



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique

- **Suva-based position (Fiji)**
- **Attractive expatriate package**
- **Join the principal development organisation in the Pacific region**

*The Pacific Community (SPC) invites applications for the position of **Risk Reduction Financing Specialist** within its Geoscience, Energy and Maritime Division. This position will be 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 27 country and territory members. In pursuit of sustainable development to benefit Pacific people, our organisation works across more than 25 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 (GEM)** 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 role – **Risk Reduction Financing Specialist** will provide strategic policy and technical advice to support capacity strengthening for Risk Reduction Financing in Pacific Island Countries and Territories, under the leadership of the Deputy Director DCRP and working in collaboration with the Project Manager for Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific (BSRP) Phase II Project and the SPC Climate Change Flagship Programme team overseen by the Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability (CCES) Programme.

The key responsibilities of the role include:

Risk Reduction Finance (RRF) Research, Policy/Technical Advice and Advocacy

- Undertake research and engage with relevant stakeholders, including the Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) to develop technical advice to enhance RRF capacity of Pacific islands countries and territories.

Risk Reduction Finance Capacity Building

- Provide RRF capacity support to National Disaster Management Offices, Ministries responsible for Climate Change, Ministries of Finance and other relevant agencies/institutions in Pacific Island countries and territories to enhance national strategies and actions for strengthened financial protection against disasters.

Support for the Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) Technical Working Groups

- Provide advice and SPC technical support to the Pacific Resilience Partnership Risk Finance Working Group, and the anticipated Pacific Climate Change Roundtable Loss and Damage Working Group, to enable a streamlined regional approach to RRF capacity building for Pacific Island countries and territories.

Knowledge Products, Communication, and Information Sharing

- Work closely with relevant stakeholders and SPC GEM MERL and Communications teams to develop information and knowledge products that will create improved awareness and understanding of financial protection measures and the suitability for different country contexts.

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

Key selection criteria

Qualifications

- Master's level qualification or equivalent in economics, finance, accounting, public financial Management, climate Change, disaster risk management, natural resources and/or any other relevant field.

Technical expertise

- At least 10 years' experience in climate change and/or disaster risk management or related fields of work with similar responsibilities.
- Demonstrated understanding and experience of developments in climate and disaster risk reduction finance in the Small Island Developing States.
- Demonstrated understanding of the intent of the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (including its attendant implementation mechanism – the Pacific Resilience Partnership) and the related policy environment at the regional and national level.
- Relevant work experience in drafting work plans and progress reports, production of knowledge products etc.
- Experience in supporting skilled experts/consultants and working in a multi-disciplinary team of professionals.
- Experience with the development of professional reports and publications.
- Proven experience in providing logistical, organizational and administrative support to senior officials and executives.
- Sound analytical, research, numeric skills, and excel spreadsheet skills.
- Experienced in the development of communication briefs and advisories using print, social and other media.
- Significant experience and contextual understanding of Pacific Island countries and partners in the Pacific region.

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 – 2 years– subject to renewal depending on funding and performance.

Remuneration – The **Risk Reduction Financing Specialist** is a band 11 position in SPC's 2023 salary scale, with a starting salary range of 3,091–3,864 SDR (special drawing rights) per month, which currently converts to approximately FJD 9,118–11,397 (USD 4,142–5,177; EUR 3,923–4,904). 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: 28 January 2024 at 11:59pm (Fiji time)

Job Reference: JM000532

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

Your application will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed at shortlisting stage if all the above documents are not provided. Applicants should not attach copies of qualifications or letters of reference. Please ensure your documents are in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format.

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 Fiji Ministry of Foreign Affairs and where an application is approved, the spouse or partner will subject to such terms and conditions as may be set from time to time by the Ministry.

SPC does not charge a fee to consider your application and will never ask for your banking or financial information during the recruitment process.

Screening Questions (maximum of 2,000 characters per question):

1. Why is Risk Reduction Financing important for Pacific Island Countries and Territories? Please outline two reasons.
2. What should be SPC's role in regard to risk reduction financing in the Pacific?
3. What would be your approach to mainstream risk reduction financing into other SPC divisions and sectors in PICs?