



CALLING FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

AUSTRALIAN MENTOR COUNCILS FOR THE COOK ISLANDS AND THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

Project Location	EOI Submission Deadline	Tentative Project Start Date
Infrastructure Cook Islands	7 December, 2017	ASAP
Honiara City Council	11 December, 2017	ASAP

29 November 2017

LG Professionals Australia is working with the Commonwealth Local Government Forum to implement an Asia Development Bank (ADB) funded project titled 'Strengthening Urban Infrastructure Investment Planning in the Pacific'.

We are looking for two Australian councils to support the Infrastructure Cook Islands and Honiara City Council as mentor councils for six months to one year. The mentor councils will engage with these organisations in a number of modes, including sending appropriate officials to the project locations for a short period to work directly with the project partners on assignments; hosting project partner officials in the Australian council for a short period; and preparing policy papers, manuals and frameworks.

As part of the Strengthening Urban Infrastructure Investment Planning project in the Pacific, a twinning partnership is proposed to strengthen institutional capacity and improve urban infrastructure planning. ADB has identified three key focus areas:

- strengthening financial management and budgeting;
- improving municipal/national government agency service delivery, particularly solid waste management; and lastly,
- improving urban infrastructure planning, prioritisation and coordination.

Of the two successful applicants, one Australian council will support Honiara City Council in the Solomon Islands on financial management, town planning and urban management, while the other Australian council will support Infrastructure Cook Island as it builds institutional capacity, especially in leadership development, strategic management, and policy and guideline development.

This is a great opportunity for Australian councils to collaborate with international organisations and create an avenue for mutual learning. This is also an opportunity to develop long-term networks with agencies in the Pacific and facilitate ongoing knowledge exchange and dialogue with local government urban managers and practitioners.

Funding/in-kind contribution

All expenses and financial contribution incurred by mentor councils will be covered. Mentor councils are expected to contribute by way of staff time.

Selection criteria

To apply, councils must be a member of LG Professionals Australia or one of its federation partners.

Ideally, mentor councils will have:

- proven expertise in supporting/mentoring organisations in developing countries, with knowledge on the Pacific an added advantage;
- highly-skilled professionals in the specified areas;
- ability to deploy staff for a week and host professionals from either Infrastructure Cook Islands and Honiara City Council

Interested mentor councils should express their interest by addressing the following elements (in a separate word document):

1. Council	Council name, address and contact information
2. Main point of contact	The person within the applying council responsible for coordinating the program and their contact details
3. Letter of support from the CEO or General Manager	A letter from either your CEO or General Manager confirming the council's commitment to participation in the project
4. Profile of your council and community	A brief outline of your council and community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure of your council • Number of elected officials • Number of council employees • Council/community demographic profile and major land uses • Type of council (coastal, rural urban, etc)
5. Key professionals	A brief outline of the expertise of specific professionals available to engage in this collaboration. For example, if you are interested in supporting the Honiara City Council,

	nominate two staff members, one for financial management and budgeting and another for town planning and management. Include brief personnel profiles in the application.
6. Benefit to your council	A brief statement on the expected benefits to your council from this project
7. Ongoing participation	A brief statement on why your council aims to participate in LG Professionals Australia's international program
8. Hosting the fellows	A brief explanation on your council's capacity to host the fellows from your counterpart organisation for one to two weeks.
9. Preferred partner	Infrastructure Cook Islands or Honiara City Council

Contact

If you have any questions, please email our International Programs and Policy manager, M. Mizanur Rahman at programs@lgprofessionalsaustralia.org.au