

Torrential rains cause landslides and loss of life in Pohnpei



Photos courtesy of Micronesia Red Cross Society



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By *Bill Jaynes*
 The Kaselehlie Press

March 20, 2018

Pohnpei—Extreme and continuous downpours over a two day period in Pohnpei led to flooding and multiple landslides over the weekend. Nearly two feet of rain fell during that time.

Patrick Carl, the Chief of the newly formed Division of Fire and Emergency Services of the Department of Public Safety said that as of today they had been able to confirm 10 landslides but that there may have been more in areas that are still unreachable. He confirmed that several homes had been completely destroyed and that others were damaged to the point where they are unsafe to enter.

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Pacific Partnership humanitarian mission kicks off in Yap, FSM



By *Bill Jaynes*
 The Kaselehlie Press

March 21, 2018

Colonia, Yap—Dignitaries gathered aboard the USNS Brunswick at the Colonia Port this morning to officially kick off the Pacific Partnership 2018 services in Yap. US Ambassador to the FSM Robert Riley said that the Pacific Partnership began after the massive tsunami in Indonesia in 2004. On analysis it was decided that the United States could have had a faster response to the tragedy. They put into place the plans for the Pacific Partnership in order to

See "Pacific Partnership" on page 10

POHNPEI
 Majuro | Tarawa | Nauru
 Nadi | Honiara | Brisbane
LOWEST FARES

Nauru Airlines

USDA Rural Development provides new generators to PUC



PUC Engineering Technician Ken Gilmete, PUC Nanpohnmal Power Plant Manager Dakson Solomon, US Ambassador to the FSM Robert Riley, USDA RD Area III (FSM) Area Director Gary Bloom stand between the two new units.

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

March 9, 2018

Pohnpei—US Ambassador Robert Riley and USDA Area Director Gary Bloom were at the Pohnpei Utilities Corporation's Nanpohnmal power plant to see the two new 545 kilowatt diesel generator sets using a USDA Rural Development High Energy Cost Grant. The \$603,500 was awarded last year. PUC's matching portion for the grant was \$12,000.

Installation is currently in progress by ABCOR which won the bid for the job. The units are scheduled to go online full time by April 14.

The Caterpillar generators were purchased from Hawthorne, based in San Diego and with offices and shops in Honolulu and Guam.

Parts for the generators can be ordered through the Guam office. PUC has a planned maintenance program for the generators based on engine hours.

PUC told USDA that the units will increase the capacity of the power plant and will primarily be used for what they call "peak shaving". They said that fuel savings can be realized when PUC can use the smaller units when daily energy demand does not require the bigger units to run. In addition to providing increased electrical power generation capacity, the units will allow for backup power generation capability when another generator needs to be taken off line for servicing.

The units arrived on island last week and were transported to Nanpohnmal by Adams Brothers and ABCOR Engineering.

Pohnpei Port Authority lists PNI arrivals and departures

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

March 14, 2018

Pohnpei—The Pohnpei Port Authority recently released a schedule of airlines, both passenger and cargo that arrive and depart on a daily basis at the Pohnpei International Airport. Several schedules have changed in recent weeks. All arrivals and departures are estimated:

Sunday:

- Air Niugini flight PX072 departs at 1:55 AM
- Nauru Airlines flight ON042 departs at 5:20 AM
- United Airlines flight UA133 arrives from the west at 1:15 PM and continues to the east at 2:07 PM
- United Airlines flight UA176/95 arrives from the west at 1:15 AM and returns to the west at 2:05 AM

Monday:

- United Airlines flight UA155 arrives from the west at 1:03 PM and departs eastbound at 1:44 PM
- United Airlines flight UA132 arrives from the east at 2:24 PM and departs westbound at 3:00 PM

Tuesday:

- United Airlines Flight UA 154 arrives from the east at 2:50 PM and departs westbound at 3:25 PM
- Asia Pacific Airline freight flight arrives at 3:55 PM and departs at 4:55 PM

Wednesday:

- United Airlines flight UA155 arrives from the west at 1:15 PM and departs eastbound at 2:07 PM

Thursday:

- United Airlines flight UA154 arrives from the east at 2:13 PM and departs westbound at 3:00 PM

Friday:

- Nauru Airlines flight N705AA arrives at 10:30 AM
- United Airlines flight UA155 arrives from that west at 1:03 PM and departs eastbound at 1:44 PM
- Asia Pacific Airlines freight flight arrives at 3:55 PM and departs at 4:55 PM

Saturday:

- Air Niugini arrives at 12:55 AM
- United Airlines flight UA154 arrives from the east at 2:50 PM and departs westbound at 3:26 PM

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Bill asks FSM to consider new non-voting seats for women in Congress

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

March 16, 2018

FSM—The FSM Congress has introduced a bill (CB 20-116) that would purportedly guarantee representation of women in the FSM Congress. If passed it would mean another plebiscite vote to change the Constitution to redefine FSM Congress.

The bill is currently being shopped around by the Congress Standing Committee on Justice and Governmental Operations in public hearings throughout the FSM. It is too early for the J&GO Committee to have made a report to Congress and more public hearings are scheduled and to be announced. According to the reactions of many people who have attended public hearings, the reaction to the proposed bill has been anything but positive.

The bill proposes to establish a seat in Congress for each State for one female member elected at large from each State. The proposed term for those seats would be two years. “Female members elected on the basis of state equality shall be nonvoting members. These members may be appointed as committee members, and may participate in discussion and debate.”

with Speaker Figir about his bill which he first introduced as 15-169 in November of 2008. If either of his two bills had passed in Congress it would have meant a Constitutional referendum. Neither of his bills would have relegated the role of women who fill those seats to a non-voting status in Congress.

For some people, the very idea that seats need to be established on any basis to be filled exclusively by women presupposes that all of the other seats will be filled by my males and is therefore an exclusionary measure of sorts. There has never been a woman elected for any seat in the FSM Congress but women are not precluded from running and winning a seat in the nation’s seat of legislative power.

The bill that is currently being considered was introduced by Speaker Wesley Simina on December 4, 2017. The heading said that it would be a “temporary special measure”.

“...Stating that this measure is on the basis of ‘equality’? It makes my stomach turn,” one woman wrote in an email to The Kaselehlie Press. She said that she had emailed the Chairman of the J&GO Committee asking on behalf of the Pohnpei Women Council to be heard but received no reply. She said that she had also called and left what she categorized as a “ton” of messages but received no reply from that avenue either. “This is the most degrading, demeaning, discriminatory bill ever,” she wrote.

FSM endorses its country program for the Green Climate Fund - 1st in the Pacific and 4th globally

FSMIS

March 2018

PALIKIR, FSM — The Federated States of Micronesia has completed its Country Program for the Green Climate Fund and President Peter M. Christian has endorsed the document. FSM is the first Pacific country to submit a Country Program to the Green Climate Fund, and is now set to start developing its nationwide priority projects and begin accessing climate change financing from the Fund.

have received GCF readiness grants to strengthen their engagement with the Fund. Upon finalization of its Country Program, the FSM joined Zambia, Antigua & Barbuda and Rwanda as one of only four countries in the world to have a country program that will maximize access to the largest climate fund in the world. With over USD 10 billion in pledges, the fund is almost twice the size of the Adaptation Fund, and three times larger than the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) trust funds.

The FSM Country Program has been in development since the inception workshop in November 2016. A final workshop to validate the ‘green growth’ oriented Country Program and its projects portfolio was held in August 2017 in Pohnpei State. The Country Program is an outcome of nationwide stakeholders’ engagement in addressing the FSM’s financing needs for resilient development. For the first time, FSM has a consolidated framework to develop large scale, cross-sectoral projects and programs which can transform its economy into a ‘green economy’ and make sure our communities thrive while adapting to climate change.

The FSM National Designated Authority Office for the GCF has recently conducted project development workshops in each of the FSM states and has a priority list of projects. Accredited Entities to the Green Climate Fund will now be sought to further develop proposals and take the FSM closer to its climate change goals.

(The FSM GCF Project/Programs Development Workshop was held in Yap State on February 21 – 22, 2018 at the Yap Small Business Development Center conference room, with participation from the public and private sectors.)

A copy of the FSM Country Program can be found online at <http://dofa.gov.fm/gcf/>

The FSM is one of the 46 countries that

In August of 2012, Senator Isaac Figir who was then the Speaker of Congress proposed CB 17-147 which also proposed the addition of four new seats in Congress for women. That proposed bill is not available on the Congress website but The Kaselehlie Press published an interview

United States committed to advancing women’s leadership in North Pacific

The U.S. Department of State, with the East-West Center (EWC) and the New Zealand Consulate of Hawai’i, has launched the second phase of the North Pacific Women’s Action Program, which will build a network of women leaders across the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.



The program engages established women leaders who are known for “getting things done” but are often not in the spotlight. The program launches with a four-day on-island workshop, during which participants learn and practice approaches for informed effective action around important community issues, and is then followed by a blended six-month Community Leadership Incubator. The goal of the North Pacific Women’s Action Program is to increase women’s participation in their communities and in local decision-making.

November 17, 2017. We hope that some of the knowledge acquired from these capacity building workshops will support and enhance its implementation.

In March 2018, the EWC will launch the Community Leadership Incubator, which takes an “online and on-island” approach by combining small cohorts on each island guided by an advisor, and the larger virtual cohort across all islands. Monthly meet-ups provide tools, strategy discussions and talks by inspirational women leaders from the region. Tools are then practiced and shared within Peer Learning Labs run by Incubator members, often in their organizations.

Learn more about the North Pacific Women’s Action Program:
<https://www.eastwestcenter.org/professional-development/leadership-programs/north-pacific-womens-action-program>.

<https://www.facebook.com/EWCLeadershipProgram/>

For additional information, please contact Abigail Kim at KoloniasPAS@state.gov or +691-320-2187

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advertisements for this issue is
the end of working hours on:**

Wednesday April 4, 2018

WCPFC and CFC sponsor “Kolonia Klassic” fishing tournament in Pohnpei

Pohnpei Fishing Club

March 10, 2018

Pohnpei—After a delay of a week due to weather, the WCPFC and Caroline Fisheries Corporation Kolonia Klassic Fishing tournament took place on March 10. It was the first tournament for the Pohnpei Fishing Club for 2018.

15 boats participated, and everyone was catching some fish. Many thanks to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and Caroline Fisheries Corporation for their sponsorship.

The winners are listed below:

	Species	Weight	Angler	
BIGGEST FISH				
1st Biggest	Marlin	125.8lb	Chuck Handy	\$500.00
2nd Biggest	Wahoo	46.8lb	Alex Ysam	\$400.00
3rd Biggest	Wahoo	32.4lb	Konrad Englberger	\$300.00
4th Biggest	Wahoo	28.0lb	Adam Milburn	\$200.00
5th Biggest	Barracuda	26.0lb	Kim Duckworth	\$150.00
BIGGEST OF THE SPECIES				
Wahoo				
1ST	13.0lb	Lara Trott		\$100.00
Mahi Mahi				
1ST	13.2lb	Lara Trott		\$100.00
2ND	13.1lb	Welber David		\$ 50.00
Yellowfin Tuna				
1ST	13.6lb	Welber David		\$100.00
Skipjack				
1ST	12.0lb	Daunte Peterson		\$100.00
2ND	10.4lb	Daunte Peterson		\$ 50.00
Barracuda				
1ST	21.8lb	Oliver Hawley		\$100.00
2ND	11.0lb	Daunte Peterson		\$ 50.00
Lady Angler				
Biggest Wahoo	22.4lb	Bernolina Hedson		\$100.00
Junior Angler				
Biggest Wahoo	20.0lb	Noah Adams		\$100.00





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Grant contract signing ceremony for three new grassroots projects in Yap

Embassy of Japan in the FSM

March 15, 2018

YAP, FSM — On March 1, 2018, a Grant Contract Signing Ceremony was held at Yap State hospital conference room for the three new grassroots projects. The details of each project are as follows:

1. Project for Improving School Environment for Rumuu (Fanif) Elementary School in Yap State
Aims of the project:
 1. Improving the school safety by building a security fence, which can prevent students from strangers and breaking in
 2. Improving school hygiene by providing a water gutter.

Grant Recipient: Department of Education, Yap State
Grant Amount: US\$ 80,320
Grant Item: One (1) Security Fence and One (1) Water gutter

2. Project for Construction of Colonia Wellness Center in Yap State
Aim of the project:
 1. Preventing non-communicable disease (NCD) by building a wellness center where people can do exercise regularly

Grant Recipient: Department of Health Services, Yap State
Grant Amount: US\$ 90,000
Grant Item: Construction Cost for the wellness center.

3. Project for Procuring Waste-Management Equipment in Yap State
Aim of the project:
 1. Improving the waste management system at Yap Recycling Program by procuring a 5ton forklift, a glass crusher and the training cost.

Grant Recipient: Yap State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Grant Amount: US\$ 85,482
Grant Item: One (1) 5-ton forklift, One (1) Glass crusher, One (1) Training on Usage and Maintenance of Glass crusher

The Hon. Tony Ganngiyan, Governor of Yap State, expressed his most appreciation for the continuous assistance from the Government of Japan, and explained the backgrounds and outlines of the three projects. He also stated that the Government will ensure that Ambassador's stay during the 50th anniversary of Yap day will be worthwhile and enjoyable.

In his address, Ambassador Horie stated that he was glad to sign three new projects as the embassy of Japan considers that the sectors related to those three projects (education, health and environment) are the most important sectors for the people of the FSM. Also, he mentioned that he was impressed by the clean environment of Yap State after visiting all 4 states, and he encouraged Yap State to be a good example for the other states in terms of "Environmental protection" and "Recycling" by collaborating two past projects (construction of landfill and procurement of a PET Granulator) implemented by the embassy of Japan.

The ceremony was witnessed by the Executive Director of Yap EPA Ms. Christina Fillmed, the Director of Department of Health Services Ms. Martina Reichhardt, the Director of Department of Education Ms. Teresa Filepin, the Director of Department of Youth & Civic Affairs Mr. Fancis Itimai, the Chief of Division of Media & Protocol Mr. Sebastian Tamagken, the Public Information Officer Mr. Joshua Libyan, staff of Yap State Government and staff of the Embassy of Japan.

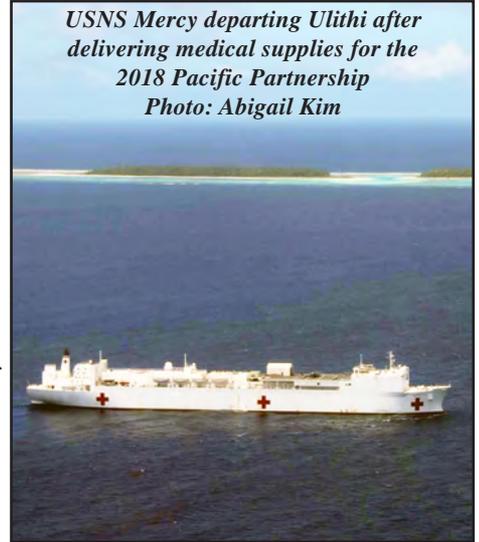
Ambassador Horie, Governor Ganngiyan, Education Director Filepin and staff with check for Fanif elementary school project



USNS Mercy delivers medical supplies to Ulithi Atoll

Story by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kelsey L. Adams, Pacific Partnership Public Affairs

*USNS Mercy departing Ulithi after delivering medical supplies for the 2018 Pacific Partnership
Photo: Abigail Kim*



PACIFIC OCEAN- Servicemembers assigned to Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) made a brief mission stop March 20 near Ulithi Atoll, which is part of the Caroline Islands in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

This is the first official engagement of Pacific Partnership 2018 (PP18), where the Mercy will be sailing near Ulithi Atoll and using helicopters to deliver medical supplies to a advanced echelon team of PP 18 medical professionals embarked on USNS Brunswick, the secondary mission platform, which will conducting a mission in FSM. PP18 medical professionals plan to work alongside Ulithi Atoll public health professionals, assisting in treating local citizens at a clinic.

"It's truly a pleasure for our PP18 team to conduct this exercise and strengthen the partnership between our two countries," said PP18's mission commander, Capt. David Bretz. "This mission also holds a deeper meaning because of the strong historical ties the United States has had with Ulithi in the past."

On March 19, 1945, Comfort-class hospital ship USS Mercy (AH 8) reported to the 5th Fleet at the Ulithi Atoll to assist the Okinawa campaign, during WWII. Throughout this campaign, USS Mercy made several stops in Okinawa where they began embarking and treating patients despite the frequent air raids and kamikaze attacks. The Ulithi Atoll became one of the centralized points for the allies to treat patients and gather supplies for four months. For her service during WWII, the Mercy received two battle stars.

Seventy-three years and one day after the USS Mercy made a stop in the Ulithi Atoll, USNS Mercy (T-AH 19), anchored near Ulithi Atoll. This feat was significant to many.

"It's very special to be doing this in a place like the Ulithi Atoll, which has incredible historical significance for the Allies efforts in the Pacific Theater during World War II," said Her Majesty's Royal Navy Capt. Peter Olive, Deputy Mission Commander, Pacific Partnership 2018. "Joint efforts such as these are what Pacific Partnership is all about — multiple nations coming together to achieve a common goal and to share experiences."

During this mission, several government officials from the Federated States of Micronesia were flown onto the Mercy from the Ulithi Atoll, where they were given a tour of the ship and were able to meet Sailors stationed aboard the ship.

"We are really excited to help out in any way that we can," said Lt. Brian Ford, family physician and the event led for the medical portion of this exercise. "Ulithi has done a lot historically for the United States, and I think it will be an amazing opportunity to give back to a community that has assisted the United States in the past by working alongside their local health professionals in a clinic and bring medical supplies to this clinic to be used for current and future patients."

Mercy, along with Military Sealift Command expeditionary fast transport ship USNS Brunswick (T-EPF 6), are participating in Pacific Partnership 2018 (PP18), the largest annual multinational humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HA/DR) preparedness mission conducted in the Indo-Pacific. PP18's objective is to enhance regional coordination in areas such as medical readiness and preparedness for man-made and natural disasters.

Pacific Partnership 2018 consists of more than 800 U.S., partner and host nation personnel working side-by-side to better prepare for potential humanitarian aid and disaster response situations.

...Pohnpei rain

Continued from front page

He also confirmed that as of today, the search for a woman in U who was buried in a landslide has continued without success but said that at the family's request, the search would end on Wednesday if it had not been successful by that time.

He said that the woman had been walking with her husband into the highlands to farm sakau when the landslide happened. The mud slide buried both of them but as it rushed down the hill, it brought the man back up closer to the surface. He was rescued and hospitalized. Unfortunately, his wife was apparently buried. The search for her began as soon as it was safe to do so. Early rumors that one of their children had also been lost in the slide proved to be unfounded.

One family's home was completely swept away during the mudslide on the hillside to Sokehs Ridge. No one was injured in that slide.

Carl said that many people's homes were damaged by flooding but that the biggest damages were to roads and bridges. A bridge in Kitti was undermined and damaged to the point that it was not possible to safely cross. Residents who lived beyond that bridge were forced to turn around and drive around the island in the other direction. Then another flooded culvert in Madolenihmw washed the road away there making it impossible to traverse the island in that direction either.

Even as rain continued to pour, employees of Pohnpei Transportation Authority worked through the night to restore at least a portion of the road at those two places and soon had restored at least one lane at each site.

Carl said that though he is not an expert in drainage matters, he noticed that where drainage pipes at the culverts were round,

they failed but if they were square, they tended to hold.

He said that he was impressed that some of the bridges held up to the heavy flood waters as well as they did. There was some damage on some of the bridges but they didn't go down. He said that he was also surprised that a far greater number of trees didn't fall during the storm or its aftermath.

Representatives of Micronesia Red Cross Society said that they started performing assessments for assistance on Sunday but that as of today, they still were unable to reach some communities.

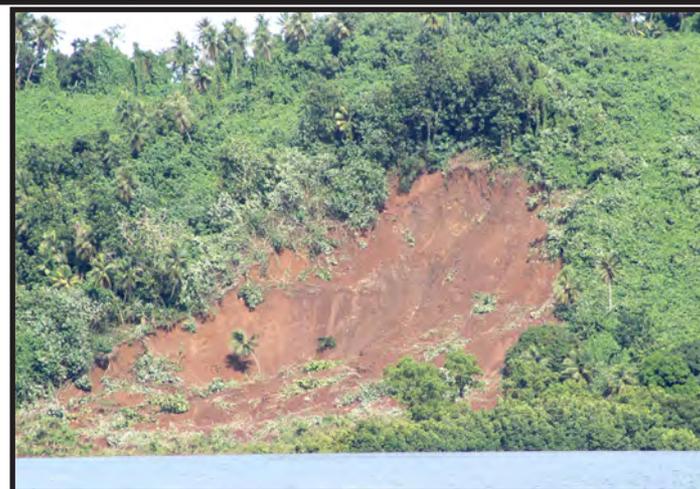
They said that only one shelter was opened for one night during the flood. It was necessary to evacuate people who live along the shores of the river in Daini. They were housed for one night at the Kolonia Elementary School.

They said that the MRCS could use cash donations to fund assistance and that their website has a way to donate online. He said that the organization could also use donations of sleeping mats, blankets, food and other in kind donations for families whose homes were damaged.

Chief Carl said that the people of Pohnpei should be mindful of the fact that roads are undermined. There is no guarantee that they will hold in some places. He urges continued caution.

Governor Marcello Peterson issued an Emergency Declaration this afternoon.

Photos courtesy of Micronesia Red Cross Society



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MON
APRIL 02



Parade and Opening Ceremony Cultural Show & Sports Competition

9:00AM | Parade begins at Spanish Wall
10:00AM-4:00PM | Ceremony and activities

To kick off the College's 25th Anniversary and celebrate its founding day, a parade of cultures will begin at the Spanish Wall in Kolonia and proceed towards the PICS Field. Official opening of the Founding Day activities will take place followed by cultural presentations and sports competitions by students. The public is invited to join the college to celebrate its founding and 25 years of student success.

TUE
APRIL 03

Traditional Canoe & Canoe House Dedication

9:00AM-11:00AM | National Campus

To encourage its students in cultural education and preservation through innovation, the College recently acquired a hand-carved sailing canoe from Yap. A traditional Yapese canoe house was built by the Yapese Community of Pohnpei and COM-FSM students, to teach students how to gather required natural materials and erect the traditional structure. A short ceremony will be held to dedicate the vessel and its new home by Navigator Hilary Raigetel. Open to the public.



Lecture: "College Education for FSM: Why?"

3:30PM-4:30PM | National Campus MITC

Father Fran Hezel, S.J. will be giving a forum lecture on "College Education for FSM: Why?". He has lived and served as a priest in several of the Micronesian islands since 1963. He has lectured and written on social change and impact in the region, as well as on the history and western influence of Micronesia. His books are also used at the college and are available at the College Bookstore. Hezel will also be available after the lecture for book signing. Open to the public.



Photo from wheresfran.org.

WED
APRIL 04

Anniversary Convocation

**9:00AM | National Campus' China-FSM
Friendship Gymnasium-Practice Court**

A 25th Anniversary Convocation will take place to celebrate the primacy of academics at the College. The event will honor and showcase its alumni, faculty, staff, and students. The celebration highlights the academic work that makes student success a reality at COM-FSM. Open to the public.



WED
APRIL 04

“Tropical Light” Photo Exhibit

1:00PM-2:00PM | National Campus MITC



Photo from floydtakeuchi.com.

Journalist and Photographer Floyd Takeuchi will showcase his photo exhibit “Tropical Light” which debuted in Japan in May 2017. Accompanying the exhibit will be a lecture by Takeuchi titled “In Search of Custom, A Photographic Journey”. Takeuchi has authored several photo essays including “Majuro: Essays from an Atoll” and “School On The Hill: Micronesia’s Remarkable Xavier High School”. Based in Hawaii, Takeuchi was born and raised in the Marshall Islands, and his work in the Pacific region spans over 40 years. Open to the public.

“Island Soldier”- Screening and Q&A

3:30PM-5:30PM | Pohnpei Cinemas

From former Peace Corps Volunteer and director Nathan Fitch, a documentary based on the story of Kosraean soldiers and their families, as they leave their islands for service in the United States Armed Services. The film follows these soldiers and their families as they face the realities of being soldiers, and the harsh struggles to cope, heal, and survive as “Island Soldiers”. The film has been shown in several Film Festivals in the United States, Canada, and in the Czech Republic. It is the winner of the Audience Award at both the Guam International Film Festival, and the San Diego Asian Film Festival. A Q&A session will take place with Mr. Fitch after the film. This film is not suggested for young viewers. Open to the public.



Photo from islandsoldiermovie.com.

THUR
APRIL 05

Gala Dinner

**6:00PM | National Campus’ China-FSM
Friendship Gymnasium-Practice Court**

A fundraising dinner will be held at the National Campus’ China-FSM Friendship Gymnasium-Practice Court. Proceeds from the event will go to the Endowment Fund. Entertainment, food, and drinks will be provided to ticketed guests. Tickets are on sale now at the Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC), formerly Pohnpei Campus, and the National Campus. For more information call (691) 320-2480.



...Pacific Partnership

Continued from front page

improve capacity for disaster response, to build medical capacity in the Pacific region, and to serve people in need.

This year's visit of the mission to Yap is the fifth time it has visited the FSM since the Pacific Partnership began.

The Pacific Partnership is a multi-national medical and humanitarian effort. As they continue on through the Pacific they will provide medical, dental, and ophthalmological services, as well as veterinarian services and engineering services. They also will participate in good will community events like sporting events and concerts by the excellent brass band.

Serving alongside US armed forces representatives are representatives of the armed forces of Australia, and Japan. The Deputy Mission Commander is Captain Peter Olive of the British Navy. Ambassador Riley said that while he was aboard the USNS Mercy on the previous day he'd also met people from Sri Lanka and Peru.

The mission began with a visit of the massive medical ship, the USNS Mercy to Ulithi where they dropped medical supplies yesterday. The 1000 bed hospital ship with state of the art surgical theaters was simply too large to enter Colonia's port. They dropped medical supplies that will be used by Pacific Partnership doctors that will be serving in the outer islands from their base aboard the Brunswick in Colonia.

Several FSM and Yap government officials were transported by helicopter for the visit of the Mercy which will continue on to other countries.

Meanwhile, the USNS Brunswick will serve as a base of operations in Colonia and for the outer islands.

"There is no sunset to the dedication of the United States for the defense of the FSM," said Ambassador Riley.

FSM's President Peter Christian said that he was pleased to have the mission in the FSM as a demonstration to others of the US commitment to the defense of the nation. He also used his time to thank the US for its recognition of the strategic importance of the FSM to the US. "We commit our friendship to all nations," he said and reminded those in attendance that if nations respect each other our differences shouldn't matter.

Yap's Governor left island before the Pacific Partnership began. Acting Governor James Yangetmai represented the Yap government at the opening ceremony saying that it was the first time in history for Yap to be so completely inundated

with medical personnel. He thanked the mission for the donations they had so far made to the people of Yap and the services they would be offering during the next two weeks. "America is great to us, especially when we are in need," he said.

After the ceremony, an astoundingly talented and delightful group of traditional dancers from North Fanif Elementary



School entertained the dignitaries with stick dances.

VIPS were given a tour of the USNS Brunswick, and extremely fast, highly maneuverable and reconfigurable aluminum vessel, a new class of vessels for the US Navy.

In the afternoon, the mission's six member brass band gave a fun concert at St. Mary's Catholic School playing jazz, dance and funk numbers for the students. The students were first hesitant to dance to music though it was obvious they were loving the band, but once they did they came out in large numbers and had a ball. Captain Oliver presented a new soccer ball to the principal before they packed up.

Captain Oliver and Ambassador Riley next visited Gilman Early Childhood Education Center where Seabees were renovating and repainting the center.

The Pacific Partnership will be in Yap for nearly two weeks performing dozens of services while they are here.

United States Department of Interior gives grant to Social Security Programs

FSM Social Security Administration

The Prior Service Trust Fund (PSTF) is a supplemental retirement, disability and survivors' plan established pursuant to Section 105(m) of U.S Public Law 99-239. It was established to continue to provide benefits to those who worked for the U.S. Navy Administration or the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for at least five years prior to July 1, 1968. In 1987, the United States Congress provided \$8 million for initial capitalization of the PSBTF.

Effective April 1, 2006, the Federated States of Micronesia Social Security Administration assumed responsibility for benefit payments made to citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia. Beneficiaries of PSTF total about one thousand and lived in the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia and Marshall Islands. FSM has a total of 450 beneficiaries who are currently receiving Prior Service Benefits.

In May 2016, the United States Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), awarded additional money to the Prior Service Trust Fund Administration (PSTF) to enact and fully fund an increased cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all existing PSTF beneficiaries. It was an

addition to the annual funds being received from OIA to maintain existing payments to PSTF beneficiaries.

In March 2018, the Prior Service Trust Fund (PSTF) was awarded funding through the office of Insular Affairs' (OIA) Technical Assistance Program. A grant was awarded to fund Prior Service benefit payments to beneficiaries in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau. The grant included a partial funding award of \$460,900 for PSTF benefit payments, will be available for the first six months of the next fiscal year. Additional funding will be awarded after OIA has received full appropriations for Fiscal Year 2018.

FSM Social Security recognizes all who had put in the effort to this success especially, with the help of the FSM National Government through a letter of funding request to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Affairs, Mr. Douglas W. Domenech.

Through enthusiasm and support from the national government, PSTF funding remains a benefit to our beneficiaries.



DR. ELIUEL K. PRETRICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Introduction

Dr. Pretrick was the former Secretary of the FSM National Government Department of Health, Education and Social Affairs and the founding President of the FSM National Olympic Committee. The goal of the Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick Memorial Scholarship Committee is to award one \$10,000 scholarship annually to a FSM citizen who wishes to attend a 4-year university with a goal to receive a bachelor's degree in physical education or a sport related field. The \$10,000 scholarship is for a 3rd or 4th year student for school year 2018/2019, and will be awarded on June 15, 2018.

For Applications please contact Moses Pretrick:

telephone - 320-8369
e-mail: mpretrick@fsmhealth.fm
Jim Tobin:
telephone - 320-8914
e-mail: fsmnoc@mail.fm

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia.
- Must have completed an Associate's Degree with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) and is currently enrolled college student.
- Must have been accepted for admission into an accredited four-year institution, majoring in Physical Education or Sport Administration.
- Must enroll as a full-time student.

Application Details and Deadlines

- The Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick Memorial Scholarship Committee must receive applications containing the following information no later than June 1, 2018 to be considered.
- The Scholarship Application Form, which must be filled-out completely and accurately in the applicant's own handwriting. The complete form consists of:
 - Part I General Information
 - Part II Financial Information
 - Part III Education and Training
 - Part IV Career Objectives Essay
 - Part V Honors/Awards/Community Service
 - Part VI Scholarship Agreement Form
- Three (3) letters of recommendation, preferably from teachers, counselors, school administrators, or religious leaders.
- Proof of enrollment or acceptance at the applicable institution of higher education.
- In addition, your school office must send a copy of your school transcript, including cumulative grade point average, directly to the Scholarship Committee. Applications will not be considered complete until the Scholarship Committee receives the Applicant's school transcript.

Application Submission

Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick Memorial Scholarship Committee
PO Box PS319
Paliker, Pohnpei FM 96941
OR Drop off at FSMNOC Office

Chinese Government Scholarship

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the FSM welcomes eligible FSM high school graduates and college students to apply for the Chinese Government Scholarship.

To succeed in getting an offer, please refer to the following easy application steps:

Step 1, log on to www.csc.edu.cn/laihua or www.campuschina.org and fill in the application form. Your "Agency Number" is 5831.

Step 2, download the completed form and print two hard copies. Then submit the hard copies and other corresponding application documents to the Chinese Embassy no later than April 16th, 2018.

For more details and requirements, please consult the Chinese Embassy or refer to www.csc.edu.cn/laihua.

Officers in charge: Mr. YU Yunshan
Mr. REN Chao
Tel: 320-5575 Fax:320-5578
E-mail: chinaemb_fm@mfa.gov.cn



MICRONESIAN SHIPPING COMMISSION
Office of the Secretariat
P.O. Box K-2786
Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941

Job Opening Advertisement

About the Micronesian Shipping Commission

The Micronesian Shipping Commission was established by a Treaty between the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau. The MSC Treaty is an Agreement on Regional Cooperation in Matters Affecting International Commercial Shipping in Micronesia.

Job Opening

The Micronesian Shipping Commission is looking for a qualified individual to fill the position of System Operations Officer to provide operations support and to assist in the Commission's overall regulation of international commercial carriers operating within the MSC system.

Such an individual must be a college graduate with at least a BS or BA degree in any field, preferably in Marine Transportation, however, not absolutely necessary.

Salary or compensation is negotiable depending on the qualification of the candidate.

Sample Duties and Responsibilities

Assist the Director in maintaining and updating a complete file of each of the international commercial vessels licensed to conduct commercial shipping service within the MSC region.

Assist the Director in analyzing proposals from international commercial carriers interested in providing service within the MSC region and making recommendations to the Commissioners for appropriate action.

Assist the Director in monitoring the cost of shipping service within the MSC region to ensure an economical international commercial shipping service in the region.

Assist the Director in collecting relevant data for compliance and enforcement of the MSC Treaty.

Perform other duties as assigned in the overall function and operation of the Micronesian Shipping Commission.

Duty Station

The Micronesian Shipping Commission Office of the Secretariat, located in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.

Application Requirement

Interested applicants should submit the following documents to postal address:

The Micronesian Shipping Commission
Office of the Secretariat
P.O. Box K-2786
Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941
Telephone: 691-320-3149/6821

Or submit documents in person at – MSC Secretariat Office
On the ground floor of PT&S, Dekehtik, Pohnpei, FSM.
To submit documents electronically, interested applicants can contact MSC at msc@mail.fm for instructions on e-mail submissions.

- (1) Resume/Personal Data
- (2) Awards or memberships in professional organizations
- (3) Two letters of references

Application Deadline: March 30, 2018

JENESYS 2017 certification ceremony & launch of the Japan-Pacific Alumni Association

On March 10th, Ambassador Horie attended the JENESYS 2017 Certification Ceremony.

At the beginning of the ceremony, Ambassador Horie stated that JENESYS Programme (Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youth) was created to promote "People-to-People Exchange" which is one of the main themes of PALM (Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting) and he was glad that twenty nine FSM students joined JENESYS 2017. He hoped that the program will be a good opportunity for students to get interested in Japan and the social and cultural exchanges between the FSM and Japan will become very active. Four participants reported their experiences in Japan with slides and videos. After participants got their certificate, the launch of Japan-Pacific Alumni Association was officially announced by Ms. Elisha Bano, JENESYS Project Coordinator, and Mr. Elvis Kumar, JENESYS Project Assistant. Two of them came from University of South Pacific in Fiji and also organized the ceremony.

They encouraged participants to find ways to make use of their experience in Japan after coming back from Japan. The members of the Alumni Association plan to promote JENESYS Programme to students at COM in the future.

J E N E S Y S Programme was created for promoting understanding of Japan and youth exchange programs to build friendly relations and understanding of multi-cultures. The FSM students have



participated in the JENESYS Programme for five years, and twenty-nine students, the biggest number, joined JENESYS 2017. The students were separated in 5 groups, which are "Building Peaceful Society, History", "Disaster Prevention", "Marine Resource", "Trade / Investment and Tourism" and "Sports".

The participants visited Japan for nine days during November 2017 to January 2018.



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“Island Objects” exhibit showcases Micronesian archaeological materials and culture

Habele Outer Island Education Fund

Twenty minutes northeast of Orlando, the Albin Polasek Museum in Winter Park Florida is hosting “Island Objects,” an exhibit of archaeological materials and historical items from the Pacific Islands of Micronesia.

It showcases traditional culture and illustrate the ways it has adapted to external societal forces through periods of Spanish, German, Japanese, and American occupation. The exhibit was curated by Barbara Wavell, an anthropologist and author of Arts & Crafts of Micronesia.

A broad range of objects are represented in the exhibit including carved wooden figures and storyboards, intricately patterned fans, human statuary, navigation charts, and woven clothing and adornments.

The exhibit runs through April 15th and praised by an Orland Sentinel article in January. The 400 objects on display are all part of Wavell’s personal collection, meticulously gathered and documented since 1975.

"The collection began in the 1970s when Wavell was a student at Rollins College, just a block or so down the road from the Polasek. An anthropology student, Wavell browsed flea markets in search of exotic carvings.

During one such excursion, she encountered a squatting figure and a carved board that she couldn't quite place. An investigation ensued, and she determined they were from Micronesia, scattered islands between Hawaii and the Philippines.

Distinct from neighboring Polynesia and Melanesia, Micronesia includes the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands and Nauru — as well as the U.S. territories of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and Wake Island.

'I realized there really wasn't much information on the art of Micronesia,' says Wavell, who received her undergraduate degree from Rollins and a master's degree in cultural anthropology from the State University of New York at Binghamton. 'It was very mysterious.'"

“A theme of this exhibition is adaptation,” says Wavell. “They persevered with this art — no matter who happened to be in charge.”

“It’s a beautiful and remarkable culture,” says the Polasek Museum's Rachel Frisby. “This exhibit has been wildly popular.”

In conjunction with her personal collecting, academic research, and publication of texts devoted to Micronesian topics, Wavell has long partnered with Habele, a US-based nonprofit serving students throughout the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Habele has provided copies of Wavell’s books to public libraries, schools, and universities in Micronesia, as well as to Micronesian diplomats and US officials working in the region. In 2016, Habele’s LEAD Scholar made a presentation of Wavell’s Woven Hand Fans of Micronesia to Amata Radewagen, the Delegate for the United States House of Representatives from American Samoa.

Wavell has also provided support and research for Waa’gey, a mentorship-based after school traditional skills program. Through hands on learning about carving and sailing, Waa’gey sustains centuries old traditions and imbues young men with a sense of accomplishment and belonging.

A Habele spinoff, Waa’gey serves at-risk students in Yap and Chuuk States, Micronesia



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FAX (691) 320-2798
Website: www.ppa.fm

Bid Proposals

Kaselehlie maihngko

Pohnpei Port Authority is soliciting bid proposals for repainting of the Pohnpei International Airport. All interested Individuals/Companies may submit their proposal to the attention of the Pohnpei Port Authority’s General Manager Mr. Pius Roby at email address pbroby@mail.fm. Closing date is April 06, 2018 no later than 3:00pm.

Additional information can always be obtained from the Pohnpei Port Authority’s FM&ID division Manager Mr. Bronson Sam at email address sambronson46@gmail.com or by calling him at Pohnpei Port Authority’s main office located in Dekehtik phone no: 320-2793/320-2682 or at Pohnpei Port Authority’s website: www.ppa.fm.

Pohnpei Port Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received in connection with this subject-soliciting announcement.

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Interior announces \$653,003 for judicial education and development in U.S.-affiliated Pacific Island areas

WASHINGTON – U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary - Insular and International Affairs Doug Domenech has authorized a payment of \$653,003 to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council Pacific Islands Committee to provide and oversee legal training for FY2018 in the judiciaries of the U.S. Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands, as well as the freely associated states of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau.

“The rule of law is fundamental for a strong economy and effective democratic rule in any society,” said Assistant Secretary Domenech. “I am pleased, on behalf of the Secretary and the President to continue to support judicial training and court development services in the Judiciary systems across all the U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands.”

The Pacific Islands Committee of the Ninth Judicial Circuit was established to fulfill oversight responsibilities with respect to the judiciaries of the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the former Trust Territories of the Federated States of Micronesia,

the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. All judiciaries in these Pacific Island jurisdictions are modelled after U.S. judicial system and the Pacific Islands Committee is charged with monitoring their judicial development. Specific responsibilities of the Pacific Islands Committee include: 1) assisting in the development and provision of continuing judicial education and court professional training and 2) overall improvement of the administration of justice in the courts.

Support for judiciary systems in the U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands began as early as 1976 when U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger established a Pacific Territories Committee to develop and work with courts in the U.S.-affiliated Pacific areas, appointing Ninth Circuit Chief Judge Richard Chambers as Chair. The Pacific Islands Committee Judiciary Training program continues that work today. Funding is provided in part through the Technical Assistance Program of the Office of Insular Affairs in the Department of the Interior and through Compact of Free Association funding provided under U.S. Public Law 108-188.

Interior announces \$460,900 for prior service Trust Fund

Supports former Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands employees

WASHINGTON – U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary Insular and International Affairs Doug Domenech has authorized a payment of \$460,900 in FY 2018 funding for the Prior Service Trust Fund (PSTF) Administration which distributes benefits to former employees of the post-World War II, U.S.-administered, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI) in the Western Pacific

“The United States continues to meet its commitment to 894 former employees for their prior service under U.S. administration in the larger Micronesia region,” said Assistant Secretary Domenech. “People in the Northern Mariana Islands, Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau rely on these payments for themselves and their families to meet every-day, practical needs.”

Employee benefits provided through the Prior Service Trust Fund represent a responsibility assumed by the Federal Government following the dissolution

of the TTPI in 1986. The program serves beneficiaries with five years or more of prior service. The four jurisdictions to emerge from the TTPI were the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. Leadership of these four jurisdictions continues to advocate strongly for the PSTF program.

Beneficiaries receive monthly checks in varying amounts from \$27 to \$64 and have reported using them for medicine, food, utility payments, and telephone service to keep in touch with family. Today’s grant payment represents approximately half of the FY 2018 budget needs; the remaining balance is pending final action from Congress on the FY 2018 budget and is supported through the Technical Assistance Program of the Office of Insular Affairs in the Department of the Interior.

Procuring a school bus for St. Cecilia School Students in Chuuk State

Embassy of Japan in Pohnpei

On March 5, 2018, The Grant Contract Signing Ceremony was held at St. Cecilia School Yard for the Project for Procuring School bus to St. Cecilia School which provided the school with \$31,830USD under Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects.

The objectives of this project are to address

the problem of student tardiness and to provide security for students by providing a school bus. Currently the school does not have school bus so that it takes more than one hour for some students to attend the school and when it rains heavily, it is very difficult for students to come to school on time due to the flood.

Mr. Mondale Tim, the Special Assistant to Governor, Chuuk State, showed his gratitude for the generous assistance from the Government of Japan. He also stated that this project will provide security for students (to and from school) and improve the school enrollment.

Mr. Anselmo Daniel, Chuuk ODA Coordinator, expressed his sincere appreciation to Ambassador Horie and the People of Japan for making this project happen and for continuing support to the FSM. In his address, Ambassador Horie, stated that the school bus which will be procured under this project will benefit the students of St. Cecilia School and hoped the vehicle will arrive early.

The ceremony was witnessed by Mr. Angelino Rosokow, the Chief of Public Affairs Department of Administrative Service of the Chuuk State Government, Mr. Jessie William, the Chairman of the St. Cecilia School Administrative Board, the other board members, teachers and students and a staff of the Embassy of Japan in the FSM.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST RE-ANNOUNCE (DEADLINE EXTENSION)



The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia's National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Pacific Regional Oceanscape Program, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward an IT DEVELOPER based at the FSM NORMA in Pohnpei, FSM and reporting to the Chief, Division of Statistics, Compliance & Technical Projects. The IT DEVELOPER services include:

GENERAL SCOPE OF WORK

The IT Developer will be focused on the implementation of recommendations presented in the recent NORMA IMS Assessment or any other initiatives for enhancing the current and developing new IMS capabilities. Focus of work will be to ensure a functional system or set of systems at FSM NORMA that effectively support the business/work processes at the Authority. This can include maintenance and support for the existing systems, or new developments of supplementary IMS functionality and data warehouse and business intelligence. Tasks and duties include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

- Liaise with external system providers (FFA, SPC, WCPFC, PNAO, etc.) for the purpose of analysing and documenting the systems and data managed by these providers and defining how the systems can be customised and optimised for NORMA's needs;
- Carry out analysis and develop in-house solutions (both hardware and software) for specific business requirements (database applications, document management, etc.) based on the in-house IMS assessment report as appropriate;
- Coordinate and implement the setting up and subsequently maintaining and optimising the use of a SharePoint Online/Office365 IMS environment;
- Develop data extracts from external systems and create custom reports for business users;
- Coordinate and implement the planning, design and implementation of the Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence capability, in any suitable capacity as needed;
- Coordinate and implement any other projects carried out as part of the IMS Program;
- Undertake and/or facilitate development and implementation of trainings for NORMA and relevant staff on systems use.
- Carry out other general IT duties in support of business users, including advice on ICT procurement needs of NORMA
- Other duties as may be assigned by Chief of SCTP Division.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- A Degree in Computer Science with at least 5 years relevant experience; or extensive experience and management expertise in technical or administrative fields; or an equivalent combination

- of relevant experience and/or education/training.
- Good working knowledge of relational databases and SQL language (e.g. MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQL Server or similar);
- Working knowledge and Understanding of the data modelling and database design principles and techniques;
- Working knowledge and Understanding of web technologies and development tools and environments;
- Solid working knowledge of both Open Source and Microsoft technologies (e.g. Linux and Windows operating systems);
- Good communication skills with experience in provision of training to staff;
- Self-motivation and willingness to learn new skills.
- Good working knowledge of English language
- Additional desirable skills
- Experience with SharePoint and Office365;
- Experience with BI tools (e.g. PowerPivot for Excel, Power BI, Tableau, Yellowfin or similar);
- Experience with data integration.
- Experience supporting a fisheries or resource management agency in FSM or Pacific.

DURATION OF THE PERIOD

The position will be for an initial two (2) year period. (Probationary period of six months, annual performance review determines whether contract would be continued). This is a full time position and may be extended based on satisfactory performance.

REMUNERATION

- Salary will be based on the Local Labor Market Payscale and/or depending on qualifications.
- This will be a 2-year full-time position under contract with FSM NORMA.

APPLICATION

The FSM NORMA invites consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above-mentioned services by submitting electronic and/or hard copies of Letter of Interest, CV, support Degrees/Certificates and 3 reference letters to NORMA no later than **APRIL 16, 2018**. Selection will be in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers (January 2011 edition). Full Terms of Reference (TOR) can be obtained from:

NORMA, FSM National Government
Attn: O'Kean Ehmes, PROP Coordinator
POBox 122, Pohnpei, FM 96941
Office Telephone: 691-320-2700/5181
Email: moria.joseph@norma.fm. Copy to okean.ehmes@norma.fm



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