

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Training for Federated States of Micronesia Government Officers

Objective

The objective of this training initiative is to enhance the capacity of Federated States of Micronesia government agencies to undertake environmental compliance and enforcement activities.

The proposed course will assist in developing specific knowledge, skills and strategies to improve the performance and effectiveness of compliance and enforcement of environmental law in each of the Federated States of Micronesia's five jurisdictions.

Indicative Scope and Content of Training

The course will cover various aspects of effective work practices for environmental compliance and enforcement, including practical scenarios and mock court proceedings. An indicative list of topics includes:

Ethical conduct	Note taking for enforcement
Reading and interpreting legislation	Elements of offences
Fundamentals of law	Gathering and managing evidence
Exercising statutory powers	Taking witness statements
Detecting offences	Evidence collection scenarios
Conducting investigations	Mock court scenarios
Managing risk in environmental enforcement	Finalizing an investigation
Introduction to evidence	Course review

Participants

The participants will be 1) staff of the state-level Environmental Protection Authorities; and 2) staff of the state government fisheries agencies tasked with enforcement responsibilities. The budget set out below provides for 16 participants; four from each of the four state governments.

Training Providers

The training providers would be the Australian Centre for Environmental Compliance (ACFEC), a company specializing in providing training of this kind for government agencies in Australia at all levels of government. ACFEC is accredited to provide training of this kind under the Australian Quality Training Framework. The ACFEC website is <http://www.acfec.edu.au/site/>

In July 2011, ACFEC provided training of this kind to Pacific island government officers from Vanuatu, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau and the Solomon Islands. The content and delivery of the Pacific courses (one each in Suva and Port Vila) were adjusted for Pacific island contexts with the assistance of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Oceania Office and the University of the South Pacific. See media reports about the courses:

IUCN Suva (August 2011):

http://www.iucn.org/news_homepage/all_news_by_region/news_from_oceania/?8010/Huge-demand-for-enforcement-training-in-the-Pacific

Vanuatu Post (July 2011): <http://www.dailypost.vu/content/enforcement-skills-building-environment-officers>

IUCN Suva (March 2011): <http://www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/oceania/?7053/Low-enforcement-weakens-environmental-fight-new-course-to-help>

Costs for Compliance and Enforcement Course, April 2012

Return airfares to Pohnpei for 9 participants (3 x Kosrae, 3 x Chuuk, 3 x Yap)	\$ 10,200
Participant per diem (9 people x 7 days x \$120)	\$ 10,080
Trainer airfare (Canberra – Pohnpei – Canberra x 1)	\$ 4,000
Trainer per diem (8 days x \$120)	\$ 960
Lunches x 5 (18 people x 5 days x \$10)	\$ 1100
Venue hire (5 x \$150)	\$ 750
Vehicle hire (4 cars x 7 days x \$55)	\$ 1,540
ACFEC fee (see quotation and information document)	\$ 26,400
	\$ 55,030