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## MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

#### **Executing Support Partner - Safeguarding Marine and Terrestrial Biodiversity (SAMBIO) Fiji Project**

Fiji is globally recognized for its unique biodiversity, comprising vibrant marine ecosystems and diverse terrestrial habitats. However, the country faces mounting threats to these ecosystems, including habitat loss, overexploitation, and climate change. The Safeguarding Marine & Terrestrial Biodiversity in Fiji (SAMBIO) Project, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF-7), seeks to address these challenges by strengthening Fiji's protected area network and promoting sustainable management practices.

The SAMBIO Project is a collaborative initiative led by the Ministry of the Environment, serving as the Executing Agency, with Conservation International as the GEF Implementing Agency. The scale and complexity of the SAMBIO Project necessitate the involvement of an Execution Support Partner (ESP). The ESP is essential for bridging the gap between strategic project goals and on-the-ground execution. This partner will ensure the effective coordination and delivery of project outputs by overseeing subgrants, managing stakeholder relationships, and adhering to the financial and technical standards of GEF and Conservation International. The ESP's role is particularly critical in ensuring the integration of technical expertise with practical implementation, thereby creating a seamless pathway to achieving conservation goals while empowering communities and strengthening institutional frameworks.

The Department of Environment under the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputable organizations to be an Executing Support Partner - Safeguarding Marine and Terrestrial Biodiversity (SAMBIO) Fiji Project

#### **Objective**

To identify a qualified Execution Support Partner (ESP) capable of ensuring the successful implementation of the SAMBIO Project. The ESP will play a pivotal role in coordinating project activities, managing subgrants, and fostering collaboration among stakeholders to achieve the project's conservation and community development goals. By leveraging technical expertise and adhering to GEF and Conservation International standards, the ESP will ensure the efficient and impactful delivery of project outcomes.

#### **Scope of Work**

The selected Execution Support Partner will:

1. Facilitate and manage agreements and funding among project partners to promote seamless collaboration.
2. Oversee the project outcomes regarding marine ecosystem, terrestrial ecosystem, and policies by engaging with subcontractors and stakeholders to align efforts with our shared goals.
3. Collaborate closely with government agencies, local communities, and other partners to foster effective teamwork and communication.
4. Provide regular updates on the progress of the project, diligently monitor financial and technical aspects, and ensure adherence to the guidelines established by organizations such as GEF and Conservation International.
5. Support the training and capacity-building of national stakeholders and institutions to empower them in sustaining these efforts in the future.

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

1. At least 10 years of proven experience managing large-scale biodiversity or conservation projects.
2. Demonstrated expertise in managing donor funds, monitoring progress and ensuring compliance with international financial and technical standards.
3. Familiarity with marine and terrestrial ecosystems and their management.
4. Skilled personnel with expertise in biodiversity conservation, community development, and financial management.

#### **Application Process**

To apply and be eligible for consideration applicants must submit the following; Expression of Interest, completed Initial Partner Checklist, Technical Proposal and supporting documents as outlined in the proposal requirements.

The Terms of Reference is accessible upon request via email to: [sereima.koli@environment.gov.fj](mailto:sereima.koli@environment.gov.fj)

Applications to be submitted by January 24, 2025 either a hardcopy or electronically to:

#### **Hard Copy:**

“CONFIDENTIAL – Expression of Interest: Executing Support Partner - Safeguarding Marine and Terrestrial Biodiversity (SAMBIO) Fiji Project and delivered to the address below on or before 4.30 pm on January 10, 2025:

Director of Environment  
Department of Environment  
318 Toorak Rd, Bali Tower Building  
P. O. Box 2109, Government buildings, Suva, Fiji.

[anant.shetty1981@gmail.com](mailto:anant.shetty1981@gmail.com)

#### **Electronically:**

[anant.shetty1981@gmail.com](mailto:anant.shetty1981@gmail.com)

**NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED.**