

CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS

RFT: 2026-015
File: AP_4/7/11
Date: 9 April 2026
To: Interested Service Providers
Contact: Procurement Unit (procurement@sprep.org)

Subject: Request for tenders (RFT): Development of SPREP's Integrated Environmental GIS Web Platform – Consultancy

Question 1:

Is the RFT for Individual Consultants or Firms?

Response:

Individual Consultants and Firms can apply

Question 2:

Will you be providing the License for ArcGIS or is it expected to be part of the Project cost?

Response:

It will be part of the project cost.

Question 3:

ARCHITECTURE & DEPLOYMENT

Do you currently hold any ArcGIS Online organisational licences or ArcGIS Enterprise instances, or would this be a greenfield setup? If licences exist, what tier and how many named users are available?

Response:

SPREP currently has ArcGIS Online organizational licenses.

Question 4:

Where is your existing infrastructure hosted — on-premise servers at SPREP HQ in Apia, a cloud provider (AWS/Azure), or a mix? Are there procurement or sovereignty constraints that restrict hosting to specific regions or providers?

Response:

On premise servers at SPREP HQ.

Question 5:

What is the expected concurrent user load across the Pacific Island Countries and Territories, and do you have baseline metrics on current GeoServer traffic or portal usage to help size the deployment?

Response:

150–200 concurrent users (peak periods) across the 21 member countries and territories, with an average of 50–100 concurrent sessions.

Question 6:

DATA & IMAGERY

Can you provide an inventory of the spatial datasets (vector, raster, tabular) you want migrated into the new platform — including approximate volumes, formats, coordinate reference systems, and update frequencies?

Response:

Vector Data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative boundaries - Infrastructure - Biodiversity - Land-use/land-cover - Elevation 	~125 GB total
Raster Data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Satellite imagery - Digital elevation models (DEM) - Climate/oceanographic grids 	~2.15–2.25 TB total
Tabular Data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental indicators - Species records 	~15 GB total
Coordinate Reference Systems: WGS84 (EPSG:4326), with some legacy UTM zone data	
Update Frequencies: Annual (boundaries, infrastructure), quarterly (monitoring data), monthly or event-driven (satellite imagery)	

Question 7:

Which satellite imagery sources does ELEOC currently hold or have access agreements for (e.g., Sentinel-2, Landsat 8/9, Maxar, Planet, Airbus), and what are the licensing terms around redistribution to member countries?

Response:

- There is no existing agreement for imagery sources and SPREP is exploring this with other EO data providers. For the platform, the global/open access data will have to be acquired.

Question 8:

For the EO products (land cover, coastal change, flood detection), are these already processed to analysis-ready levels (e.g., surface reflectance, cloud-masked composites), or does the platform need to include processing pipelines?

Response:

- The EO products are not pre-processed. The platform will start with global imagery from ESRI as a baseline.

Question 9:

Do you need time-enabled imagery services with temporal sliders for change detection visualisation, and if so, what temporal cadence and historical depth are required (e.g., monthly composites going back 5 years)?

Response:

- As a baseline, temporal sliders for the last 5 years should be okay.

Question 10:

EXISTING SYSTEMS & INTEROPERABILITY

What version of GeoServer is currently running, and which OGC services (WMS, WFS, WCS, WMTS) are being consumed by downstream applications or regional partners that must remain operational during and after migration?

Response:

GeoServer interface (version 2.16.2) is web based with the following OGC services - WMS, WFS.

Question 11.

Are there existing regional data portals (e.g., Pacific Data Hub, Pacific Climate Change Portal, SPC GeoPortal) that this platform must federate with or push data to, and if so, through what protocols — CSW catalogue, OGC API Features, STAC?

Response:

No

Question 12:

Does SPREP use any existing identity provider (Active Directory, Azure AD, Okta) for staff authentication, and should the platform integrate with it via SAML/OAuth for single sign-on?

Response:

No

Question 13:

THEMATIC LAYERS & FUNCTIONALITY

Can you define the five SPREP core programme areas and list the priority datasets/indicators for each dashboard, so we can scope the layer hierarchy and dashboard widget requirements accurately?

Response:

SPREP's Five Core Programmes:

1. Waste Management and Pollution Control – Managing waste streams and monitoring pollution impacts.
2. Environmental Governance – Regulatory frameworks and policy implementation.
3. Biodiversity and Conservation – Species protection and ecosystem preservation.
4. Climate Change Resilience – Adaptation strategies and disaster risk reduction.
5. Climate Science Information – Climate data, monitoring, and scientific analysis.

Priority datasets and indicators would typically include:

- Waste Management and Pollution Control: Waste generation volumes, landfill locations, marine pollution hotspots.
- Environmental Governance: environmental policy status, EIA permit issuance records, enforcement actions, state of the environment reporting.
- Biodiversity and Conservation: Species occurrence records, habitat extent and condition, invasive species distributions, protected area coverage, coral distribution.
- Climate Change Resilience: Disaster risk assessments, vulnerability indices, adaptation project status, early warning system data, disaster impact records.
- Climate Science Information: Temperature and precipitation trends, sea-level rise projections, oceanographic data (currents, salinity), seasonal forecasts, historical climate composites, climate risk areas.

Question 14:

For spatial analysis tools (buffering, overlay, suitability modelling), should these run client-side for lightweight operations, or do you need server-side geoprocessing services for heavier analyses — and who are the target users for these tools (GIS analysts or non-technical decision-makers)?

Response:

Spatial analysis tools (buffering, overlay), should run client-side for light-weight operations and target users are GIS analyst and non-technical decision makers.

Question 15:

What level of attribute querying do end users need — simple filter-by-field, or complex multi-criteria queries with spatial predicates? Should query results be exportable to CSV, GeoJSON, or Shapefile?

Response:

- Simple filter by field
- Simple multicriteria queries

- Query results be exportable to CSV and GeoJSON

Question 16:

SECURITY & ACCESS

How many distinct user roles do you envision beyond the three mentioned (admin, editor, viewer), and do national focal points from individual Pacific Island Countries need their own scoped access to country-specific datasets only?

Response:

For now, all other users will be strictly viewers.

Question 17:

Are there data classification levels (public, restricted, confidential) that govern which layers or download capabilities are exposed to which roles, and does SPREP have an existing data governance policy document we should align with?

Response:

All the data that SPREP will share will be classified accordingly (public, restricted, confidential) before shared on the platform.

Question 18:

What activity logging and audit requirements exist — is basic usage analytics sufficient, or do you need detailed audit trails of who accessed/downloaded what data and when, for compliance reporting?

Response:

Detailed audit trails of who accessed/downloaded what.

Question 19:

MOBILE & UX

For mobile responsiveness, are we targeting browser-based access on mobile devices only, or is there a requirement for a native mobile app or offline capability for fieldwork in areas with limited connectivity?

Response:

Browser-based access on mobile devices only.

Question 20:

Are there accessibility standards (WCAG 2.1) or multilingual requirements (English, French, Samoan) that the interface must meet?

Response:

No

Question 21:

What is the expected timeline and are there hard milestones tied to external commitments (e.g., ELEOC launch event, donor reporting deadlines) that constrain the delivery schedule? And is the travel to Apia for UAT a fixed requirement or negotiable for remote delivery?

Response:

Delivery schedule

- May 15, 2026: Approved system architecture and finalized work plan.
- June 14, 2026: Data preparation complete and optimized for publication.
- July 10, 2026: Application development complete and ready for user acceptance testing
- July 31, 2026: Fully operational platform deployed with complete documentation and staff training.
- Travel to Apia will be required.

Question 22:

For the knowledge transfer and training component, what is the GIS proficiency level of the SPREP GIS team (number of staff, ArcGIS experience, Python/scripting comfort), and should training deliverables include recorded sessions, written SOPs, or a structured multi-day workshop curriculum?

Response:

- SPREP GIS team (x2)
- Proficiency: ArcGIS experience
- Written SOPs
- Training will be conducted for the SPREP programmes (1 rep each) for a half-day session.

Question 23:

Travel Costs and Airfare

The RFT states that the total budget for services of up to USD 30,000 is inclusive of travel costs, while the Contract Services document indicates that SPREP will provide a return economy airfare if travel is required. Kindly clarify whether SPREP will cover the airfare separately or whether all travel-related expenses are to be included within the USD 30,000 contract budget.

Response:

All travel related expenses are to be included in the budget.

Question 24:

Coverage of Airfare

If SPREP provides return economy airfare, please confirm whether this applies only to the principal consultant or also to any proposed personnel involved in the assignment.

Response:

All travel related expenses are to be included in the budget (principal consultant ONLY).

Question 25:

Per Diem Allowance and Accommodation

The Contract Services document states that a per diem allowance at current SPREP rates will be paid in advance if travel is required. Please confirm whether this per diem allowance is provided separately from the contract remuneration (professional fees) under the USD 30,000 budget, and if SPREP will provide accommodation for the period of the assignment.

Response:

No. All travel related expenses are to be included in the budget. Refer to 24 and 25.

Question 26:

Software Costs (ArcGIS Online / ArcGIS Enterprise)

Kindly clarify whether the cost of required software licenses (ArcGIS Online / ArcGIS Enterprise) should be:

- included within the USD 30,000 contract budget, or
- provided and procured separately by SPREP.

Response:

- Included in the contract budget.
- SPREP have an active license.

Question 27:

This consultancy is expected to be completed no later than 31st July 2026. When is it supposed to start?

Response:

Commence in May.

Question 28

Earth Observation imagery scope and responsibility

Can SPREP clarify expectations regarding the volume and resolution of Earth Observation imagery to be hosted within the platform, and whether long-term imagery storage and processing are in scope for this consultancy or assumed to be managed separately (e.g. through ELEOC or existing infrastructure)?

Response:

Long term imagery storage and processing will be managed separately.

Question 29

Existing datasets, formats, and publishing methods

Can SPREP provide an overview of the existing spatial datasets and Earth Observation imagery currently hosted across SPREP platforms (e.g. Pacific Environment Portal or other systems), including typical data types, file formats, coordinate systems, approximate data volumes, and current publishing methods (e.g. file-based, database, GeoServer services, or ArcGIS services)?

Response:

Data types: PDF maps, CSV files

File formats: GeoJson, Excel, png, jpeg

Coordinate systems: WGS84

Current publishing methods: File based

Question 30

ArcGIS Enterprise licensing, infrastructure, and operational costs

ArcGIS Enterprise typically requires investment in software licensing, infrastructure (e.g. servers or cloud resources), and ongoing maintenance. Can SPREP clarify whether the provision and ongoing management of an ArcGIS Enterprise environment are in scope for this consultancy, or assumed to be managed separately by SPREP?

Response:

Yes, this can be factored in as part of the consultancy.

Question 31

ArcGIS Online credit consumption

If the solution is deployed within ArcGIS Online, ongoing credit consumption will be incurred for data hosting and some spatial analysis. Can SPREP confirm whether ongoing ArcGIS Online credit requirements are to be factored into the consultancy pricing, or assumed to be managed separately?

Response:

Ongoing ArcGIS Online credit requirements will be managed separately.

Question 32

Additional Esri licensing requirements

There may be a requirement for additional Esri licensing (e.g. ArcGIS Data Interoperability Extension or other extensions) to support data integration workflows. Can SPREP confirm whether any additional licensing requirements are expected to be included within the scope and pricing of this consultancy, or managed separately?

Response:

Additional Esri licensing costs can be included within this consultancy scope and budget.

Question 33

Existing GeoServer and GIS server environment

Does SPREP currently operate a GeoServer and/or other GIS server environment? If so, can SPREP provide a high-level overview of the underlying technology stack (e.g. hosting environment, databases, authentication approach) to inform interoperability considerations?

Response:

- SPREP currently operate a PostGIS GeoServer Client environment.

- GeoServer interface (version 2.16.2) is web based with the following OGC services - WMS, WFS.

Question 34

We would appreciate clarification regarding the expected level of in-country engagement for this assignment. Specifically, could you kindly indicate whether physical presence in Samoa is anticipated (e.g., for system deployment, stakeholder workshops, or training), and if so, the expected duration or frequency of such engagement?

Response:

The consultant will need to be in Samoa to ensure smooth deployment of the system, and training for the SPREP team.

Duration of the engagement will be 2 days - platform checks and deployment (discussion with SPREP IT), training and handover.

Question 35

Is the expectation to deliver a Minimum Viable Platform (MVP) or a fully operational, enterprise-scale system?

Response:

Minimum Viable Platform (MVP) (with operational spatial analysis)

Question 36

Are there existing GIS environments already provisioned and managed by SPREP? If so, which (ArcGIS Online, Enterprise, or both)?

Response:

ArcGIS Online

Question 37

Approximately how many environmental datasets currently exist?

Response:

More than 30 datasets

Question 38

What is the current state of datasets in terms of Standardisation Metadata completeness and Quality and consistency?

Response:

Metadata Standard: ISO 19115

Question 39

What is the expected volume and type of Earth Observation (EO) data to be included in scope?

Response:

Global EO datasets.

Question 40

For EO data, is the expectation to: Visualise existing datasets, or Develop processing workflows and derived products? Are there existing EO pipelines or scripts available?

Response:

- Visualise existing datasets.
- Develop at least 1 derived product for each SPREP programme.
- No existing EO pipelines or scripts available.

Question 41

Are there existing data governance standards or frameworks to align with?

Response:

Relevant policies will be shared by the SPREP GIS team.

Question 42

Approximately how many staff will require training?

Response:

GIS team & Other SPREP personnel (10)