



**PACIFIC ISLAND HEALTH OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
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### Consultancy Description

**POSITION TITLE:** Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Senior Mosquito Field Technician (SMFT)  
**POSITION STATUS:** Temporary Consultant  
**POSITION PERIOD:** Immediate through to July 31, 2022, with possible extension contingent on funding agency approval  
**DUTY STATION:** Republic of the Marshall Islands (Ebeye and Majuro)

**ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Established in 1986 by the chief health officials of the US-Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPIs) of American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Guam, Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), and the Republic of Palau, the Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA) is a 501(c)3 headquartered in Honolulu, Hawaii, with a field office in Hagåtña, Guam. PIHOA's mission is to provide, through collective action and decision-making, a credible regional voice for health advocacy in and for the Pacific.

Today, PIHOA's membership is comprised of the ministers/directors/secretaries of health (executive governing board) of the six USAPIs, their deputies and Chief Executive Officers of local public hospitals (associates), and Pacific regional professional associations (affiliates). PIHOA's Secretariat, comprised of executive, administrative and technical staff and a number of short and long-term consultants, have been tasked to provide technical assistance to the USAPI health ministries and departments in the following health systems strengthening areas: 1) health workforce development/human resources for health; 2) epidemiology and surveillance; 3) performance improvement; 4) laboratory services; 5) regional health policy and advocacy; 6) health security; and 7) leadership development.

Following one of the largest dengue outbreaks experienced in the RMI in 2019, the RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services (MOHHS) requested support from PIHOA to identify a longer-term solution to address dengue and other vector-borne disease risks on RMI. In late 2020, PIHOA and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) coordinated a Stakeholders Meeting with key RMI MOHHS and community to discuss the potential use of novel mosquito control strategies to reduce the threats posed by the *Ae. aegypti* mosquito, the primary vector for dengue and other mosquito-borne disease outbreaks in the RMI. With funding support from CDC, this will be a multi-year mosquito control project for RMI.

**SUMMARY OF DELIVERABLES:** The PIHOA RMI Senior Mosquito Field Technician (SMFT) Consultant will be located on the RMI atolls of Ebeye and Majuro. Continuation of consultancy is dependent upon program/operational needs, completion of position deliverables, availability of funds, and compliance with applicable Federal/State laws. Under the oversight of the RMI Project Manager and guidance of the PIHOA Regional Medical Entomologist (RME), the SMFT will support on-site project field work, which includes set-up and maintenance of mosquito rearing facilities, equipment maintenance, mosquito surveillance and vector control activities; set-up and monitoring of mosquito surveillance sites including mosquito collection and identification; overseeing project equipment and supply inventories, safe storage and transport; and being part of the PIHOA

and RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services team to engage with community leadership and members on project work and progress when called upon.

**Special Requirements:** Must reside in the RMI and be fluent in English and Marshallese languages. Given the nature of PIHOA work in the Pacific region and travel requirements for the position, PIHOA staff and contractors may potentially be exposed to vector-borne and local infectious diseases, rough terrain, inclement weather conditions, high humidity, intense heat and sun, vicious animals, poisonous plants/sea creatures, and travel in small commuter planes and small boats. Position may be required to travel from duty station for short and long periods of time, and often to multiple locations at any given time. Candidate must be able to work in resource-limited, rural island environments with limited public infrastructure and communications, and often less than 1 to 2-star accommodation with little to no disability access.

#### **MAJOR DELIVERABLES:**

1. **Lead** local, on-site Field Technicians contracted to support on-site project work.
2. Oversee set-up and maintenance of mosquito surveillance activities.
3. Survey, identify, document, and provide recommendations relevant to the project.
4. Ensure set-up and maintenance of mosquito laboratories and surveillance sites.
5. Using basic computer skills, maintain and monitor mosquito surveillance equipment, maintain records, prepare input for reports, and evaluate treatment efforts within an assigned area.
6. Ensure accountability of project equipment and supply inventories, safe storage, and transport.
7. Participate as part of the PIHOA and USAPI health department project team to engage with community leadership and members on project work and progress when called upon.
8. Participate in project meetings and outreach events with project stakeholders and partners. May lead outreach events.
9. Submission of monthly invoice and activity progress reports, or as needed/determined by grantor/Secretariat.
10. Completes other deliverables as agreed upon, in compliance with PIHOA contract.

#### **PRIMARY QUALIFICATIONS:**

- **Education:** High school diploma or equivalent required.
- **Experience:** At least three years of experience in pest management, vector surveillance and/or control, of which one year must have been in a supervisory capacity.
- **Knowledge:** The following knowledge is desired, but not required: biology and ecology of vectors and vector-borne diseases; methods of prevention and abatement of vector infestations, pesticide safety, personal protection, and hazards to non-target species; scientific principles and procedures of conducting vector surveillance and control; knowledge of sensitive environmental issues and relevant state and local ordinance that govern environmental impact; knowledge of environmental issues that relate state and local ordinance; field investigative procedures; and methods of enforcement to empower local enforcement agencies to protect the public from disease vectors.
- **Skills and Abilities:** Provide clear and accurate protocols, procedures, policies, correspondence and other instructional materials; prepare reports, evaluations, and recommendations. **Lead**, manage and control of Vector Control field staff. Communicate orally; provide clear advice, guidance and instructions in regards to interpretation of the policies, laws, rules and regulations. Work cooperatively and effectively with staff, local agencies and public. Make decisions. Execute effective computer skills.
- **Other Requirements:** Must have advanced English written and oral communication skills; must be proficient in Microsoft Office software applications (e.g. Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook).
- **Travel:** Must be willing and able to travel in the US mainland, Asia-Pacific region and internationally, when required, including working in low-resource settings.
- **Other Requirements:** Must possess a valid passport and driver's license.

**PHYSICAL/MENTAL DEMANDS:** Requires prolonged sitting and some standing, walking, kneeling, and bending, requires eye-hand coordination and manual dexterity sufficient to operate computer keyboard and office equipment, and to travel in infrastructure and resource-limited and/or rural and jungle/atoll/mountainous environments. Requires normal range of hearing and vision to perform duties. Requires occasional lifting, up to 45 pounds. Must be able drive a vehicle.

**PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:** Associate degree from an accredited college or university in Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, Environmental Health, or closely related Health Sciences field such as Microbiology, Entomology, Toxicology, Integrated Biology, and other earth sciences.

**COMPENSATION:** Commensurate with qualifications and experience, up to a flat rate consultancy fee of \$2,250 USD per month. Fringe and other benefits are not covered under PIHOA consultancy contracts.

**TERM OF CONSULTANCY:** This is a temporary consultancy from contract effective date to July 31, 2022, with the possibility of renewal/extension based on performance and funding agency approval.

**APPLICATION:** Submit the following electronically with attention to Janet Camacho ([janetc@pihoa.org](mailto:janetc@pihoa.org)), PIHOA Deputy Director:

- 1) **Letter of Interest** that outlines your overall qualifications and professional experience in response to the Primary Qualifications listed above;
- 2) **Curriculum Vitae or Resume;** and
- 3) Minimum of **three (3) professional references** - these references must be from current and past employment supervisors based on the last 5 years of employment.

For any enquiries related to this consultancy vacancy, please direct them to Janet Camacho at [janetc@pihoa.org](mailto:janetc@pihoa.org).