

CIRCULAR

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TO: SPREP National Focal Points

DATE: 13 August 2021

CIRCULAR: 21/90

SUBJECT: Information update on the Kiwa Initiative funding opportunities and technical assistance programme provided by SPREP to its Members

Dear Focal Points,

The Kiwa Initiative is a multi-donor programme that aims to strengthen climate change adaptation and resilience of Pacific Island countries, ecosystems, and communities through Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) by protecting, sustainably managing and restoring biodiversity. It is based upon providing easier access to climate change adaptation and NbS funding for national and local authorities, civil society, international and local NGOs and regional organizations in Pacific Island countries and territories.

The French Development Agency (AFD) is charged with acting as the Secretariat for implementation of the Kiwa Initiative and has established partnerships with key organizations in the Pacific region. This is done through three main avenues:

1. Calls for proposals for local projects ranging from €25,000 to €400,000 in grants. These projects are implemented at the local level. This component is managed by the IUCN Oceania Regional Office based in Fiji.
2. Calls for ideas for regional projects between 1.5 and 5 million € in grants. A regional project involves at least two countries or territories from the list of eligible countries (*see below*).
3. Technical assistance provided by SPREP and SPC to assist their Members in designing regional project proposals to be submitted to the Kiwa Initiative.

As part of SPREP technical support, this circular is intended to provide an update on the **call for proposals currently open for regional projects** as well the technical assistance you can request to the regional organisations.

- A regional project involves at least two countries or territories from the list of eligible countries: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, New Caledonia, Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, French Polynesia, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Timor Leste, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna.

- Regional projects must demonstrate their impacts in terms of climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation through the use of Nature-based Solutions. It is intended that national governments will collaborate with each other to develop and implement projects with technical support from SPREP and SPC.
- Who can apply for a regional project?
 - local or national authorities and public institutions from the 19 eligible countries and territories;
 - regional organizations (Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific - CROP) recognized by Pacific Island States and territories;
 - International NGOs.
- **In the 2021 call for ideas, particular attention is paid to projects in the areas of ocean governance, community-based coastal resource management, coastal communities adaptation to climate change.**
- The terms of reference for this call for projects are available at:
<https://kiwainitiative.org/en/submit-your-project>
- Submissions of the concept notes must be sent by email to the Kiwa Initiative Secretariat: kiwa_initiative@afd.fr **no later than 15 September 2021.**

Following the introduction of this regional component through webinars and meetings, SPREP and SPC are currently supporting their members in identifying and developing regional projects to be submitted to the Kiwa Initiative Secretariat by mid-September 2021. This is done in a coordinated manner based on the skills and expertise present within the two organisations.

SPREP is committed to help Members discuss their needs and expectations, as well as develop concept notes for regional projects in line with the above thematic priorities. For any further details and assistance, please contact Peter Davies, Coastal and Marine Advisor peterd@sprep.org, or Nicolas Rocle, Marine Conservation and Management Specialist, nicolasr.ext@sprep.org.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kosi Latu', is positioned above the printed name.

Kosi Latu
Director General

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