information.

Your participation confirms your acceptance of SPC's conditions of participation in the RFQ process.

Part 2: INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

2.1 Background

SPC invites you to submit a quotation to deliver the services as specified in [Part 3](#).

SPC has compiled these instructions to guide prospective bidders and to ensure that all bidders are given equal and fair consideration. Please read the instructions carefully before submitting your bid. For your quotation to be considered, it is important that you provide all the prescribed information by the closing date and in the format specified.

2.2 Submission Instructions

You must **submit your quotation and all supporting documents** in English and as an attachment to an email sent to jainanp@spc.int and with the subject line of your email as follows: **Submission RFQ 23-5707- Kava Processing Equipments**. The email should also be copied to rfq@spc.int.

The supporting documents expected in this RFQ are:

- [The Conflict-of-Interest Declaration form](#) completed
- A compliant quotation that is responsive to Part 4 of the RFQ "Proposed Evaluation Matrix" inclusive of all costs and freight including any applicable taxes.

Your submission must be clear, concise and complete and should only include a quotation and information that is necessary to respond effectively to this RFQ. Please note that you may be marked down or excluded from the procurement exercise if your submission contains any ambiguities or lacks clarity.

Bids will be evaluated on the basis of information received by **11.59pm Fiji Time on 26/09/2023**.

2.3 Evaluation & Contract Award

Each quotation validly received will be assessed against the evaluation criteria matrix set out in [Part 4](#). Any changes in the evaluation criteria will result in the RFQ process being re-issued.

SPC may award the contract once it has determined that a bidder has met the prescribed requirements and the bidder's proposal has been determined to be substantially responsive to the RFQ documents, provide the best value for money (highest cumulative score) and best serve the interests of SPC.

In the event of a bid being accepted, procurement will take place under SPC's [General Terms and Conditions of Contract](#) and depending on the value or nature of the procurement, the award will be made by issuing a purchase order or a signed and dated contract, or both.

2.4 Key Contacts

Please contact SPC should you have any doubt as to what is required or if we can help answer any questions that you may have.

Jainan Prasad will be your primary point of contact for this RFQ and can be contacted at jainanp@spc.int. You should copy any communications into rfq@spc.int.

Details will be kept of any communications between SPC and bidders. This assists SPC to ensure transparency of the procurement process. While SPC prefers written communication in the RFQ process, at any point where there is phone call or other conversation, SPC expects to keep a file note of the exchange, with all forms of communication with prospective bidders to be retained as source documents for the procurement of the services.

2.5 Key Dates

Please see the proposed procurement timetable in the table below. This timetable is intended as a guide only and while SPC does not intend to depart from the timetable, it reserves the right to do so at any stage.

STAGE	DATE
RFQ sent to potential vendors	13/09/2023
RFQ Closing Date	26/09/2023
Award of Contract	3/10/2023
Commencement of Contract	6/10/2023
Conclusion of Contract	31/01/2024

2.6 Legal and compliance

Confidentiality: Unless otherwise agreed by SPC in advance or where the contents of the RFQ are already in the public domain when shared with the bidder, bidders shall at all times treat the contents of the RFQ and any related documents as confidential. SPC will also treat the information it receives from the bidders as confidential.

Conflict of interest: Bidders must take all necessary measures to prevent any situation of conflict of interest. You must notify SPC in writing as soon as possible of any situation that could constitute a conflict of interest during the RFQ process. If you have any familial connection with SPC staff, this must be declared, and approval will then be sought for you to engage in the RFQ process. **In support of your response to this RFQ, you must submit to SPC [the Conflict-of-Interest Declaration form](#) available on our procurement page website: <https://spc.int/procurement>.**

Breach of this requirement can result in SPC terminating any contract with a successful bidder.

Currency, validity, duties, taxes: Unless specifically otherwise requested, all proposals should be in bidders local currency and must be net of any direct or indirect taxes and duties, and shall remain valid for 120 days from the closing date. The successful bidder is bound by their proposal for a further 60 days following notification they are the preferred bidder so that the contract may be awarded. No price variation due to escalation, inflation, fluctuation in exchange rates, or any other market factors shall be accepted at any time during this period.

No offer of contract or invitation to contract: This RFQ is not an offer to contract or an invitation by SPC to enter into a contract with you.

Privacy: The bidder is to comply with the requirements of applicable legislation and regulatory requirements in force for the use of personal data that is disclosed for the purposes of this RFQ. SPC will handle any personal information it receives under the RFQ in line with its [Privacy Policy](#), and the [Guidelines for handling personal information of bidders and grantees](#).

Warranty, representation, assurance, undertaking: The bidder acknowledges and agrees that no person has any authority to give any warranty, representation, assurance or undertaking on behalf of SPC in connection with any contract which may (or may not) follow on from this RFQ process.

2.7 Complaints process

Bidders that consider they were not treated fairly during any SPC procurement process may lodge a protest. The protest should be addressed to complaints@spc.int. The bidder must provide the following information: (1) full contact details; (2) details of the relevant procurement; (3) reasons for the protest, including how the alleged behaviour negatively impacted the bidder; (4) copies of any documents supporting grounds for protest; (5) the relief that is sought.

Part 3: TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. Background/context

The 'Safe Agriculture trade Facilitation through Economic integration in the Pacific' (SAFE Pacific project) being funded under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) aims to provide targeted assistance to support small Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to increase export capacity and improve economic growth. With its rich diversity of culture and resources, there is potential for greater trade and market opportunities for small Pacific ACP (African, Caribbean, Pacific) states.

SAFE Pacific is being implemented in 15 Pacific ACPs: Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands | Samoa, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

The project's specific objectives are two-fold:

- 1) to increase intra-regional and international trade and;
- 2) to increase the private sector's participation in economic integration

In relation to objective 2, SPC is providing support to MSME's in building their capacity to increase exports, access new markets and obtain certifications. As such, SPC is seeking quotes from reputable suppliers to provide quotations for Kava Processing Equipments listed in part B below:

B. Specifications

No	Description of Equipment	Specification	Quantity
1	Air bubble washing machine	Purpose: Pre-wash Kava chip and Kava root Dimension:6000x1550x1900mm Output: 1000-1500kg/h Voltage: 410 Volt Material: SS304 Power: 6.6kw	1 set
2	Drum type high pressure washing machine	Purpose: Equipped with high-pressure nozzles to deep clean the Kava chip and Kava root. Rotating design to make sure each side of Kava being washed Dimension: 3000*1000*1800mm Output: 1000-1500kg/h Voltage: 410 Volt Material: SS304 Power: 3.3kw	1 set

3	Cutting Machine	Purpose: Chopping root into pieces Dimension: 1820*620*1020mm Voltage: 410 Volt Power: 2.2kw	1 set
4	Grinding Machine	Purpose: Chopping root into pieces Dimension: 1820*620*1020mm Voltage: 410 Volt Power: 2.2kw	1 set
5	Kava root dehydration machine 7P	Drying board: Polyurethane board (including double-opening sweeping door + overhaul door) Size: 5500*2100*2700mm Material thickness: 75mm(Color steel) Small cart: 6 (vehicle) size: 1200*880*1830mm Tray: 144 (pcs)Size: 800*600*70mm (SS material) Voltage: 410 Volt Use environment temperature: 10-43°C Drying temperature (outlet air): 30-75°C Total equipment power: 42.2kw (rated power without electric auxiliary) 33kw (maximum power with electric auxiliary)	1 set

C. Key Conditions

Bidders are required to provide the following information in their quotation.

- Full Specs of the items quoted
- Lead-time
- Availability of stock
- Freight all inclusive to Nukualofa Port, Tonga
- Price validity

D. Delivery Requirements

Payment Terms: SPC is an International organisation that has 30 days payment policy upon the supply of goods. The selected bidder will be furnished with an official SPC Purchase Order (PO).

E. Warranty Requirements

It is imperative that all warranty conditions are explicitly stated in the quotation. The inclusion of after-sales service or the availability of spare parts may be considered.

F. Reporting Arrangements

The selected vendor shall liaise with the following person(s) during the engagement

- *Team Leader SAFE Project*
- *Procurement & Grants Officer*

G. Payment Conditions

SPC is an international non profit organisation that has 30 days payment policy upon the supply of goods. The successful bidder shall receive an official SPC Purchase Order (PO) for provision.

Part 4: PROPOSAL EVALUATION MATRIX

4.1 Competency Requirements & Score Weight

The evaluation matrix below reflects the obtainable score specified for each evaluation criterion (technical requirement) which indicates the relative significance or weight of the items in the overall evaluation process.

Competency Requirements	Score Weight (%)	Points obtainable
Technical requirement 1: Conformity to Specs	40%	280
Technical requirement 2: Availability of Stock	40%	280
Technical requirement 3: Delivery timeline	20%	140
Total Score	100%	700