

CIRCULAR

FILE: CONV 2/5/1

DATE: 10 June 2019

CIRCULAR: 19/43

SUBJECT: EDF-11 PEUMP Bycatch and Integrated Ecosystem Management Project Inception Meeting, 16 – 17th July, Nadi, Fiji

TO: **SPREP National Focal Points:**
Fiji, Papua New Guinea,
Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu
EU Suva

Dear Focal Points,

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) will be convening the Bycatch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) Project Inception Meeting on the **16 – 17th July**, at the Novotel Hotel in Nadi, Fiji. The Inception meeting will be followed by a two day Bycatch and endangered species detailed planning meeting on **18 – 19th July** in the same venue.

The BIEM Project will deliver Key Result Area 5 of the EDF-11 Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme which addresses some of the most serious challenges faced by the region. Among these are the increasing depletion of coastal fisheries resources; the threats to marine biodiversity, including negative impacts of climate change and disasters; the uneven contribution of oceanic fisheries to national economic development; the need for improved education and training in the sector; and the need to mainstream a rights-based approach and to promote greater recognition of gender issues within the sector.

This five-year programme is funded by the European Union (EUR 35 million) with additional targeted support from the government of Sweden (EUR 10 million). The programme provides direct assistance through regional organisations to support regional and national level activities in the Pacific.

BIEM Project Inception Meeting

The purpose of the inception meeting is to ensure:

1. The objectives of the BIEM Project are understood and the proposed activities are supported;
2. Participants have the opportunity to inform the planning and coordination of project activities to help ensure they contribute to achieving national objectives and meet the needs of target beneficiaries; and
3. Country representatives are able to inform SPREP of relevant national institutional counterparts and partners.

SPREP will support travel costs and daily subsistence allowance for a maximum of **three officials** from each of the invited countries to attend the Inception meeting: one (1) official from the Fisheries Department; one (1) official from the Environment Department; and one (1) with expertise in climate change adaptation.

Bycatch and Endangered Species Planning Meeting

The purpose of the planning meeting is to work together to develop and agree a regional approach to minimising by-catch of endangered species in inshore and offshore waters. Activities will be specifically developed for participating countries with a view that successful approaches can be initiated across the region in the future.

SPREP will support costs and daily subsistence allowance for a maximum of two officials: one (1) official from the Fisheries Department; and one (1) official from the Environment Department; to stay on to attend the Bycatch and endangered species detailed planning meeting.

We would appreciate receiving confirmation and nomination form (**Annex 1**) at your earliest convenience but no later than the **21 June 2019**.

A provisional Inception Meeting agenda (**Annex 2**) is attached for your information. Detailed agendas and additional information will be provided in due course.

Please kindly send through the nomination form to Jamie Davies, BIEM Project Manager: jamied@sprep.org.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General

KL/JD/ma

ANNEX 1:**Bycatch and Integrated Ecosystem Management Project Inception Meeting, 16 – 17th July, Nadi, Fiji**

Please nominate up to a maximum of **three participants** from requested Government Departments to attend the BIEM Inception meeting on 16 – 17th July & two to attend the Bycatch & endangered species detailed planning meeting on 18 – 19th July.

	PARTICIPANT 1 (Environment)	PARTICIPANT 2 (Fisheries)	PARTICIPANT 3 (Climate Change)
Name as shown in Passport:			
Country:			
Job Title/Designation:			
Organization & Department:			
Phone No.:			
Email Address:			
Attendance at Bycatch & endangered species detailed planning meeting	(Yes / No)	(Yes /No)	

Please email the completed nomination form no later than Friday 21 June 2019 to Jamie Davies jamied@sprep.org and Makerita Atiga makeritaa@sprep.org. Please also send us a copy of your passport biodata page for your travel arrangements.

ANNEX 2:

Bycatch and Integrated Ecosystem Management

Inception Meeting

Tuesday 16th – Wednesday 17th July

Provisional Agenda

1. Official opening
2. Overview and objectives of the meeting
3. Introductions, organization of work and adoption of meeting agenda
4. Overview of the BIEM Project: need for an integrated approach
5. Marine Spatial Planning
6. Endangered species by-catch assessed and extinction risk evaluated
7. By-catch mitigation strategies developed and rolled-out
8. Capacity development through research grant
9. Capacity development on non-detriment findings (NDF) process for CITES partners
10. Support for community monitoring and protection of endangered species
11. Integrated ecosystem strategies and coastal zone management planning
12. Climate Change adaptation strategies integrated into coastal community plans
13. Detailed activity planning
14. Closing