

Micronesia Center for a Sustainable Future

Office of the Secretary General

P. O. Box PS 53, Palikir, Pohnpei 96941 – (691) 320-2228

POC
Larry G.

December 10, 2009

Mr. Anthony Babauta
Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Affairs
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Mailstop 2428
Washington, DC 20240

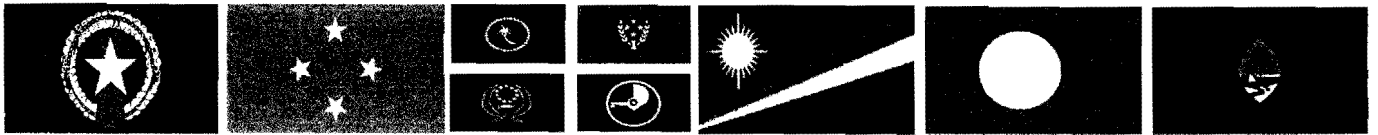
Dear Secretary Babauta:

Greetings from Micronesia. I write to request the assistance of the Department of Interior through a technical assistance grant to support the formal launch of the *Micronesia Center for a Sustainable Future* (MCSF). As you are now aware, the creation of the MCSF is a work in progress and is an important outcome of Micronesia Chief Executives' Summits, as well as the Micronesia Presidents' Summits in recent years.

Please find enclosed our grant request and a budget identifying deliverables, timelines and proposed budget for each component. You will note that several of the deliverables to be undertaken will be financed from other funding sources or using in-kind contributions of our member jurisdictions.

I firmly believe that the progress we have made to date through Micronesia regional cooperation has been impressive and gives confidence that a fully operational MCSF will enable us to consolidate and accelerate the goals and objectives of regional cooperation for the benefit of each of our nine jurisdictions.

Your favorable consideration for this funding request will be looked upon favorably by all nine of the executives who participated in the recent 12th Micronesia Chief Executives' Summit. My colleagues have endorsed the submission of this request to the Department of the Interior and they are eager to see the launch of the MCSF as augmented through the deliverables specified in the enclosed grant request.



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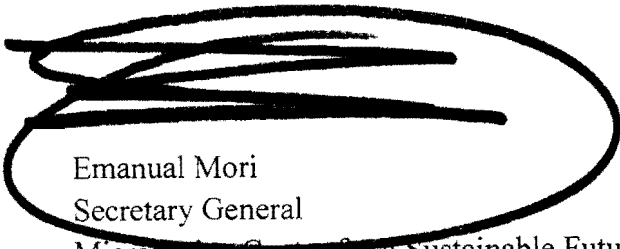
Finally, since the grant request anticipates a significant organizational development component to bring the MCSF to a fully operational status, and since we would prefer to not have any one jurisdiction acting as the direct recipient of the requested grant funds, we respectfully request that consideration be given to granting the funds to a third-party institution with experience providing the identified services within the Micronesian region.

As Secretary General of the MCSF, I have designated Larry Goddard, a member of the Strategic Design Team, to serve as the key contact point for implementation of the proposed grant. His contact information is as follows:

Larry Goddard
P. O. Box PS 52
Palikir, Pohnpei, FM 96941
Tele: (691) 320-2823
Fax: (691) 320-2428
lgoddard@sboc.fm

I look forward to your comments or suggestions and await your consideration of this important proposal.

Sincerely yours,



Emanuel Mori
Secretary General
Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future

Enclosures: Grant Request
Grant Deliverables, Timeline and Budget

Technical Assistance Request to the
Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Affairs:
Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future

Introduction

The United States Affiliated Islands of Micronesia are experiencing a period of rapid growth, urbanization, westernization and increasing significance to national security. In response to common challenges unique to small island developing states, and given the extraordinary opportunities within the region to preserve, leverage and integrate indigenous, natural, and human resource systems and to establish processes of collaborative governance, the member jurisdictions established the Micronesia Chief Executives' Summit (MCES). The MCES is composed of the Chief Executives from the Territory of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and its four state Governors (Chuuk, Yap, Pohnpei, and Kosrae).

Over the past five years, the MCES has met bi-annually and has issued a series of joint communiqués and related resolutions, letters and associated actions and arrangements. These cooperative arrangements form the basis of an emerging foundation of regional cooperation and governance. Because the Islands of Micronesia are all communities that draw their economic livelihood, spiritual well-being and civic strength from their ocean-based environments, many common activities focus on environmental protection and sustainable development.

To enhance and build upon this emerging collective vision, and in order to solidify and implement regional policy goals, objectives and multilateral actions, the establishment of a regional focal point for the jurisdictions within the Micronesian region represented in the MCES has been advanced to serve as an administrative, research and development center within and for the entire Micronesian region.

Creation of the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future

Within this context the Micronesian Center for a Sustainable Future (MCSF) was created by the MCES to serve as the vehicle to ensure that there will be more effective and more coordinated sustainable development strategies and programs based on regional multilateral action, mutual cooperation and shared knowledge. The primary functions of the MCSF will be:

- **Administration:** Serve as Secretariat for the MCES and as a point of contact and facilitation for member jurisdictions; serve as a resource for program development and project management; provide a nexus for information technology, strategic communications and public relations; assist member governments in developing, organizing and planning for bi-annual summits in order to ensure institutional continuity; develop, implement and manage a budget in order to carry out the Centers' primary objectives; and provide administrative capacity for sub-regional programs and activities.
- **Development:** Identify and expand indigenous and exogenous systems in order to promote economic and ecological sustainability; and integrate, leverage and synchronize opportunities for private and public sector partnerships within the sub-regional, regional, and international community.
- **Research and Knowledge Management:** Identify and address gaps in data and the characterization of information related to economic, social, environmental, and cultural activities; develop databases, vulnerability indexes, cost indexes, geographical information systems and other information systems necessary to ensure a sustainable future for the region, including the development of clearinghouse mechanisms for the region; establish a relevant research and executive education degree program at the University of Guam to be aligned with all the existing institutions of post-Secondary Education within the region; collect, integrate and synchronize emerging research, information and opportunities that have the potential to stimulate sustainable development; and, ultimately, serve as a strategic think tank for the MCES.

The primary imperative of the MCES is to coordinate and implement regional strategies to assist its member jurisdictions. Among those initiatives are the following:

- The Micronesian Challenge;
- The Pacific Islands Regional Recycling Initiative Council (PIRRIC);
- The Regional Invasive Species Council (RISC);
- The Regional Energy Committee: Green Energy Micronesia;
- The Regional Telecommunications Committee;
- The Regional Tourism Committee;
- The Regional Transportation Committee;
- The Regional Workforce Development Council; and

- The Regional Health Committee.

Each of these initiatives was developed to improve the lives of the people of Micronesia while at the same time preserving the environmental and cultural heritage of the region. However, their approach tends to reflect the goals of the agencies and advocates that created and presented them for adoption by the MCES. Some have made impressive progress while others require additional support or improved approaches. A regional center with a vision and programs that consider how these initiatives work in concert would produce improved outcomes. To fulfill this need the MCSF was formed, and a preliminary Strategic Development Plan has been developed (guided by MCES Joint Communiqué and directives, APIL Resolutions, and through the work of the Secretary General and his designated Strategic Design Team).

Launching a Fully Operational MCSF

Now is the time that the MCSF needs to be launched in order to become a fully operational entity in support of the MCES. The Strategic Planning process has been completed for the initial stage of the MCSF, but substantial effort is required to become fully operational. This grant request is to provide deliverables in three key areas:

1. Organizational Development

- Establishing necessary legal protocols for the MCSF
- Establish financial control system for the MCSF
- Develop a facilities and staffing plan for the MCSF
- Identify and pursue grants from sustainable funding sources
- Establish program evaluation capacity for the MCSF

2. Program Delivery

- Develop website and Information Portal for MCSF
- Create support protocols and directly staff MCES and MPA Summits
- Provide training workshop on invasive species for Guam and CNMI (with RISC)
- Establish relationships with traditional and non-traditional women's organizations
- Develop a regional energy strategy (Green Energy Micronesia)
- Expand demographic data set and posters for FSM to other jurisdictions (with IREI)
- Support GIS-based historical mapping analysis of land loss and coastal changes on atolls (with IREI)
- Replicate best practice model for career and technical education across the F.A.S. with CME

- Complete Position Paper for proposed Regional Health District with PIHOA

3. Regional Strategic Framework

- Establish the MCSF Regional Planning Council with one member from each jurisdiction
- Facilitate Regional Planning Council meetings
- Compile MDG and Parallel Socio-Economic Data set
- Create An Analytical Matrix of Regional Socio-Economic Status
- Develop methodology to expand Socio-Economic Impact Assessments of the build-up to all jurisdictions
- Design and delivery of Regional Strategic Framework to the MCES

Project Implementation and Anticipated Outcomes

The Secretary General of the MCES will be the high-level point of contact for the implementation of the grant. He will be supported by his designated Strategic Design Team, and as such, that team will be the primary point of contact for the implementation of the deliverables under the grant.

The deliverables, timeline and proposed budget can be found in the attachment to this grant request. It is expected that at the end of this grant's implementation period the MCSF—having benefited from the grant's deliverables in conjunction with other sources of funding and in-kind contributions from member jurisdictions—will be recognized as a fully operational center that is capable of acting in its capacity as Secretariat to the MCES and that is also capable of receiving and effectively implementing grants and contributions for the benefit of the Micronesian region.

MCSF Launch Grant: Deliverables, Timeline and Budget			2010												Professional Services		Travel	Materials
Task	Start	End	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D				
Strategic Plan																		
Mission & Vision	1/4/2010	1/31/2010																
SWOT Analysis	1/4/2010	1/31/2010																
Strategic Development Plan for MCSF	1/4/2010	1/31/2010																
Organizational Development																		
Establishing necessary legal protocols for the MCSF	3/1/2010	4/30/2010													10,000			
Establish financial control system for the MCSF	3/1/2010	5/31/2010													20,000	3,500	10,000	
Develop a facilities and staffing plan for the MCSF	5/1/2010	7/31/2010													8,000	3,500		
Identify and pursue grants from sustainable funding sources	4/1/2010	12/31/2010																
Establish program evaluation capacity for the MCSF	10/1/2010	12/31/2010													10,000	3,500		
Program Delivery																		
Develop website and Information Portal for MCSF	3/1/2010	11/30/2010													55,000	3,000	5,000	
Create support protocols and directly staff MCES and MPA Summits	3/1/2010	12/31/2010														7,000	6,000	
Provide training workshop on invasive species for Guam and CNMI (with RISC)	8/1/2010	8/31/2010													10,000	10,000	3,000	
Establish relationships with traditional and non-traditional women's organizations towards the advancement of women and reevaluating the Beijing Platform for Action (Beijing + 15); Develop Women's Summit	3/1/2010	12/31/2010													10,000			
Develop a regional energy strategy (Green Energy Micronesia)	5/1/2010	12/31/2010																
Expand demographic data set and posters for Palau, RMI and Pohnpei (with IREI)	5/1/2010	12/31/2010													12,000		12,000	
Support GIS-based historical mapping analysis of land loss and coastal changes from Climate Change on atolls (with IREI)	5/1/2010	10/31/2010													15,000			
Replicate best practice model for career and technical education on Palau, RMI and Pohnpei with CME	3/1/2010	12/31/2010													25,000	5,000		
Complete Position Paper for proposed Regional Health District with PIHOA	3/1/2010	5/31/2010													40,000			
Regional Strategic Framework																		
Establish the MCSF Summit Implementatopm Revoew Group (SIRG) with one member from each jurisdiction	1/1/2010	2/28/2010																
Facilitate SIRG meetings	3/1/2010	12/31/2010													5,000	47,000		
Compilation of MDG and Parallel Socio-Economic Data set	3/1/2010	8/31/2010													15,000	4,000		
Create An Analytical Matrix of Regional Socio-Economic Status	5/1/2010	8/31/2010													10,000	3,500		
Develop methodology to expand Socio-Economic Impact Assessments of the build-up to all jurisdictions	8/1/2010	9/30/2010													10,000			
Design and delivery of Regional Strategic Framework to the MCES	9/1/2010	11/30/2010													15,000	4,000		

Sub-totals: 270,000 94,000 36,000

LEGEND:

Completed	
Grant Funded Activities	
Self Funded & In-Kind	

Total: 400,000