

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)

FOR SERVICES

Project Title:	Culture for Development Communication Consultant
Nature of the services	To Assist with The Communications and Visibility of the Culture for Development Programme for ACP-EU Cultural And Creative Industries Project, The Pacific Regional Culture Strategy (PRCS) And Festival Of Pacific Arts And Culture (FestPAC).
Location:	Regional
Date of issue:	9/08/2023
Closing Date:	23/08/2023
SPC Reference:	RFQ23-5615

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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 luisam@spc.int and with the subject line of your email as follows: **Submission RFQ23-5615- Culture for Development Communication Consultant**. 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
- CV, Completed technical and financial submission form, due diligence questionnaire.

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 FJT on 23/08/2023**.

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.

Taitusi Arhelger will be your primary point of contact for this RFQ and can be contacted at taitusia@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	9/08/2023
RFQ Closing Date	23/08/2023
Award of Contract	25/08/2023
Commencement of Contract	25/08/2023
Conclusion of Contract	30/08/2024

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 EURO 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 overall objective of the Communication Consultant is to provide support to the development of communication products for the Culture for Development Team at the Human Rights and Social Development Division. The Culture for Development programme is guided by the development interests of member countries that recognizes culture as a driver, vector, enabler, and catalyst for sustainable development. This also means engaging with Indigenous peoples and local communities and strengthening the culture for development agenda. The Culture for Development area of work focuses on five main core activities: Pacific Regional Culture Strategy (PRCS); Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC); ACP-EU Culture and Creative Industries Grant Scheme; Culture Mainstreaming and Technical Assistance.

The Consultant will concentrate on three pieces of work which are:

- 1) The Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC)
- 2) The Pacific Regional Culture Strategy (PRCS)
- 3) The ACP-EU Culture and Creative Industry Grant

SPC is the custodian of the Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture. FestPAC is the world's largest celebration of Indigenous Pacific Islanders, drawing artists, cultural practitioners, scholars, and officials from member national of the Pacific Community (SPC). FestPAC is held every four years in a different island nation. The goals of the festival were developed in 1975 and have remained the driving force of the event.

Preserving and revival of traditional arts and cultures of the Pacific,
 Exploring new forms of cultural activities suited to the needs of the Pacific,
 Creating greater awareness of the cultural richness of the Pacific throughout the world,
 Fostering a greater sense of unity throughout the Pacific to promote excellence in arts, and
 Promoting the development and use of ethnic (indigenous) languages.

The Pacific Regional Culture Strategy 2022-2032 is mandated by PICT governments. The strategy draws from lessons learned over the last decade. It takes a future-focused perspective in the context of Pacific cultural story, recognizing distinct priorities of each PICT and identifies areas of collaborative regional approaches. The PRCS covers five priority areas: Cultural policy frameworks, cultural heritage, cultural wellbeing, cultural innovation, and cultural statistics. These priorities will guide culture interventions at the national and regional levels over the next decade.

The ACP-EU Culture and Creative Industries Grant is an EU funded programme made available to 15 Pacific Island States who are members of the Organization of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP). It is a regional scheme to strengthen the competitiveness of the cultural and creative industries in the ACP countries. The activities are managed by the Pacific Community (SPC) and assigned to the Culture for Development Team under the Human Rights and Social Development Division.

Deliverables	Activities	No. of days	Timeline
Workplan	<p>Meeting with Team Leader Culture and Culture Advisor to identify communication priorities for culture for development and development of workplan framework.</p> <p>Begin familiarization with HRSD Communication Products and the work of Culture for Development (this is ongoing throughout the consultancy)</p>	1	29 Aug 2023
PRCS and ACP-EU Culture and Creative Industries Grant	<p>Liase and work with Team Leader Culture and comms support for the PRCS and ACP-EU Culture and Creative Industries Grant. Some key areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating visibility for SPC and Donors around program activities • Socialising the PRCS to SPC member countries, donors, and key stakeholders • Working with HRSD Comms team to draft, edit and distribute regular content for circulation through SPC Comms channels. • Providing innovate, creative social media and other platforms to generate visibility and socialisation of Culture for development teamwork through artists, cultural custodians, and the wider culture and creative industries. 	74	<p>28 August 2023 – 30 August 2024</p> <p>Estimated 1 - 2 days a week over 54 weeks.</p> <p>(Concurrent pieces of work spread over this period)</p>
FestPAC 13	<p>Work with Culture Advisor and FestPAC13 Comms team to support Comms for FestPAC. Some key areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Delegation Dossier information content development and distribution • Media release content development and distribution • FestPAC website development support, content development and management • FestPAC Comms and PR design and support 	45	<p>28 Aug 2023 – 30 July 2024.</p> <p>Estimated 1 day a week over 45 weeks.</p> <p>(Concurrent pieces of work spread over this period)</p>
	Total No. of Days	120	

B. Purpose, objectives, scope of services

The Consultant will be on contract for a one-year period and is expected to deliver the following:

1. Work closely with the Team leader Culture and the Communications Officer at HRSD in reviewing all the knowledge and communication products related to culture.
2. Edit and draft communication products.
3. Liaise closely with the SPC Publishing team by providing editing and design/layout responses, collating further materials, engaging with the programmes, country, and communications staff.
4. Work with HRSD Communication team and the SPC Publishing team to ensure all SPC Publishing requirements are met.
5. Finalize all culture communications products for publishing.
6. Provide support for the development of the FestPAC Website and digital platform and contribute to content development and management.

C. Timelines

- The work is expected to be carried out and spread out over a period of one year.
- The work is expected to start on 28 August 2023 and be completed on 30 August 2024.
- The consultant is expected to spend at least 35% of time allocated at HRSD Office, Suva and the remainder of time, working remotely.

D. Reporting and contracting arrangements

- The consultant in working closely with the Communication Officer will have two reporting lines.
- For any communication and knowledge products relating to the Pacific Regional Culture Strategy and the ACP-EU Programme. The consultant will report to Team Leader Culture.
- Knowledge and Communication Products relating to FestPAC, the consultant will report to the Culture Advisor who leads the work on FestPAC.
- Consultant must also collaborate and work closely with HRSD MELKMC and SPC Publications on editing, design, and layout as well as collating comms materials to ensure that all Culture for Development communications materials and products are SPC compatible.
- FestPAC13 and FestPAC14 also have dedicated Comms team so the consultant can expect to work in collaboration with these teams with a focus on SPC visibility.
- Outlined below is key deliverables and key dates. A more detailed workplan will be developed with the Culture for Development team after consultant is contracted.

E. Skills and qualifications

- Experience in producing good quality designs/visibility materials for the arts, culture, and creative industries.
- Good design, layout and editing skills.
- Good sense of visual awareness.
- Mixture of practical and creative skills with a strong sense of the style needed to capture arts, culture and creative industries.
- Innovative, and a high level of attention to detail, including a strong sense of culturally appropriate language and understanding of the diversity of interpretations across the region.

- Awareness of issues around ICIP and respect for cultural protocols and processes.
- The ability to work under pressure and meet tight deadlines, adaptability and patience.
- IT skills and knowledge of the use of Adobe Indesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, and other creative cloud editing and design software.
- Experience working with artists, cultural custodians, Pacific elders and across diverse cultures and sectors is essential.
- Experience working within international nongovernmental membership-based organizations is also preferred.

F. Scope of Bid Price and Schedule of Payments

- The contract will be payments based on milestones which are detailed in the table below.
- A daily rate may be provided based on the approximate 120 days of work, or a lump sum fee broken down into deliverables.
- Any expected travel, in terms of accommodation and travel costs during the consultancy period shall be covered by SPC.
- Terms of payment shall be in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 of the SPC General Conditions.

Milestone/deliverables	Deadline	% payment
Submission of Workplan	31/08/23	10
First Report of Outputs as agreed to in Workplan – including provision support for Culture-web-series	30/09/23	15
Second Report of Outputs as agreed to in workplan – PRCS review of a rollout of the PRCS Comms Plan and Support in the development of the FestPAC Communications Plan	30/11/23	15
Third Report of Outputs as agreed to in workplan – Provide 4 feature articles by the end of 2023 and social media stories for ACP-EU project along with 1 feature article	30/01/24	15
Fourth Report of Outputs as agreed to in workplan – Assist with lead up to FestPAC 13 and provide support for web-series	30/03/24	15
Fifth Report of Outputs as agreed to in workplan – Provide feature articles, assist to lead up of FestPAC 13 and provide support for web-series	30/05/24	15
Sixth and Final Report of Outputs as agreed to in workplan – Provide support for web-series and feature stories for the ACP-EU Project	30/08/24	15
TOTAL		100%

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 and financial requirements) which indicates the relative significance or weight of the items in the overall evaluation process.

Evaluation criteria	Score Weight (%)	Points obtainable
Mandatory requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict of Interest Declaration form completed. • Technical Proposal Submission form • Financial Proposal Submission form • Business registration (if applicable as per consultant's applicable legislation) • Tax Identification Number (TIN) Letter • Applicants CV • Sample of previous work done 		Mandatory requirements. Bidders will be disqualified if any of the requirements are not met
Technical requirements		
Technical requirement 1: At least a degree qualification in communication, journalism, or other relevant qualification, and/or equivalent and relevant work experience	10%	100
Technical requirement 2: At least five years of communications related experience and/or equivalent and relevant work experience in the Pacific region/international non-governmental membership-based organisations working with a deadline driven environment.	15%	150
Technical requirement 3: At least five years' experience reporting and/or working in the arts, culture sector/ cultural and creative industries	10%	100
Technical requirement 4: Demonstrated experience in designing and producing communication and knowledge products that are Pacific orientated fit for Pacific audience. The communication and knowledge products for a Pacific audience should be in the following themes: Pacific Cultural context; human rights and social inclusion.	15%	150
Technical Requirement 5: IT skills and knowledge of the use of Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, and other creative cloud editing and design software.	15%	150
Other: Detailed Response to Skills and Qualifications under Section E, that is not mentioned under technical requirements 1-6 above.	5%	50
Financial requirements		
Pricing	30%	300
Total Score	100%	1000