

The Pacific Community (SPC) invites applications for the position of **Team Leader – Earth Observation and Remote Sensing** located at its regional office in Suva, Fiji.

Description

The **Pacific Community (SPC)** is the principal scientific and technical organisation in the Pacific region, supporting development since 1947. We are an international development organisation owned and governed by our 26 country and territory members. In pursuit of sustainable development to benefit Pacific people, our organisation works across more than 20 sectors. We are known for our knowledge and innovation in such areas as fisheries science, public health, geoscience, and conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

The **Geoscience Energy and Maritime Division** provides advice, technical assistance, research and training support to Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs). There are three (3) areas of scientific programming and two areas of focus within this division:

1. **Oceans and Maritime Programme (OMP)** – assists member countries with services that provide applied ocean science and knowledge for evidence-based policy-making and technical solutions for improved ocean and maritime governance, management and capacity development.
2. **Georesources and Energy Programme (GEP)** – assists member countries by applying technical knowledge in the areas of geoscience and sustainable energy use.
3. **Disaster and Community Resilience Programme (DCRP)** – assists member countries to demonstrate strengthened resilience through integrated action on disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, natural resource management and increased access to water and sanitation.

The other two focus areas within this division are **Programming and Operations**, which is responsible for driving integrated programming excellence and operational support across the division, and **Geoinformatics**, which is responsible for providing diverse, integrated, and unique and demand-driven information and spatial data services across SPC work programmes, projects and countries.

The role – **Team Leader – Earth Observation and Remote Sensing** will be responsible for the design and development of the first phase of Digital Earth Pacific, an Earth observation platform based on Open Data Cube technology. This project will be undertaken in close consultation with the members of the GEM unit, the SPC's key stakeholders, and the broader Earth Observations community. Major project outputs include: the development of the ODC architecture for the regional platform; delivery of technical and general training for SPC staff and other mentoring activities; the preparation of technical manuals, and a set of recommendations for future phases of Digital Earth Pacific development.

The key responsibilities of the role include:

- Management and Leadership
- GIS, Remote Sensing Advice and Technical Support
- Project and Funding Implementation
- Capacity Building and Training
- Information and Database Management

For a more detailed account of the key responsibilities, please refer to the job description provided.

Key selection criteria

Qualifications

- Postgraduate qualification in earth observation or remote sensing science

Knowledge and experience

- At least 10 years of experience in earth observation or remote sensing
- Detailed understanding of earth observation data and satellites/sensors covering the Pacific region, and experience in integrating multiple streams of earth observation data into decision ready products
- Project management experience, including financial budget management and reporting
- Leadership and management experience, including staff performance management

Essential skills

- Working knowledge and familiarity with Microsoft Suite of Programs, EO and RS related software with specific knowledge of ENVI and ERDAS
- Ability to provide expert technical and scientific advice

Language skills

- Excellent English communication skills (oral and written) with a working knowledge of French being an advantage

Interpersonal skills and cultural awareness

- Ability to work in a multicultural, inclusive and equitable environment

Salary, terms and conditions

Contract Duration – until 31 May 2022

Due to the current travel restrictions caused by the global COVID-19 pandemic, and the priority SPC places on its staff safety, health and well-being, please note that there may be delays in taking up the appointment. These matters will be discussed thoroughly with successful candidates. In most cases, any appointment and on-boarding would only commence when relocation to the duty station is permitted.

Remuneration – The **Team Leader – Earth Observation and Remote Sensing** is a Band 12 position in SPC's 2021 salary scale, with a starting salary range of 3,478–4,348 SDR (special drawing rights) per month, which currently converts to approximately FJD 10,504–13,130 (USD 4,835–6,043; EUR 4,266–5,333). An offer of appointment for an initial contract will normally be made in the lower half of this range, with due consideration given to experience and qualifications. Progression within the salary scale will be based on annual performance reviews. Remuneration of expatriate SPC staff members is not subject to income tax in Fiji; Fiji nationals employed by SPC in Fiji will be subject to income tax.

Benefits for international employees based in Fiji – SPC provides a housing allowance of FJD 1,350–3,000 per month. Establishment and repatriation grant, removal expenses, airfares, home leave travel, health and life and disability insurances and education allowances are available for eligible employees and their eligible dependents. Employees are entitled to 25 working days of annual leave per annum and other types of leave, and access to SPC's Provident Fund (contributing 8% of salary, to which SPC adds a matching contribution).

Languages – SPC's working languages are English and French.

Recruitment principles – SPC's recruitment is based on merit and fairness, and candidates are competing in a selection process that is fair, transparent and non-discriminatory. SPC is an **equal-opportunity employer**, and is committed to cultural and gender diversity, including bilingualism, and will seek to attract and appoint candidates who respect these values. Due attention is given to gender equity and the maintenance of strong representation from Pacific Island professionals. If two interviewed candidates are ranked equal by the selection panel, preference will be given to the **Pacific Islander**.

Applicants will be assured of complete confidentiality in line with SPC's Privacy Policy.

Application procedure

Closing Date – 29 April 2021 at 11:45pm Fiji time

Applicants must apply online at <http://careers.spc.int/>

Hard copies of applications will not be accepted.

For your application to be considered, you must provide us with:

- an updated resume
- contact details for three professional referees
- a cover letter detailing your skills, experience and interest in this position
- responses to all screening questions

Please ensure your documents are in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format.

Applicants should not attach copies of qualifications or letters of reference. These documents may be requested at a later stage.

For international staff in Fiji, only one foreign national per family can be employed with an entity operating in Fiji at any one given time. SPC may assist on a case-by-case basis with submissions to Fiji Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their consideration and final approval. SPC cannot and does not make any guarantee whatsoever of approval for such applications to the Fijian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and where an application is approved, the spouse or partner will be subject to such terms and conditions as may be set from time to time by the Ministry.

Please ensure that you respond to all the screening questions. If you do not respond to the screening questions, your application will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed at shortlisting stage.

Screening Questions:

1. Based on your understanding of earth observation data and satellite sensors covering the Pacific region, please outline some of the technical challenges that could arise in developing decision-ready products for national governments in the region, and how you could overcome these challenges.
2. Please detail an example of when you developed an integrated Earth Observation platform or solution, specially including if or how it incorporated or built upon existing models, and the impact that platform or solution had for stakeholders.
3. Outline your experience in ensuring that Earth Observation and other geospatial data are utilised by non-technical teams in decision making across a range of sectors, preferably in a developing country context.