

AP 3/3/1/14

09 March 2015

Meteorology Directors  
MET Colleagues and Partners

Dear Meteorology Directors, Met Colleagues and Partners

**Re: Register as an Expert in the Regional Technical Support Mechanism (RTSM)**

This letter serves to provide information on opportunities to provide support or receive support through the Regional Technical Support Mechanism (RTSM) to address existing gaps in the meteorological services in the Pacific region.

The RTSM is a registered network of pre-approved experts (e.g. on gender, climate change financing, knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation etc) that can provide, on the request of Pacific Island Countries (PICs), advice on appropriate resource opportunities, strategic approaches and technical assistance on climate change, as linked to food security and infrastructure. They also provide where necessary, support in developing project concepts and proposals, preparing reporting requirements and implementing and monitoring projects.

The RTSM facilitates the Pacific's rapid access to technical and advisory services and in the process, create or strengthen national capacity to effectively respond to climate change and disaster risk reduction (<http://rtsm.pacificclimatechange.net/> or through the Pacific Climate Change Portal <http://www.pacificclimatechange.net/>). This is another mechanism whereby the National Meteorological Services can seek assistance and support to contribute to their development. Met. experts are encouraged to register under the RTSM so they can be called upon to assist in any specific request from the NMSs.

To register as an expert is free, you just simply go to the website (<http://rtsm.pacificclimatechange.net/>) and click on 'Register as Expert' and fill in the online CV template provided. As part of RTSM quality control, registered experts undergo a pre-approval process undertaken by the RTSM Project Committee. Only experts who have been pre-approved are eligible for selection or deployment into Pacific island countries requesting technical assistance.

For NMSs who wish to request support through the RTMS, just click on 'Request Assistance' (<http://rtsm.pacificclimatechange.net/RequestAssistance.aspx>) and fill in the online form.

Note that the Terms and Conditions apply.

([http://rtsm.pacificclimatechange.net/Portals/0/attachments/RTSMoperations%20manual\\_FINAL.compressed.pdf](http://rtsm.pacificclimatechange.net/Portals/0/attachments/RTSMoperations%20manual_FINAL.compressed.pdf))




Request for technical assistance through this mechanism are assessed using the following as a guide:

- Is it aligned with national or sector infrastructure/food security development priorities? (does it fit with the country's infrastructure/agriculture/fisheries etc plans, national development/sustainable plans, national/sector budgets, deliver on MDGs and provide or improve livelihood and/or basic infrastructure needs?)
- Consistent with and designed to advance the national agenda on CCA and DRR?
- Exhibit good practice in the implementation of infrastructure and food security projects in relation to CCA and DRR?
- Does it encourage opportunities for private and community sector involvement?
- Promote social inclusion and equality and target those at risk?
- Likely to improve the legal and regulatory processes in the identified sectors?
- Country-led and supported by the finance and aid coordination agencies?
- Does it indicate whether it has been discussed with donors, development partners at the national level. If yes, did they support TA request?
- Encouraging aid effectiveness, country dialogue with donor and development partners showing desire for long-term or increased level of engagement?

There is a Rapid Response Fund (RRF) establish to finance pre-approved experts deployed into Pacific Island Countries to provide technical assistance as and when required by PICs. The RRF is initially capitalised with USD\$1.1million from the CIF, administered by the ADB. While the ADB funding is only available to finance technical assistance to \*14 ADB Developing Member Countries (DMCs), coverage of the RRF will expand as new donors and partners come onboard. The RRF is open to all donors and development partners who may wish to join as a partner. The RRF does not replace the everyday technical assistance roles of CROP agencies.

For more information, do not hesitate to contact the RTSM team ([rtsm@sprep.org](mailto:rtsm@sprep.org)) or download the RTSM/RRF Operations Manual (<http://rtsm.pacificclimatechange.net/Downloads.aspx>). The Pacific Met Desk Partnership team ([pacmetdesk@sprep.org](mailto:pacmetdesk@sprep.org)) will be happy to assist NMSs who wish to request for support through this mechanism to address existing gaps in their operations

Kind regards,



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**Director, Climate Change Division**