

## Terms of Reference (TOR)

### Individual Consultant

#### Republic of the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority

Title:	Environment & Social Officer
Location:	Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority
Duration:	2 years, subject to extension
Tentative Start Date:	Not later than March 2023

#### A. Background

The Republic of the Marshall Islands in the Western and Central Pacific comprise of twenty-nine (29) low lying coral atolls and five (5) low coral islands. These atolls and islands are scattered over the expanse of the Pacific, with an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 2 million kilometers.

The Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (GRMI) with IDA funding from the World Bank (WB) is implementing development activities through MIMRA within the RMI. The first phase of PROP that was implemented through MIMRA has closed last September, 2021 and now the project is transitioning to its second phase. The Pacific Islands Regional Oceanscape Program – Second Phase for Economic Resilience (PROPER) is to strengthen regional collaboration and national capacity for the management and the sustainable development of the oceanic and coastal fisheries sector in the Marshall Islands.

To support the implementation of RMI PROPER, a Project Management Unit (PMU) is already established within RMI MIMRA. The RMI PROPER PMU under MIMRA is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the Project preparation with the RMI Ministry of Natural Resources & Development (RMI NRD). The PMU will also be responsible for preparing and implementing the Project in accordance with guidelines and regulations as well as the annual work plans and budgets which will detail project activities and eligible expenditures.

In order to strengthen the project management support of the PROPER project, MIMRA is seeking for an Environment & Social (E&S) Officer within the PMU. The consultant will work closely with the Project Coordinator and s/he will report to the Project Coordinator on the following responsibilities.

1. Provide overall environmental management oversight during the implementation of the project, supporting and advising the client in addressing a variety of environmental issues at all the stages of the implementation of the Project and in environment related training/awareness raising and coordination activities.
2. Supervise and implement where appropriate environment related activities as outlined in the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) of the project
3. Prepare necessary documents, such as environmental guidelines and tools in consultation with stakeholders and help the client in commissioning and managing additional and/ or special studies/ assessment, baseline studies, if necessary.
4. Coordinate with the Bank ESF specialist for support and knowledge sharing for the PROPER project and establishing an efficient and satisfactory progress in implementing the Environment and Social Management Framework in accordance with WB requirements.

5. Reporting to the Project Coordinator and World Bank on the overall environment and social performance of the project as part of PMU's periodic progress reporting all aspects of the project throughout the duration of the project.

**B.**

**(i) Scope of responsibilities and key tasks**

The overall responsibilities of the E&S Officer include, but are not limited to the following,:

1. Ensuring that each subproject and activities under the project is undertaken in accordance with the Project Environment and Social Management Plan (ESMP) process and procedures.
2. Prepare guidelines, tools and notes for use in the project based on relevant environmental policies, acts and regulations/ directives of the Government of Marshall Islands (GoRMI) and relevant ESF policies of World Bank Group and the ESMP;
3. Carry out environmental screening of activities and help to prepare activity specific Environmental Management Plans (EMPs)
4. Organize environmental orientation & awareness, and training for Project staff on ESFs
5. Prepare environmental information materials and help the client in disseminating the information to the relevant;
6. Provide overall policy and technical direction for ESFs management under the Project, as defined by the project environment and social ESFs instruments;
7. Co-ordinate closely with the technical officers in MIMRA – Implementing Agency (IA) in planning and managing project implementation as per the ESF's instruments;
8. Provide necessary technical assistance to facilitate the implementation, management and monitoring of environment and social ESFs including conducting baseline studies
9. Ensure environment and social due diligence is carried out for each sub-project as soon as conceptual technical design and scope have been defined, as outlined in the ESF's instruments;
10. Closely coordinate with the PMU and IA(MIMRA) technical officers for timely preparation of Environment/Social Assessments/Management Plans for sub-projects, as necessary (depending on screening outcome);
11. Coordinate with the IAs for hiring technical assistance, where necessary, and for review and endorsement of these ESF documents
12. Ensure consistency of ESF documents with national environment regulations;
13. Obtain necessary clearances from local authorities for sub-projects, where applicable
14. Manage the consultants hired to undertake environmental and social assessments, where applicable, and provide coordination support with implementation agencies and individuals;
15. Review draft and final environment and social assessments for quality and obtain necessary clearances as per the ESF's instruments;

16. Ensure that applicable measures in the Environment Management Plans (EMPs) and Social Management Plans (SMPs) are included in the design, and conditions on compliance with EMPs/SMPs is included in the bidding documents liaising closely with the procurement team of the PMU and MIMRA;
17. Develop, organize and deliver environmental and social training programs and workshops for the Implementing Agencies at the field level, contractors, field supervision staff and other implementing agency officials as needed, on ESF requirements and their management;
18. Ensure compliance with EMPs and SMPs during the construction period and maintain close coordination and cooperation with the technical teams MIMRA; to monitor the operations and maintenance during the operation of the project;
19. Prepare additional technical guidelines, if necessary, to support the ESFs instruments in order to strengthen the implementation of environmental and social ESFs;
20. Ensure adequate public consultation with the ESFs instruments as defined by the Environmental and Social ESF frameworks and Project Appraisal Document;
21. Ensure public complaints relating to sub-project implementation are addressed with corrective action and adequately documented;
22. Hold regular review meetings with the technical officers of the IAs and visit selected project sites to monitor implementation of the ESF's instruments;
23. Prepare routine monitoring reports, in collaboration with the IAs as set forth in the ESF's instruments;
24. Liaise closely, where technical guidance is required, with the ESFthe World Bank task team.
25. Promote community participation in the process of planning, management and monitoring of environmental/social impacts of sub-projects; provide guidelines on community participation in environmental/social monitoring to MIMRA
26. Conduct social/environmental audits for all project components and obtain clearances;
27. Review and comment on audit reports, take necessary actions to address audit issues raised and obtain comments from World Bank.

## **C. QUALIFICATIONS**

### **QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

1. Bachelor's Degree in Environment/Fisheries Sciences or Social Sciences or related fields with minimum 2 years of work experience.
2. Work experience in Government or donor funded projects and other relevant institutions will be an added advantage; work experience as environmental specialist in/ with donor funded activities will be an asset;
3. Demonstrated good oral and written communication skills in substantive and technical areas described in Section A. Thorough knowledge or demonstrated ability to rapidly acquire knowledge regarding environmental assessments, research processes, procedures for performance monitoring and evaluation;
4. Excellent writing, editing and analytical skills and capability of working independently. Fluent in written and spoken English is required and Marshallese speaking would be an advantage;
5. A high level of computer literacy is required with familiarity in Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
6. The successful individual must be willing to work for extended periods without direct supervision and travel to islands within the project area.
7. Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities
8. Should have strong and proactive interpersonal communicative skills, experience in team leadership and participatory management.

**D. POSITION DURATION**

This is a full-time position and may be extended based on satisfactory performance and availability of funds. The position supports the RMIPROPER in the implementation phases of the project.

**E. LOCATION**

The position will be located within MIMRA for the full project implementation phases.