

Food Systems for Health and Nutrition Intern – Terms of Reference

GENERAL INFORMATION

Country:	Fiji
Position Title:	Food Systems for Health and Nutrition: Intern
Site Name (location):	Suva with visits to Micronesia
# Interns Requested:	1
Desired Start Date:	May 2019
Length of Assignment:	Six months to One year

PARTNER BACKGROUND

Partner Organisation Name:	Pacific Community (SPC)
Organisation Type:	Regional Inter-governmental Organisation
Organisation's Mission and Goals:	<p>The Pacific Community (SPC) is the principal scientific and technical organisation in the Pacific region, supporting development since 1947. It is an international development organisation owned and governed by our 26 country and territory members. In pursuit of sustainable development to benefit Pacific people, SPC works across more than 20 sectors. Our services are based on knowledge and innovation in such areas as fisheries science, public health surveillance, geoscience, and conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.</p> <p>The Land Resources Division (LRD) provides advice, technical assistance, research and training to Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) on all aspects of agriculture and forestry. This includes plant genetic resources, forestry landscapes, sustainable agriculture and trade facilitation. The work of LRD has two objectives: improved food and nutritional security, and resilient communities. The division's services are provided through a set of integrated programs including a program on Food Systems for Health and Nutrition</p>
Name and Title of Supervisor:	Karen Mapusua; LRD Operations (Programs)

<p>Other primary stake- holders (if any):</p>	<p>Key stakeholders will be the people of the Pacific. The Intern will bridge to SPC divisions and working groups in Public Health, Social Development, climate change and work with networks housed in LRD (Pacific Plant Protection Organization; Genetic Resources Network, Pacific Rural Advisory Services and the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community among others. Two SPC divisions in particular are PHAME and Public Health. Other stakeholders include SPC colleagues and national / non-governmental stakeholders in the North Pacific member states. External partners may include but are not limited to ACIAR, FAO, IFAD and the WHO. The FAO Pacific Framework on Food Security and Nutrition that is being developed, will provide the platform for collaboration.</p>
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PROJECT BACKGROUND

Declining food production in most Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) is characterised by low growth in food production often resulting in the breakdown of traditional production systems. An increase in pests and diseases further impact on the availability of and access to local food sources while Climate Change impacts through and increased frequency and scale of cyclones. Inhibiting trade policies often reduce the interest in farming as a viable and livelihood system and increase the reliance on cheap imported food.

The Goal of the *Food Systems for Health and Nutrition* program is to improve health and nutritional security of the Pacific Communities. It will achieve this through production and consumption of diverse local food, strengthening of diverse traditional production systems and building and enforcing policies and legislation in relation to agricultural education, food imports, procurement and waste management in support of food and nutrition security.

The Food Systems for Health and Nutrition program has the following set of activities:

- Promote adoption of Nutrition sensitive food and agriculture policies;
- Sustainable develop and promote traditional health food systems using the principles of bio-diverse ecosystems;
- Develop inclusive and biodiverse nutrition sensitive value chains including rural-urban value chains;
- Contribute to behavioural change by strengthening agriculture and farming in schools and educational institutions.

The program is a direct response to the needs and priorities of the 22 PICTs formally articulated. It will be implemented through an evolving partnership model featuring openness, relationship building and improved communication among partners and stakeholders

Role of the Intern - Duties and Responsibilities

Assist in the process of integrated programming

- Support the integrated programming approach of the Division in collaboration with other SPC Divisions, the Micronesian Regional Office and the Programming Unit;
- Contribute to building relationships amongst colleagues in SPC divisions to develop food security initiatives ensuring integration of actions and implementation support
- Participate in discussions on key integrated programming initiatives to develop robust and well-articulated food security programs

Assist in the planning and development of the Food Systems for Health and Nutrition program in liaison with the key stakeholders and SPC driven food security priorities and projects:

- Participate in relevant research and/or surveys to solve emerging food security issues and problems affecting the Pacific Region in alignment with divisional activities
- Assess and analyze the current food security status, identifying information gaps and appropriate actions in selected PICTs;
- Work with members, development partners and stakeholders in the region to address food security in a cohesive way;
- Assist with the coordination of efficient and effective management of SPC food security related projects in the Pacific
- Play a key role in concretizing the program on Food Systems for Health and Nutrition
- Develop concepts notes collaboratively with LRD staff to address gaps identified in the Food Systems program development and to achieve program goals

Assist in the coordination of food security initiatives in the Pacific region

- With colleagues of the LRD and other technical Divisions, promote extension support and scaling of innovations and good practices on food security
- Pursue innovation in addressing Food and Nutrition security for members through collaborative partnerships with specialized agencies
- Work with the PMEL Advisor to develop impact pathways and to effectively monitor and evaluate projects and initiatives involved in coordination with all members and the FAME, LRD and PHD MEL focal points.

Selection Criteria:

Qualifications:

- Undergraduate or graduate studies in environmental sciences, development studies, agriculture, food and nutrition science, interdisciplinary understanding of climate change resilience (e.g., science, rural planning, policy, or finance) is a plus.
- Research and writing skills required
- Ability to think critically and work independently
- Willingness to learn and pitch in at all levels
- Adheres to SPCs Values and Code of Conduct
- Willingness to pitch in at all levels.