Background

Vanuatu is 98% ocean and its sea covers an area twice the size of Italy (623,417km2). Vanuatu’s marine ecosystem goods and services are worth >US$70M annually to the local population, equivalent to over a third of the government’s annual expenditures.

But these values are under threat.

Recognising this, the Cabinet of Vanuatu recently launched its Ocean Policy (April 2017), a first for the Pacific. The many government agencies involved are now working hard to implement it. Particular attention is being given to implementing the most innovative part of the Policy: a national Marine Spatial Plan (MSP), inclusive of a national network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), to be designed, endorsed and implemented by 2020.

The position

The Government of Vanuatu has recently received funding support from the Government of Italy to progress the nation’s Ocean Policy implementation, especially of the MSP. This funding will support, amongst other things, the employment of a National Ocean Policy and Marine Spatial Planning Manager for three and a half years within the Department of Foreign Affairs within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade.

This position will guide the delivery, for Vanuatu, a nation Marine Spatial Plan by 2020 and oversight the implementation of this plan and of Vanuatu’s National Ocean Policy more generally. This will position will be responsible for, and supervise a small team, to do the following tasks:

- Carry out any related marine activities under OP as instructed
- ensure effective engagement across and beyond government, including with private sector and NGOs,
- fulfilling donor and government financial and administrative requirements,
- strategic and business planning,
- budgeting,
- fulfilling all human resources requirements,
- MSP-related meeting logistics,
- contract management,

PMB 9051, Port Vila, Republic of Vanuatu, Tel: (678) 5333870 / 5333860, Fax: (678) 26547, e-mail: mofa@vanuatu.gov.vu
• tracking of deadlines and milestones especially with regard to National Ocean Policy implementation,
• all Ocean Policy and MSP communication and consultation efforts including
  o implementation of and support for the MSP consultation strategy,
  o preparation and maintenance of a dedicated website as well as
  o production of required consultation and communication materials and
  o management of consultation logistics.
• marine spatial data collation, assessment, analysis and management along with preparation of associated meta-data.

The following selection criteria apply.

Selection criteria
1. University graduate in a relevant discipline with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3. Post-graduate training preferred.
2. At least a minimum 1 year of formal training and/or experience in the marine related field or work, or in the tasks described above.
4. Proven reliability in terms of meeting deadlines and delivering on outputs as directed.
5. Excellent English and Bislama skills – both oral and written.
6. Good interpersonal skills and ability to work in a team.
7. Proven experience in team leadership and management.
8. Ability to use initiative balanced by good judgement.
9. Excellent ability to follow instructions.
10. Hardworking and positive can-do attitude
11. High proficiency in the use of computers, especially with Microsoft Office package.

Applications are open to Vanuatu country nationals. Please submit a Curriculum Vitae with full contact details of three referees together with a cover letter explaining why you are suitable for one or more of these positions. Please address each of the selection criteria individually in your cover letter. The full application can be delivered by mail to Ocean policy Implementation Committee, Department of Foreign Affairs PMB 9051, Port Vila, Republic of Vanuatu, Tel: (678) 5333870 / 5333860, Fax: (678) 26547

Closing date for the applications is Friday 28 February 2019. Only short listed applicants will be informed.