# LIFEWEB PROJECT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

***NOTES:***

- *The total text provided should generally range between 3 and 5 pages.*
- *Please attach any supporting materials with your submission.*
- *Project Expressions of Interest are accepted in this PDF version and a user-friendly online version available at http://www.cbd.int/lifeweb/projectprofile.*

## SECTION I: BASIC INFORMATION

**COUNTRY**

| |
|---|
| Federated States of Micronesia |

**PROJECT TITLE**

| |
|---|
| UTILIZING EFFECTIVE REMOTE MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS TO ENHANCE THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA'S LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE CONNECTIVITY |

**GEOGRAPHIC SCALE**

Please check one of the following.

| | |
|---|---|
| X | Sub-national |
| X | National |
| | Multi-national |

**SUBMITTED BY**

Please check one of the following.

| | |
|---|---|
| X | Government |
| | Indigenous or Local Community |
| | NGO |

**SCOPE**

Please check all that apply to this project.

| | |
|---|---|
| X | Creating new protected area(s) |
| X | Strengthening management of existing protected area(s) |
| X | Improving the protected area enabling environment |

***If*** this project's scope involves the **strengthening management of existing protected area(s)**, please indicate the names of the area(s) that will be strengthened, among those registered in the World Data Base on Protected Areas (WDPA). If the area(s) are not registered in the WDPA, please indicate the complete name(s) and you will be contacted by the WDPA inviting you to register it.

| **WDPA Registered:** | **Non-WDPA Registered:** |
|---|---|
| 1. Oroluk Marine Sanctuary | 1. Minto Reef Marine Sanctuary |
| | 2. Nukuoro Area of Biological Significance (ABS) |

| | |
|---|---|
| | 3. Esan Reef ABS<br>4. Namoluk ABS<br>5. Nomwin ABS<br>6. Nomwinweito ABS<br>7. Pollap ABS<br>8. Satawal ABS<br>9. Woleai Atoll ABS<br>10. Sorol ABS<br>11. Ulithi ABS<br>12. Ngulu ABS |

**MAP AND PICTURES**

Please attach a map situating the project area. If possible, please send at least two pictures and any additional media of the area.

See country map (project area) at following URLs http://www.visit-fsm.org/ or http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/islands_oceans_poles/statesmicronesia.jpg; see picture attachments below

## SECTION II: PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**LOCAL CONTEXT AND PROBLEMS TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT**

Please describe the area context and challenges (including threats to biodiversity) being faced. You are welcome to attach supporting documents.

The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) [1] is the largest and most diverse part of the greater Micronesian sub-region of the vast Pacific region. It is a federation of four semi-autonomous island States, in geographic sequence from east to west - Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap - comprised of 607 islands with land elevation ranging from sea level to the highest elevation of about 2,500 feet (760 m). FSM's total landmass is 438 square miles (702 km²), with a declared Exclusive Economic Zone covering over 1 million square miles (1.6 million km²). Traditional, social and cultural institutions are still very strong in Micronesia. Micronesian society is based on the extended family, which is responsible for the family welfare, especially in relation to customary family land. The indigenous population is Micronesian with most of the people residing on the main islands of the State capitals. Its marine and terrestrial biodiversity are the nation's living wealth in which species endemism is high among the terrestrial biota. The high endemism within the nation is a direct result of the isolation of the islands to one another and to other landmasses in the greater Micronesian region. Land and aquatic tenure varies between States where the two most Eastern States – Kosrae and Pohnpei, land is both privately and State owned, while aquatic areas are managed by the State as public trusts. In Chuuk, most land and aquatic areas are privately owned and acquired through inheritance, gift or, recently, by purchase. In Yap, almost all land and aquatic areas are owned or managed by individual estates and usage is subject to traditional control. In all States, land cannot be sold to non-citizens of the FSM, thus these land and aquatic ownership patterns greatly influence the strategies and actions required to sustainably manage the biodiversity of the nation. Thus a necessity in engaging these local stakeholders to raise their awareness on and address certain threats which include explicit increasing pressures from climate change, resource over-harvest, non-application of efficient-selective technology and land-based sources of pollution.

The responsibility for environmental issues is shared between the FSM National Government and the individual FSM State governments. The sharing of responsibility has at times resulted in legislation that appears duplicated at the State and National levels. It has also resulted in gaps in legislation and areas in which the location of responsibility between the State and National Governments has been less than clear. Each State has made efforts to control development and manage natural resources through the creation of land use plans, coastal zone plans, legislation and regulations. The National Government provides guidance and technical assistance to the States when needed and requested on matters related to planning, economic development, natural resources, fisheries, and the environment. The Federated States of Micronesia Protected Areas Network (FSM-PAN) Project <http://www.protectedareas.org/> has been developed to address the Convention on Biological Programme of Work on Protected Areas in which the project's four outcomes set the foundation of establishing a protected areas network to address the above mentioned natural resource management issues in a systematic framework. Most of the FSM's existing PAs use a combination of traditional and legislative controls. This dual authority approach has been quite successful, and it is locally perceived to

[1] http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/islands_oceans_poles/statesmicronesia.jpg

be an effective way of establishing protected areas. The development of a national protected areas network offers a major opportunity to provide a framework for the FSM's national and state governments to collaborate on the dual objectives of protecting the country's terrestrial and marine biodiversity and assisting with local management of natural resources through establishing an interconnected network of protected areas.

The decentralized political situation in the FSM and the prevalence of private and/or traditional control of lands and waters throughout the nation necessitates broad public consultations to build public understanding of and will toward the importance of conservation and the role of protected areas. In addition, many of the nation's areas of biodiversity significance are remote and isolated, requiring a significant management role by local communities and land-owners. It is envisioned that most protected areas will be initiated at the community level, where they will be well-supported locally and address local resource over-exploitation concerns. Involving as many stakeholders as possible in the development of the national protected areas network will ensure eventual success.

## ECOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTION

Please indicate the extent to which the area(s) is/are ecological priority(s) for the national protected area system, based on contribution to ecological representation, connectivity, viability and/or irreplaceability within the protected area system. If possible, please refer to the national ecological gap analysis or other geographic prioritisation exercises and attach supporting documents.

Through a 2003 enabling activity under the FSM National Biodiversity Strategic Plan Project <http://www.fsmgov.org/biodiv02.pdf>, a geographic prioritization exercise was conducted by FSM national and state governments, technical partners, institutional and local experts which identified 130 Areas of Biological Significance (ABS) nation-wide where produced a Blueprint for Conserving the Biodiversity of the FSM <http://conserveonline.org/library/MicroPg1-47_main.pdf/view.html>. Currently the FSM-PAN Project is conducting gap analysis iterations utilizing the MARXAN analysis tool and collaborating with similar on-going geographical prioritization projects (e.g. FSM Forestry State-wide Assessment and Resource Strategies Project), gap assessment projects (e.g. FSM Atoll Food Security Vulnerability and Adaptive Assessment) and geodatabase project.

## OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS

Please provide a brief description of objectives and estimate of funding required for each, as well as the overall expected results.

| OBJECTIVES | FUNDING REQUIRED | EXPECTED RESULT |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Strengthening existing and garnering more social and political support on national and sub-national remote management schemes through existing effective and innovative engagement mechanisms | $ 35,405 | • Increased Organizational Signatories to the FSM National Implementation Support Partnership Agreement for Implementation of COP-7 Program of Work (FSM-NISP) and institutional commitment<br>• Enabling environment for enhanced protected areas network incorporating landscape and seascape connectivity<br>• Proactive integrative traditional, sub-national and national governance system on a remote management network<br>• Contributing to the Micronesia Challenge targets |
| 2. Promoting connectivity and creating appropriate linkages amongst the targeted remote sites within FSM Protected Areas Network (FSM-PAN) coverage to enhance climate change adaptation and/or resiliency | $ 63,392 | • Demonstrating landscape and seascape linkages within a national context<br>• Food Security vulnerability and adaptive baseline set through an integrative atoll ecosystem assessment of targeted FSM outlying atolls<br>• Expanding on adaptive management measures in response to climate change adaptation and/or resiliency |

| OBJECTIVES | FUNDING REQUIRED | EXPECTED RESULT |
|---|---|---|
| 3. Enhancing remote management capacity and coordination through key capacity building measures | $ 47,000 | • Enhanced remote management capacity and coordination amongst FSM-NISP Signatories<br>• Improving on remote sensing capacity by aligning a standardized monitoring protocol scheme to a national geodatabase mechanism |
| 4. Contributing to local achievements and targets under the Micronesia Challenge Framework | $24,000 | • Achieving local-level Micronesia Challenge targets<br>• Sharing lessons learned and achievements in the Micronesia Challenge Framework and Collaboration |

**TIMEFRAME**

Please indicate the estimated number of months or years required to implement the project.

2 YEARS (Jan. 2010 – Jan. 2012)

**FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY**

Please indicate counterpart funding, institutional commitment, and/or sustainable financing mechanisms that will contribute to the project's sustainability.

I. Counterpart Funding:
- FSM States Natural Resource Managers and Enforcers - 10% of FTE[2]: annual estimate USD $56,732
- Forum Fisheries Agency – FSM Matching Grant for Integrated Atoll Food Security Rapid Assessment: USD $19,966
- US Department of Agriculture – Forest Service State-wide Assessment and Resource Strategies FY09 Grant: USD $63,644
- NOAA Coral Reef Ecosystem Monitoring Grant to FSM: annual allocation estimate USD $120,000

II. Institutional Commitment:
- FSM-NISP Signatories (refer to institutional context table)
- Micronesia Challenge Declaration
- Micronesia Challenge Support Office and Team Members
- Pacific Regional Organizations (e.g. Secretariat of Pacific Community, Locally Marine Managed Areas Network, etc.)

III. Sustainable Financing Mechanisms:
- FSM Protected Areas Network Sustainable Financing Options Draft Plan
- Micronesia Challenge Financial Mechanism Plan

**INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT**

Please indicate the partners to be involved in this project and their roles.

| PARTNER NAME | ROLE IN THIS PROJECT | CONTACT PERSON NAME, TITLE, TELEPHONE, EMAIL | URL &/OR OTHER INFO ABOUT THE INSTITUTION |
|---|---|---|---|
| FSM Department of Resources and Development* | PMU Coordinator | Alissa Takesy<br>Protected Areas Network Coordinator<br>Tel: +691 320-2620/2646/5133<br>Email:fsm_pan@mail.fm | www.fsmrd.fm |
| FSM Department of Resources and Development* | PMU Core & Advisory Team Member | Marion Henry<br>Division of Resource Management and Development Assistant Secretary<br>Tel: +691 320-2620/2646/5133<br>Email: marionh@mail.fm | www.fsmrd.fm |

[2] Based on salaries estimates from FSM Protected Areas Networks Sustainable Financing Options Workshops Findings and Recommendations (2006)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FSM Office of Environment and Emergency Management | PMU Core & Advisory Team Member | Cynthia H. Ehmes<br>Division of Environment Assistant Director<br>Tel: +691 320-8814/5<br>Email: climate@mail.fm | www.fsmgov.org |
| College of Micronesia-FSM* | Clearinghouse Mechanism Administrator | Spensin James<br>President<br>Tel: +691 320-2480<br>Email: national@comfsm.fm | www.comfsm.fm |
| Micronesia Conservation Trust* | PMU Core & Advisory Team Member | William Kostka<br>Director<br>Tel: +691 320-5670/7214<br>Email: director@ourmicronesia.org | www.mctconservation.org |
| Chuuk Environmental Protection Agency* | Chuuk State Government Focal Point | Ismael Mikel<br>Director<br>Tel: +691 330-<br>Email:ismael.chuukepa@gmail.com | http://www.reefresilience.org/Toolkit_Coral/C8_FSM.html |
| Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority* | Kosrae State Government Focal Point | Robert Jackson<br>Director<br>Tel: +691 370-2076<br>Email:rhjackson82@hotmail.com | http://www.reefresilience.org/Toolkit_Coral/C8_FSM.html |
| Pohnpei Department of Land and Natural Resources* | Pohnpei State Government Focal Point | Yosuo Phillip<br>Director<br>Tel: +691 320-2652<br>Email: yosuophillip@msn.com | http://www.reefresilience.org/Toolkit_Coral/C8_FSM.html |
| Yap Department of Resources and Development* | Yap State Government Focal Point | Michael Gaan<br>Director<br>Tel: +691 330-2182<br>Email:mgaan@mail.fm | http://www.yapdevelopments.org/ |
| The Nature Conservancy* | PMU Core & Advisory Team Member | Trina Leberer<br>Micronesia Program Director<br>Tel: +1 671 789-2228<br>Email: tleberer@tnc.org | www.nature.org |
| Chuuk Conservation Society | Chuuk Environmental NGO Partner | Wisney Nakayama<br>Director<br>Tel: +691 330-7227<br>Email: ccsdirector@mail.fm | http://rareplanet.org/en/organization/chuuk-conservation-society |
| Kosrae Conservation and Safety Organization* | Kosrae Environmental NGO Partner | Marston Luckymis<br>Acting Director<br>Tel: +691 370-3673<br>Email: kcsomarine@mail.fm | http://www.reefresilience.org/Toolkit_Coral/C8_FSM.html |
| Conservation Society of Pohnpei* | Pohnpei State Environmental NGO Partner | Patterson Shed<br>Director<br>Tel: +691 320-5409<br>Email: cspdirector@mail.fm | www.serehd.org |
| Yap Community Action Program | Yap Environmental NGO – Marine Partner | Charles Chieng<br>Director<br>Tel: +691 350-2198<br>Email: ycap@mail.fm | http://www.reefresilience.org/Toolkit_Coral/C8_FSM.html |
| Yap Institute of Natural Science | Yap Environmental Research NGO – Terrestrial Partner | Marjorie Falanruw<br>Director<br>Tel: +691 350-4360<br>Email: mfalanruw@mail.fm | http://www.uog.edu/herbarium/dynamicdata/Margie%20Falanruw.asp |

**FSM-NISP Signatories*

## PARTICIPATION AND EQUITY

Please indicate if/how this project will contribute to the full and effective participation, as well as equitable sharing of costs and benefits, with indigenous and local communities.

Designing and developing a nationwide network of protected areas is a complex, iterative process which takes place over many years. It integrates ongoing scientific research on biodiversity values, resilience and connectivity, and evolving socio-economic, cultural, political factors. While some elements of the design process are precursors for others, many can and should be developed concurrently. The FSM NISP partners have identified and agreed on actions to advance conservation priorities within the framework of a nationwide protected areas network. The vast majority of protected areas and potential sites for new PAs that will comprise the PAN are community-led, and site-based management planning processes have been conducted in coordination with local communities who are compromised of indigenous Micronesians.

### ECOSYSTEM GOODS, SERVICES AND LIVELIHOODS

Please indicate the extent to which ecosystem goods and services will be secured, and livelihoods will be improved, as a result of this project.

| ECOSYSTEM GOODS AND SERVICES PROVIDED | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Carbon sequestration (1) | | | | | |
| Storm barriers, flood control and protection against sea level rise (2) | | | | X | |
| Freshwater security (2) | | | X | | |
| Food security (2) | | | | X | |
| Regulating spread of diseases (2) | | | | X | |
| Cultural and spiritual access (2) | | | | | X |
| Income generation from tourism (3) | | | X | | |
| Income generation from sustainable resource harvesting (3) | | | X | | |
| ***Insert another ecosystem good, and service or livelihood aspect here*** | | | | | |

1: Contributes to climate change mitigation
2: Contributes to climate change adaptation
3. Contributes to sustainable income generation

***If*** carbon sequestration is checked, please indicate any existing information about carbon or carbon equivalent values existing in this area and how this project will ensure its storage. If specific figures are currently available, please include them here.

Optional: Please indicate any additional information to support these indicators and attach supporting documents.

## SECTION III: ADDITIONAL PROJECT INFORMATION

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CBD PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS

Please indicate all the Programme of Work on Protected Area Goals that apply to this project.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ELEMENT 1: STRENGTHENING PROTECTED AREA SYSTEM AND SITES (click for more information) | | |
| 1.1 | National protected area network design and completion | X |
| 1.2 | Protected area connectivity and integration | X |
| 1.3 | Regional (transboundary) protected area network design & completion | |
| 1.4 | Management planning | X |
| 1.5 | Threat abatement Regional | X |
| ELEMENT 2: GOVERNANCE, PARTICIPATION, EQUITY AND BENEFIT SHARING (click for more information) | | |
| 2.1 | Equity and benefit sharing | X |
| 2.2 | Involvement of indigenous and local communities | X |
| ELEMENT 3: ENABLING ACTIVITIES (click for more information) | | |
| 3.1 | Protected area policy improvement and integration | X |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3.2, 3.3 | Professional capacity development | X |
| 3.4 | Sustainable financing | |
| 3.5 | Public awareness | X |
| ELEMENT 4: STANDARDS, ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING (click for more information) | | |
| 4.1, 4.2 | Management Effectiveness assessment and adaptive management | X |
| 4.3, 4.4 | Monitoring and research | X |

***If*** goal 2.2 "Involvement of indigenous and local communities" is checked, please mention how this project will contribute to a greater diversity of governance types in the projected area system.

FSM has (and honors) pre-existing traditional conservation practices and institutional arrangements. The current constitutional governance system recognizes the pre-existing traditional governance rights. E.g. within Chuuk State there is a diversity of such, varying from island center, lagoon-based islands to outlying islands/atolls. Examples of the pre-existing governance systems at conservation areas are '*pwau*'[1] and '*mechen*[1]' - which are based on traditional socio-cultural norms under the traditional governance framework. It is key to initiate from the very start consultations with representatives of the traditional conservation systems to see how certain threats could be addressed within their governance types.

Optional: Please indicate any additional information and attach supporting documents.

## NATIONAL PLANNING

Please indicate any linkages between this project and priorities identified through other national sustainable development planning processes, including National Biodiversity Action Plans, national REDD strategies, national climate adaptation planning, Poverty Reduction Planning (PRSPs), National Land-Use Planning, MDG planning, etc.

The conservation and preservation of areas of biological significance and associated keystone/endemic species is of particular importance to the FSM's natural heritage and globally significant. The marine and terrestrial significance are the foundation of the country's long term economic self-sufficiency as articulated in its National Biodiversity Strategic Plan (NBSAP) <http://www.fsmgov.org/biodiv02.pdf> and subsequently its Strategic Development Plan 2004-2023 (SDP). Maintaining the habitats and ecosystems that nurture this diversity is crucial to sustaining the country's rich ethnobiological traditions while improving Micronesians' quality of life since sixty percent (60%) of its population is dependent on subsistence livelihoods (ADB, 2004). Further inventory and monitoring of the FSM terrestrial and marine biodiversities are integral and priority to a thorough understanding and appreciation of the islands' biodiversity. The spread of invasive species is a continual threat due to increased movement of people and machinery between the islands, and needs to be carefully monitored and controlled.
The project will give guidance to the FSM Second National Communication to UNFCCC, FSM Sustainable Land Management Project and beneficiaries, and other similar national and sub-national environmental planning exercises/projects/programs.

# ATTACHMENTS

Please indicate the file names of any documents attached to this statement of interest.


Allen GR. 2005. Reef fishes of Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. Report prepared for the Conservation Society of Pohnpei. 13pp.

Allen, G.R. 2007. Reef Fishes of Yap, Federated States of Micronesia; Final Report prepared for the Yap Rapid Ecological Assessment. 21 pp.

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Bell, J.D et al. 2009. Planning the use of fish for food security in the Pacific. Marine Policy 33 (2009) 64-75. 13 pp.

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_____. 2004. Federated States of Micronesia's Strategic Development Plan 2004-2026, The Next 20 Years: Achieving Economic Growth and Self-Reliance, Vol.2: Strategic Planning Matrices and Appendices. Palikir, FSM.
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Starmer, J. and P. Houk. 2007. Rapid Ecological Assessment for Ngulu and Ulithi Atolls. Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia. Quantitative Assessment of Coral-Reef Biological Diversity. A report submitted to Yap Community Action Program. 26pp.
Sweet, S. 2006. Geographic Information Science (GIS) Status Report for the Federated States of Micronesia: A Conservation Perspective. The Nature Conservancy, 24 pp.
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UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Center, Protected Areas Database. <http//sea.unep-wcmc.org/wdbpa/>
USA-EPA, Office of Solid Waste Management. 2002. Solid Waste Management: A Local Challenge with Global Impacts. Washington, D.C., USA, 22 pp.
USDA, Pacific Northwest Forestry Inventory and Analysis: Federated States of Micronesia Publications. <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/fia/publications/pislands/micronesia.shtml>
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University of Hawaii. 2004. Pacific Business Center Program, Federated States of Micronesia, Economic Environment. Honolulu, HI, USA. <http://www.hawaii.edu/pbcp/services/servicearea/fsm.htm>
University of Texas. 2005. Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection, Federated States of Micronesia Maps. Austin, Texas, USA. <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/micronesia.html>

PICTURES:

Figure 1. Chuukese youngsters showing their local harvest

Figure 2. Practicing island resiliency through traditional navigation

Figure 3. Traditional closure marker of a reef

Figure 3. Traditional Micronesian atoll “long-term” food security crop – swamp taro (*Cyrtosperma spp.)*

*[Version 03.09.09]*