

CDC Epidemiologist speaks on battling misinformation on COVID-19 vaccines at Pohnpei Panel Discussion

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

June 14, 2021

Pohnpei—This evening the Pohnpei Rotary Club and UNICEF coordinated the last of three panel discussions with Dr. Thane Hancock, an epidemiologist from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Guam office along with FSM and Pohnpei health officials. The topic of discussion was COVID-19 and the safety and efficacy of existing vaccinations.

20 local pastors were invited to the first of the panel discussions that were all held at Seven Stars Inn. After that panel discussion, several local churches agreed to offer vaccines to their parishioners. Organizers invited local business owners to the second panel discussion. Represented at the final panel discussion were municipal leaders and other interested individuals.

Dr. Hancock said that battling COVID-19 in Guam was one of the most difficult things he has had to do. “What you guys did was really smart,” he said of the FSM closing its borders. “At one point in Guam there were 100 people admitted due to COVID-19. You just can’t have enough doctors or resources available to cure it. So, what is the way out for the FSM? There’s a solution. Pfizer and Moderna are the best vaccines ever built.”

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Two men arrested for brutal murder in Weno, Chuuk one a Chuuk State Police Officer

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

June 12, 2021

Weno, Chuuk—On the night of June 12, 2021, two men entered the home of Tonto Rano and brutally murdered him. Relatives say that the two men entered the home while Rano was sleeping and murdered him in front of his wife and children. Attackers allegedly used a machete and sharpened

rebar arrows fired by a slingshot known as Filipino Slings. After stabbing him several times inside the home, they dragged Rano outside and continued their attack, severing an arm, cutting off his fingers and beheading him.

Chuuk State Police arrested and jailed fellow police officer Berky Enet and Kotup Ludwig, one the victim’s relatives as the suspects in the crime. State Police are conducting the investigation into the brutal murder.

Sources say that earlier in the day, Ludwig and Rano had fought. They allege that after Ludwig lost the fight, Enet and Ludwig planned and carried out the attack on Rano.

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PSL's revocation of Governor's COVID-19 Emergency Order does not mean that Pohnpei's borders are open

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

June 19, 2021

Pohnpei—The posting on social media of a Pohnpei Legislative Resolution revoking Governor Reed Oliver's seventh Emergency Order on COVID-19 led some to believe that Pohnpei's borders are now open. That is not the case. The FSM Congress extended the border closure through September of this year, though it allows for planned repatriation which has been progressing beginning with Guam and only under strict guidelines.

What Pohnpei State Legislature's (PSL) resolution actually did was to return Pohnpei to the state of emergency established when PSL amended Governor Oliver's fifth emergency declaration in April 2021. PSL made several amendments to the Governor's fifth emergency declaration, most notably eliminating the COVID-19 Task Force and establishing a Pandemic Readiness and Response Unit (PRRU). The PRRU halved the number of mandated members from that of the COVID-19 Task Force from 10

to five. They mandated the members as the Chief of the Division of Primary Health Care of the Department of Health Services, the Executive Officer of the Pohnpei Environmental Protection Agency, the Director of the Department of Public Safety, the General Manager of the Pohnpei Port Authority, and the Attorney General.

PSL's amendment to Governor Oliver's Executive Order 5 was passed on April 9 as Legislative Resolution 74-21. The amended order was extended for an additional 60 days counting from April 10. But on May 10, 2021, Governor Oliver issued Executive Order number six, only 30 days into the amended order's effective period. PSL did not need to amend or revoke the order, which would have re-activated the Pohnpei COVID-19 Emergency Task Force with four more required members which included the five positions contained in the PSL amendment plus the Director of the Department of Education, the Director of the Department of Treasury and Administration, the Director of the Department of Treasury and Administration, and the Commissioner of the Pohnpei Public Broadcasting

Corporation.

Though Executive Order six never actually went into effect, on June 8, two days before the amended emergency order was to have expired, PSL adopted resolution 82-21 revoking the order and further extending the effects of Executive Order five as amended by another 30 days to expire in July.

On June 10, after Executive Order five as amended would have expired had PSL not extended it, Governor Oliver issued Executive Order seven which was a duplicate of the ineffective Executive Order six. The next day, the Legislature also revoked that order in its entirety and mandated that all of the requirements of the amended fifth emergency order be reinstated including the formation of the PRRU with their reduced number of mandated members and the dissolution of the COVID-19 Emergency Task Force.

"Whereas, it is the sense of the Tenth Pohnpei Legislature that Constitutional Emergency Order No. 20-07 is unnecessary insofar as the constitutionally valid and functional Constitution Emergency Order No. 20-05, as amended and extended... presently exists which order more appropriately addresses the continuing dangers of the COVID-19 pandemic," the resolution revoking Executive Order seven said.

"Several weeks ago, I told the Attorney General to work on a legal opinion on the Emergency Orders

but they haven't gotten anything to me yet," Governor Oliver said. "I feel like it's important to have more people involved on the Task Force so that we can be safe."



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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Caroline Islands Air to resume prioritized flights after faulty tachometer grounds its only aircraft

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

June 19, 2021—For the last few weeks, Caroline Islands Air’s (CIA) only aircraft has been out of service, causing the national airline to cancel multiple interstate flights in the FSM. CEO Bryan Mori said that the problem was the tachometer that measures engine revolutions per minute. He said that, though the plane was capable of flying, pilots could not accurately gauge the performance of the engine. Mori said that he made the decision to cancel flights until the tachometer could be replaced as a matter of safety.

CIA ordered the part it needed, but the manufacturer in China had difficulty organizing the logistics to ship it. Expected delivery dates for the part came and went until CIA asked DHL to help the manufacturer to get the part out. It finally arrived earlier this week and after installation, CIA pilots did their first check out flight.

Mori said that because of the cancellation of flights, CIA will have no set schedule for flights during the month of July as they attempt to make up the flights for passengers who were stranded by the cancellations.

CIA is coordinating with the FSM government on a priority basis for the State-to-State travel needs of its officials but said they hope to be able to accommodate civilian needs as well on a space-available basis. He said that he

hopes that CIA will be able to accommodate travelers for leisure purposes and that FSM Department of Resources and Development is currently planning activities for this summer, including a music festival in Chuuk.

Several months ago, CIA lost a smaller plane on Mwoakilloa, one of Pohnpei’s outer islands. The loss left CIA with only one plane. Mori said that algae growth in Mwoakillo made the runway slick so that when pilots braked on landing, the plane could not get traction and it slid off the end of the runway into the lagoon. CIA is investigating the cost effectiveness of repairing the plane, an Islander Britten Norman.

The loss of the smaller plane means that, except in cases of extreme emergency, CIA will not be able to serve the outer islands. While the remaining plane, the Harbin Y-12 donated by the government of China can land on outer islands runways, it is a risky maneuver because the plane is larger than those that had been previously flying there. He says the risk is too great for anything but extreme emergencies.

Mori says that CIA has been expecting delivery of another Harbin Y-12 but that its construction and delivery has been hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic. He hopes that it will arrive at the beginning of 2022.

The Harbin Y-12 requires two pilots. CIA currently has two pilots, one of whom was

allowed to enter Pohnpei from Kiribati several months ago though the borders were closed because of the fact that Kiribati also had no cases of COVID-19. The two pilots have been flying all the routes since the Kiribati pilots’ arrival. Mori said that when the new plane arrives, CIA will need to hire more than the two additional pilots that plane will require so that the airline can schedule rest breaks for the pilots for safety purposes.

Since the FSM chartered CIA in 1995 it has heavily subsidized the airline. Mori says that the troubled airline is trying to avoid the need to ask for subsidies in the future but that it is going to need an

inject of capital funds before it can get to that place.

“I’d like to let the people of the FSM know that CIA is committed to continuing operation between the States but we will need support to start it up right,” Mori said.



Yap celebrates a COVID-free Father’s Day event



People enjoying a traditional Yap dance performance to celebrate Father’s Day at the Yap Living History Museum.

Yap Visitor’s Bureau

Yap celebrated Father’s Day on Sunday June 20, 2021 with food booths, contests, and traditional dances at the Yap Living History Museum. The event, sponsored by the Yap Women’s Association and the Yap Visitors Bureau, drew a large crowd. Yap, which has remained COVID free, was able to celebrate in comfort without masks or social distancing.

COVID vaccinations offered at Yap Island Market events

On Friday 11th June, Australian Ambassador Jo Cowley visited the Marine and Environment Institute of Pohnpei (MERIP) and presented a DAP grant of \$6,842 which will be used to renovate and improve the learning and operation centre of the institution. The learning centre currently serves as an important community resource for locally based training programs for 60 aquaculture famers, as well as a field operation facility for MERIP workers. During the visit, Ambassador Cowley toured the institution premises with Daisy Falcam and observed aquaculture research activities for giant clams and corals. The project is expected to be completed by August this year.



DAP is a flexible, small grants scheme for development activities. and applications can be submitted year-round. For more information and to apply online, visit www.fsm.embassy.gov.au

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President Panuelo launches Low-Income Assistance Social Protection Programming; \$7,000,000 to be distributed to eligible households

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On June 8th, 2021, His Excellency David W. Panuelo—President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)—launched the Low-Income Assistance Social Protection Program. Developed by President Panuelo and funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Low-Income Assistance program is a key component of the Nation's larger Social Protection infrastructure.

Joining President Panuelo for the opening ceremony was the Honorable Esmond B. Moses, Vice Speaker of the FSM Congress, and the Honorable Ausen T. Lambert, Speaker of the Pohnpei State Legislature.

Citizens will recall that ADB is generously providing 14 million dollars (\$14,000,000) for the purpose of the FSM's Social Protection programming. Of this amount, seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) are allocated for assisting zero-income and low-income households, with the intention to provide temporary

cash relief for households outside of the formal labor sector, such as subsistence farmers and fishermen, and specifically such laborers who do not qualify for the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Program funded by the U.S. Department of Labor.

For the purpose of implementing the Low-Income Assistance program, the Department of Finance & Administration worked with the Mayors and Municipal-level COVID-19 Task Forces. After the Mayors and Municipal-level COVID-19 Task Forces distributed the application questionnaire, the Municipal Governments signed off on the forms to verify the authenticity of the application. Then, the Department of Finance & Administration checked household members' income against the PUA Program database and the FSM Social Security database.

With over 16,000 applications received so far, the FSM National Government is prioritizing households with zero recordable income before moving to households with minimal income.



Citizens who are interested in applying for the Low-Income Assistance program who have not heard from the Department or their Municipal Government are encouraged to fill out the questionnaire and submit it to their Municipal Government. The questionnaire is available here: http://gov.fm/files/Application_for_Low_Income_Household.docx

Household.docx

The Department of Finance & Administration can also receive queries on this program via email at social@dofa.gov.fm or by telephone at +691-320-2640/5852.

U.S. and Australian Ambassador kick off Kitti local water project

U.S. Embassy Kolonia

June 7, 2021

Ambassador Carmen G. Cantor, DCM Kristin Westphal, and USAID Country Coordinator Rodger Garner travelled to the Municipality of Kitti June 4 to kick off the Inclusive Mitigation and Preparedness in Action (IMPACT) water project for the communities of Oaloapoal and Mwoakoat. Ambassador Cantor greeted community leaders, including the Mayor of Kitti Hon. Tony Sarapio, as well as Hon. Pohnpei State Senator McGarry Miguel and other Pohnpei State Legislature Officials in a site tour of the project materials, followed by a handover ceremony.

In her remarks Ambassador Cantor said "All of our communities and all of our people deserve access to clean water. And I am very proud that the U.S. Government is playing a role along with all these other organizations, working together for the common goal of helping this community."

Australian Ambassador Jo Cowley attended as well, presenting her government's

official funding check to His Majesty Soukiseleng Nahmwarki of Kitti Gregorio Peter. Australian Aid, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), International Organization for Migration, and the Micronesian Conservation Trust contributed 8,700 feet of piping and seven 1,500-gallon water tanks with a total value of \$50,000 to be installed by the city government. USAID's contribution was \$20,000. This sustainable project will chlorinate rainwater and eventually deliver potable water to 384 households and several schools in the region. The project is scheduled for completion this year.



President Panuelo solicits U.S. CDC & HHS support to increase FSM's COVID-19 vaccination rates

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On June 9th, 2021, His Excellency David W. Panuelo—President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)—received Dr. Thane Hancock, Senior Medical Epidemiologist at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (U.S. CDC), for a courtesy call. Accompanied by Her Excellency Carmen G. Cantor, Ambassador of the United States of America to the FSM, and Rodger Garner, Country Coordinator for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the primary outcome of the meeting was President Panuelo's request of Dr. Hancock to work with the FSM Department of Health & Social Affairs to develop a proposal for U.S. medical professionals to assist the Nation with increasing its COVID-19 vaccination rate.

The bulk of the conversation focused on the importance of the FSM improving its vaccination rate, and combatting misinformation. Dr. Hancock noted that, of the more than 170,000,000 Americans who have taken either the Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson & Johnson vaccine, the former

two have resulted in zero deaths, whereas COVID-19 is directly responsible for the deaths of approximately 600,000 Americans—a number that is, itself, approximately equivalent to six FSMs. In other words: the threat of COVID-19 is very high, and the threat of the COVID-19 vaccine is very low.

Dr. Hancock reiterated the central ideas that COVID-19 is bad, that the vaccines are effective, and that the vaccines are safe. The good doctor described the circumstances in numerous countries and territories. The State of Israel, it was explained, implemented a mass vaccination drive which resulted in the country's success against COVID-19.

Dr. Hancock described the COVID-19 vaccine as the game-changer that will help the FSM transition from its current status of being COVID-19 free to a new status of being COVID-19 protected. President Panuelo was advised that the U.S. CDC and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (U.S. DHHS) can provide support in helping the Nation

See "CDC help" on page 12

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Qualified Auditors to Perform Annual Single Audits
of the Federated States of Micronesia
Fiscal Years Ending September 30, 2021, 2022 & 2023

The Office of the National Public Auditor for the Federated States of Micronesia invites interested professional accounting firms to submit written proposals to conduct the annual audits of the National and four State Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia for fiscal years ending September 30, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

The single audits will include financial and compliance audits of the Federated States of Micronesia pursuant to the Single Audit Act of 1984, as amended, OMB Circular A-133, OMB Super Circular, and the Amended Compact of Free Association between the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States of America for Fiscal Years 2021, 2022 and 2023.

The audits will cover each reporting entity of the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia as defined by U.S. Public Law 99-239 TITLE FOUR, Article VI, Section 461 (d). The audits will be performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, provisions of the Amended Compact of Free Association between the Federated States of Micronesia and the United States of America and its related agreement for Implementation of Economic Assistance Programs and Services, and Federal auditing standards in the United States; including the Government Auditing Standards, issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO); the Single Audit Act of 1984 (P.L. 98-502), as amended; Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations*; and Super Circular, OMB *Uniform Guidance: Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

In addition, the auditor will be expected to follow the recommendations of the AICPA State and Local Government Committee as set forth in the accounting guide, *Audits of State and Local Governmental Units*, Revised Edition.

Proposals must be hand-delivered to the FSM Office of the National Public Auditor no later than August 13, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. If by postal delivery/mail, it should be received by the FSM Office of the National Public Auditor at the address below, no later than 3:30 p.m., Pohnpei local time on August 23, 2021.

A full version of the RFP document can be accessed at www.fsmopa.fm, or by contacting:

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...Panel Discussion

Continued from front page

He said that the vaccine has shown itself to be highly effective if at least 70 percent of people in a population takes it. Israel, for instance had a huge spike in COVID-19 infections but after they pushed the vaccine out, they were able to effectively shut it down. The same thing happened in Wallis-Futuna, which got the virus despite having closed borders but now have zero cases.

The United States has vaccinated nearly 50 percent of its people, but the last 20 percent needed in order to reach “herd immunity” continues to be an uphill battle. “We’re tired of this pandemic,” he said. “Let’s get ahead and use the best tool the FSM has against COVID.”

“Palau is at above 90 percent vaccination,” Kolonia Town Mayor Peterigo pointed out. “How do we combat misinformation? How do we encourage our people to come get,” he asked? At 62 percent, Kolonia Town actually has the highest vaccination rate of any municipality in Pohnpei, but it is not at all done yet.

Dr. Hancock said that people need to know that it has only three deaths out of 170 million people vaccinated. On the day of the panel discussion, the breaking news was that a small number of people developed myocarditis, an inflammation of the heart tissue. Dr. Hancock said that the risk of Myocarditis is minuscule, whereas COVID-19 patients are highly likely to develop myocarditis.

Because COVID-19 isn’t in the FSM yet, some people are thinking that they can wait until it arrives to get vaccinated but that is a mistake. It takes six weeks for Moderna vaccine to be effective. If COVID-19 arrives before people are vaccinated, they will be susceptible to the disease for each and every day of that six weeks. It’s just too big a gamble.

Emy Musrasrik of the Pohnpei Women’s Organization had many questions, the first of which was whether or not pregnant women should be vaccinated. Dr. Hancock said that they can be vaccinated and women who are breastfeeding may actually be passing on immunity to their child. He also said that people with diabetes and other diseases should talk to their doctor and get the vaccination, particularly since people with underlying health risks are at a much higher risk of dying if they get COVID-19. “That doesn’t mean that healthy people should wait to be vaccinated. There are enough vaccines in the FSM for everyone to get it,” he said.

He added that people who have already had COVID-19 should also get vaccinated. There have been many cases of people who already had it but got it again. The vaccine protects against that.

Musrasrik also asked if human remains can carry the virus. Dr. Hancock said that the CDC has not recorded one single case where an embalmed body has spread the virus. He said that COVID-19 is transmitted aurally, and human remains don’t have that capacity.

She also asked if local medicine is effective in treating the virus. Dr. Hancock said that he had no way of knowing if local treatments are effective, but he does know for certain that the vaccines work. He said that

the nature of the illness could lead people to believe that local remedies work when they may have recovered even without the local remedy. He said that if he was told that a local remedy worked, he might go ahead and do that but that he would also get vaccinated. “Local remedies are not replacements for the vaccine.”

Finally, Musrasrik asked if the vaccine reduces transmission. Dr. Hancock said that they are 80 to 90 percent effective but that nothing is 100 percent effective. However, the protection is not just for yourself, it’s also for vulnerable populations.

Dr. Rally Jim of Pohnpei Public Health said Pohnpei has administered 60,000 doses of the vaccine and that no serious side effects have been reported. Three people developed hives which were easily treated. Dr. Hancock said that 30 percent of people get some temporary side effects such as fever or soreness at the site of the inoculation but said that is the vaccine working. “Temporary minor symptoms shouldn’t keep people from getting the vaccine,” he said.

One of the participants said that she is organizing a sporting event in Madolenihmw and has received some criticism that her organization is requiring participants to be vaccinated before they can be allowed to participate. She said that some are calling it a “violation of their civil rights”. Attorney Steve Finnen of the Rotary Club of Pohnpei, while not offering a definitive legal opinion on the matter, said that participation in the event is optional, courts would likely not find a vaccination requirement for participants as a violation of human rights.

Dr. Hancock said that since the vaccines have only been approved on an emergency basis, the government cannot yet require citizens to be vaccinated, but that may change. The US Food and Drug Administration is nearing completion of full approval of the vaccines, and if that happens it could be required.

When asked why people under the age of 18 are not able to be vaccinated, Dr. Hancock said that as a practical matter, vaccines should be tested on adults. Eventually, children will also be able to be vaccinated.

“I want to go back to the message that we’re learning a lot,” Dr. Hancock said when asked why schools had been closed. He said that in terms of virus transmission such as the flu and the common cold often times comes from children interacting. “I have kids, and they constantly bring things back to me from school. But we have been learning that kids aren’t as high risk as we earlier thought,” he said.

On the message of misinformation, Dr. Hancock said that the vaccines should not be politicized. It is not a political question. What Dr. Fauci did or did not know at the beginning of the pandemic should not keep people from getting the vaccine. Those who are conservative Republicans should know that former U.S. President Donald Trump’s Operation Warp Speed to develop the vaccine was what he called, “genius” and said that he deserves credit for it. “The pandemic is not political and politics should not prevent people from getting vaccinated,” he said.

Dr. Hancock said that the vaccines are also doing well with COVID-19 variants. When asked if people will need a booster shot, he said that not enough is yet known about whether a booster will be required, but the most important thing is to get it now rather than waiting.

“COVID-19 will eventually come”, he concluded, “but it will definitely come if people are not vaccinated.”

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US provides grant to two FSM NGOs for women's advancement programs



By Bill Jaynes The Kaselehlie Press

June 17, 2021

FSM—U.S. Ambassador Carmen Cantor and Nathan Glancy, International Organization for Migration (IOM) Chief of Mission presented grants of \$10,000 each to two non-governmental organizations, one of them in Pohnpei, and the other in Yap.

The small grants are part of the Inspiring Women's Advancement Through Collective Actions project funded by the U.S. Department of State to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau and implemented by IOM. The project focuses on the women's empowerment to contribute toward local understanding and removing barriers to gender equality in the three countries through diplomacy and galvanizing coordinated actions. It targets women, men, girls, and boys and will promote understanding on barriers that gender discrimination places on our communities and also to develop opportunities for a sustainable future.

IOM Gender Equality Consultant Lululeen Santos told the gathered group that 22 agencies applied for the grant and that Micronesia Legal Services in Pohnpei and Kids of Ruu Community (KORC) in Yap were the first two recipients to be successfully awarded the grant.

Micronesia Legal Services Corporation plans to increase youth and community awareness of gender bias and its effects including domestic violence and human trafficking. It also will use the money to educate the community on LGBTQ gender bias issues and will mentor five young people on gender bias issues.

KORC remotely attended the grant presentation which was held at the IOM headquarters in Pohnpei. They will use the money to empower the women and youth of Ruu/Fais Island to be part of decision-making affairs of the community and to have representation in all matters including on boards and councils on the island. They plan to encourage the women and youth of Ruu/Fais to take part in meetings and to not be silent and not accept the status quo so that their issues and challenges can be addressed.



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ART & CULTURE GRANT SCHEME

DEADLINE:
JUNE 27th, 2021

For application forms visit
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<https://rrrt.spc.int/projects/PacificCCI>

#PacificCCI



Call for ARTISTS, CREATIVE ENTERPRISES & CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The ACP-EU Programme (Pacific) *Enhancing capacity for the sustainability of the cultural and creative industries Grant Scheme* aims to increase the contribution of the cultural and creative sectors economic revenue, commercial engagement, and its recognition in national economies. The specific objective is to increase capacity and sustainability of cultural and creative industry initiatives through this Grant Scheme.

Who can apply?

Creatives, Artists, Cultural Producers, Local Businesses, national culture and art agencies and institutions from the ACP Pacific region. Countries include Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

With financial contribution of the European Union and the support of the Secretariat of the OACPS, Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

The ACP-EU programme (Pacific) is implemented by the Pacific Community in partnership with the Queensland University of Technology.

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TRADE MARK
CAUTIONARY NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client, PayPal, Inc., a company organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America and with a principal place of business at 2211 North First Street, San Jose, California 95131, United States of America, is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark in Micronesia:



Which is used in connection with the following:

Class 9: Computer software for processing electronic payments and for transferring funds to and from others; authentication software for controlling access to and communications with computers and computer networks; magnetically encoded credit cards and payment cards.

Class 35: Promoting the goods of others, namely, providing information regarding discounts, coupons, rebates, vouchers and special offers for the goods of others; promoting the goods and services of others by providing hypertext links to the web sites of others; promoting the goods and services of others by providing a web site featuring links to the online retail web sites of others; business consulting services in the field of online payments; managing and tracking credit card, debit card, ACH, prepaid cards, payment cards, and other forms of payment transactions via electronic communications networks for business purposes; business information management, namely, electronic reporting of business analytics relating to payment processing, authentication, tracking, and invoicing; business management, namely, optimization of payments for businesses.

Class 36: Financial services, namely, electronic funds transfer; clearing and reconciling financial transactions; providing a wide variety of payment and financial services, namely, credit card services, issuing credit cards and lines of credit, processing and transmission of bills and payments thereof, bill payment services with guaranteed payment delivery, and brokerage of money market funds, all conducted via a global communications network; credit card and debit card transaction processing services; reimbursement of funds for disputed items in the field of electronic payment purchases; providing purchase protection services for goods and services purchased by others via a global computer network and wireless networks; credit card transaction processing services; credit services, namely, providing revolving credit account services; bill payment services; providing electronic mobile payment services for others; credit card and payment processing services; electronic foreign exchange payment processing; payment processing services, namely, providing virtual currency transaction processing services for others.

Class 42: Providing temporary use of on-line non-downloadable software for processing electronic payments; providing temporary use of on-line non-downloadable authentication software for controlling access to and communications with computers and computer networks.

Please take notice that PayPal, Inc., a company organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America and with a principal place of business at 2211 North First Street, San Jose, California 95131, United States of America, attaches singular importance to its above referenced trademark and will immediately take the strongest legal actions to protect its intellectual property rights against any person(s) or business(es) found to be infringing those rights in Micronesia. Note that any infringing or unauthorized use of this mark while be met with civil and criminal action including injunctions, orders to seize, audits, full damages and costs.

Any inquiry regarding said trademark may be referred to the attorneys for PayPal, Inc. as follows:

Hilborne, Hawkin & Co.
230 Commerce Drive, Suite 185
Irvine, California 92602
United States of America
Telephone: (714) 283-1155
Facsimile: (714) 283-1555
Email: info@hilbornehawkin.com

UFCP celebrates 123 years of Philippine Independence

Alvie B. Cabañez
Kaselehlie Press Volunteer
Contributor

On June 12, the United Filipino Community in Pohnpei (UFCP) celebrated the 123rd anniversary of the Proclamation of the Philippine Independence with the theme, "Spirit of Freedom for National Unity and Healing."



Hundreds of Filipinos gathered at the Softball field, Spanish Wall to join the celebration and commemorate the country's hard-won freedom. The celebration started with a prayer, flag raising ceremony, welcome remarks, reading of messages, and a motorcade.

Engr. Gerry Figueras, President, UFCP read the message of His Excellency Rodrigo R. Duterte, President, Republic of the Philippines.

"The challenges of the past years have tested our character as a nation. Each of us has been called upon to be heroes in our own right in fighting for our survival and devoting ourselves to the common good just as our heroes did more than a century ago.

With their noble example inspiring us, we look forward to a brighter future filled with hope that we will overcome the challenges brought by this pandemic. May our patriotic fervor continue to burn in our hearts."

Pohnpei State Police and Kolonia Town Police escorted the motorcade with a number of vehicles adorned with flaglets. It started from the Spanish Wall,

Kaselehlie St. going straight to Nan Mal road, turned left to PICS road and headed back to Spanish Wall. The different regional organizations and groups participated in the motorcade namely: Timpuyog Dagiti Ilocano iti Pohnpei (TDIP), Cabalen Queti Pohnpei (CQP), Katilingbang Bisaya sa Pohnpei (KBP), Samahang Tagalog Atbp sa Pohnpei (STAP), Association of the Filipino Ladies in Pohnpei (AFLIP) and Padyak, a group of Pinoy bicycle riders.

It has been 123 years ago since the Philippines has been freed from the clout of Western power, and yet, Filipinos all over the world never forget to look for different ways to celebrate the country's independence. Filipinos continue to remember how their forefathers stood up to challenge more than a century ago to defend the country's freedom.

Mr. Rodger Gardner, USDA Country Coordinator, US Embassy, also graced the event. The celebration was organized by Ma. Ezperanza "Doc Ypye" Guiuan-Englberger, Socials Committee Chairman, UFCP, with much appreciation from the officers, Board of Directors, and RS Roque Architects and Construction Services for their unwavering support and donation.



FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
DEVELOPMENT BANK

Corporate Office
P.O. Box M
POHNPEI, FM 96941



LAND FOR SALE - KOSRAE, POHNPEI,
CHUUK & YAP

FSM Development Bank offers the following parcels of land described below for sale to all qualified buyers:

Kosrae State

Parcel no. 018-T-31, Mukul, Tafunsak Municipality, 468 square meters±, as shown on Plat Map No. 018-T-06 dated January 24, 2020.

Pohnpei State

Parcel no. 045-E-26, Lohd-Powe, Madolenihmw Municipality, 2,031 square meters ±, as shown on Plat Map No. 045-E-03 dated May 16, 2005.

Chuuk State

Lot no. 61955, Unauo # 3, Neauo Village, Weno, 1,423 square meters ±, as shown on Map No. PI-12 dated October 3, 1995.

Lot no. 029-A-06A, Apinmas, Mechitiw Nantaku, Weno, 2,812 square meters ±, as shown on Plat Map No. 029-A-00 dated February 25, 2020.

Lot no. 014-A-18B, Nefin (part), Nepukos, Weno, 170 square meters ±, as shown on Plat Map No. 6022/2007 dated September 9, 2012.

Yap State

Parcel no. 082-H-01, Fitemachey, Dachngar, Rull Municipality, 2,916 square meters ±, shown on Plat Map No. 082-H-00;

Parcel no. 082-H-03, Muut Nu Fitemachey, Dachngar, Rull Municipality, 1,274 square meters ±, shown on Plat Map No. 082-H-00;

Parcel no. 019-H-12, Fitmeyan, Yinuf, Rull Municipality, 2,361 square meters ±, as shown on Plat No. 019-H-00.

Parcel no. 083-H-07, Muut, Dachngar, Rull Municipality, 135 square meters ±, as shown on Plat No. 083-H-00.

- FSM Development Bank will consider all offers for purchase of the parcels. Offers may be made for one or more of the parcels.
- The deadline for submission of offers will be Friday, July 30, 2021 at 4 pm Pohnpei time. All offers must contain the offer amount for each parcel separately, proposed payment schedule and contact information. Offers may be hand delivered to any FSM Development Bank office or emailed to: noras@fsmdb.fm
- Title to the parcels will be conveyed through a deed of conveyance issued by the FSM Development Bank. The purchaser must be qualified to hold ownership title to land in the Federated States of Micronesia and provide proof of qualification.
- All parcels and any improvements thereon will be sold “as-is” with no guarantees or warranties as to their condition.
- FSM Development Bank reserves its right to reject any and all offers made for the parcels, for any reason whatsoever.

For more information, please contact: Nora E Sigrah, Legal Counsel at email: noras@fsmdb.fm

Compact Trust Fund nearing one billion dollars

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—The Trust Fund Committee for the Trust Fund for the People of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), colloquially referred to as the Compact Trust Fund to distinguish it from the separate FSM Trust Fund, recently reported that its preliminary and unaudited asset value is \$957,322,124.

In a June 10th, 2021 Press Release from the Compact Trust Fund Committee, it was noted that the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) third quarter meeting occurred on May 27th, 2021.

The meeting covered the Compact Trust Fund’s investment performance for the January-March 2021 quarter as well as a current market update to May 2021, given the COVID-19 Pandemic and the effect on the Compact Trust Fund as well as the global economy and financial markets.

For the January-March 2021 quarter, the Compact Trust Fund gained 3.82%, slightly above the benchmark of 3.78%. The preliminary and unaudited net asset value of the Compact Trust Fund was \$933,850,563 as of March 31st, 2021.

As of April 30th, 2021, the Compact Trust Fund had a preliminary and unaudited net asset value of \$957,322,124. From the start of FY21 to present, the Compact Trust Fund has gained 17.4%. The Compact Trust Fund’s Investment Adviser, Mercer Investments, LLC, and the Compact Trust Committee are monitoring the Compact Trust Fund to ensure the asset allocation is in line with the long-term investment objectives of the Committee-approved Investment Policy Statement.

The Committee approved the Investment Policy Statement with updated capital market assumptions. The Committee approved Funston Advisory Services LLC to conduct the independent and objective external evaluation after a competitive request-for-proposals (RFP) process.

Following the FSM National Government’s strategy to move into green climate investment portfolios, as announced by His Excellency David W. Panuelo, President of the FSM, and codified through Public Law 22-06, Mercer also made a presentation

to the Board, outlining the Compact Trust Fund’s Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) exposures.

“Arguably the single-most significant isolated action our Nation has taken in tackling Climate Change—which aligns thematically with our environmental and conservation efforts through the Micronesia Challenge and Blue Prosperity Micronesia, and our ban on most forms of one-time-use plastics, including Styrofoam—was our Nation’s recent amendment to the FSM Trust Fund to recognize the existential threat of Climate Change, and mandate that its investments follow a sustainable development policy,” President Panuelo said.

“Yet, our sovereign FSM Trust Fund is presently approximately one-third the size of our Compact Trust Fund. Making the Compact Trust Fund green, too, would likely have as significant or more significant of an overall positive impact on our World’s environment. To the degree that it is practicable and lawful, I would encourage our Compact Trust Fund Committee, and our Joint Committee on Compact Review & Planning, to consider the actions we’ve taken to make our FSM Trust Fund green in their respective discussions on the Compact Trust Fund itself and for the ongoing negotiations regarding the Compact of Free Association, as Amended.”

Representing the FSM Government on the Compact Trust Fund are the Honorable Eugene Amor, Secretary of the Department of Finance & Administration, and Mr. Emanuel “Manny” Mori, Former President of the FSM.

The next quarterly meeting of the Compact Trust Fund Committee is intended to occur in late August or early September.

The financial details of this release, specific to the Compact Trust Fund, may also be found here: <https://fsmcfatf.com/fiscal-year-2021-3rdqtrmtg/>

Citizens, residents, and stakeholders interested in the Compact Trust Fund are encouraged to visit the Compact Trust Fund’s website at: <https://fsmcfatf.com/>

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in 177 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

UNDP strives to support the Pacific by coordinating UN activities at country level and through direct policy advice in four key areas: Poverty Reduction and attainment of the MDGs, Strengthening Institutions of Democratic Governance, Crisis Prevention and Recovery and Sustainable Environmental Management. UNDP provides services to the Pacific through the UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji, Joint UN Presences in Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Marshall Islands, Palau, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, as well as projects in each of the 15 countries.



RE-ADVERTISEMENT

Vacancy Announcement 2021/33

The UNDP Pacific Office seeks to recruit a suitably qualified FSM national for the following positions to be based in Pohnpei:

Programme Analyst:

The Programme Analyst supervises and leads programme support staff, coordinates activities of the projects' staff. The Programme Analyst works in close collaboration with the operations team, programme staff in other UN Agencies, UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji, Bangkok Regional Hub and HQ staff and Government officials, technical advisors and experts, multi-lateral and bi-lateral donors and civil society ensuring successful UNDP programme implementation.

Summary of Key Functions:

- Implementation of programme strategies
- Management of the North Pacific Office programme
- Creation of strategic partnerships and implementation of the resource mobilization strategy
- Provision of top quality policy advice services to the Government and facilitation of knowledge building and management

Minimum Qualifications and Experience

Master's degree in Environment/Natural Resource Management, social policy, public policy, political science, economics, development studies or a related area; OR Bachelors degree in Environment/Natural Resource Management, social policy, public policy, political science, economics, development studies or a related area with 4 years of relevant experience at the national or international level in providing management advisory services, hands-on experience in design, monitoring and evaluation of development projects. 2 years of relevant experience at the national or international level in providing management advisory services, hands-on experience in design, monitoring and evaluation of development projects. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages, experience in handling of web based management systems. Proficiency in English. Working knowledge of other UN language desirable

Level: NOB

Contract Type – Fixed Term Appointment

Programme Associate:

The Programme Associate works in close collaboration with the operations, programme and projects' staff in the North Pacific Office and UNDP Pacific Office in Suva, Fiji as required for resolving complex finance-related issues and exchange of information.

Summary of Key Functions:

- Supports the formulation of programme strategies and the implementation of the Country Programme Action Plan
- Provides effective support to management of the North Pacific Office programme
- Provides administrative support to the Programme Unit Supports resource mobilization
- Ensures facilitation of knowledge building and knowledge sharing in the North Pacific Office

Minimum Qualifications and Experience

Secondary Education, preferably with specialized certification in Accounting and Finance. University Degree in Business or Public Administration, Economics, Political Sciences and Social Sciences would be desirable, but it is not a requirement. 6 years of progressively responsible administrative or programme experience is required at the national or international level. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc) and advance knowledge of spreadsheet and database packages, experience in handling of web based management systems. Proficiency in English. Working knowledge of other UN language desirable

Level: G6

Contract Type – Fixed Term Appointment

General Terms and Conditions of Employment: Various benefits including health insurance, pension and annual/sick leave apply.

Closing date of applications: 30 June, 2021 (NY Time).

Applications can be submitted electronically on <https://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/jobs.html> or email to vacancies.fj@undp.org or applications can be drop at: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 2/F Kevin Pelep Building, Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM 96941, Tel: +691 320 4456. Applicants should provide all relevant information required, to the best of their ability.

Incomplete applications will not be considered and only candidates for whom there is further interest will be contacted. Full job description is available on <https://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/jobs.html>

UNDP is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

UNDP does not tolerate sexual exploitation and abuse, any kind of harassment, including sexual harassment, and discrimination. All selected candidates will, therefore, undergo rigorous reference and background checks.

...CDC help

Continued from page 4

reach its minimal vaccination target of 70%, and asked if such assistance might be desired or needed.

“We need it as of yesterday,” President Panuelo said. “I will humbly ask that [Marcus Samo, Acting Secretary of the FSM Department of Health & Social Affairs] work with you to develop a proposal...for [U.S. CDC & U.S.DHHS] medical experts to assist in our vaccination campaign. I'd say let's do it as early as possible.”

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with Dr. Hancock and Ambassador Cantor advising that they'll do what they can to explore how the U.S. CDC and U.S. DHHS can support the FSM's vaccination campaign.

“Thank you Dr. Hancock,” President Panuelo said, “For helping the whole Micronesian region...the FSM always welcomes you.”

As of June 9th, 2021, the FSM remains COVID-19 free. 21,796 Micronesian adults—or 37% of the Nation's adult population—is fully vaccinated or has otherwise completed the COVID-19 vaccination regime.

23,369 Micronesian adults—or 40% of the Nation's adult population—has received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.



Marcus Samo, Acting Secretary of the Department of Health & Social Affairs; Rodger Garner, USAID Country Coordinator to the FSM; H.E. Carmen G. Cantor, Ambassador of the USA to the FSM; Dr. Thane Hancock; H.E. David W. Panuelo, President of the FSM; T.H. Kandhi A. Elieisar, Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs



FFA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The deadline for submission is 8 July 2021.

The Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) invites expressions of interest from consultants to explore options to improve the Federated States of Micronesia's (FSM) National Oceanic Resources Management Authority's (NORMA) business and financial management services.

CONSULTANCY

The objective of the consultancy is to work with NORMA to explore options to improve its business and financial management performance as the authority responsible for managing the offshore fisheries for the FSM. This includes looking at cost recovery mechanisms that NORMA could employ as well changes to staffing and institutional arrangements. The specific focus of this consultancy will be to assess options for systems, arrangements and costs associated with becoming a more optimized and efficient authority.

Illustrative tasks are:

1. Conduct an analysis of the types of services and support that NORMA needs to be optimally configured.
2. Conduct a cost-benefit analysis for NORMA to source these services elsewhere (e.g., in house or private systems) to see if this may be more efficient
3. Recommend a number of options for NORMA to consider
4. Compare and contrast how this "new optimized" NORMA would be vs some of the other the other autonomous or semiautonomous entities are set up in the FSM

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

1. Degree in business, finance or accounting or other qualifications relevant to the demands of the role and /or demonstrated experience in conducting similar business evaluations.
2. Excellent written and spoken English skills; demonstrated strategic thinking, research and analytical skills.
3. Working knowledge of FSM stakeholders, natural resource management and/or oceanic fisheries experience in the Pacific is a plus.

DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT AND REMUNERATION:

Payments for services will be made as lump sums against specific deliverables agreed to between NORMA and the Consultant. The consultancy will be expected to complete the analysis and have the final approved report submitted within 3 months of the contract start date. FFA is flexible on the contract duration noting COVID 19 restrictions at this time. All costs are expected to be submitted with the bid for this consultancy.

Details of the RFP can be found on <https://www.ffa.int/node/2566>

President Panuelo solicits President Biden's assistance for eligibility for Federal Highway funding to support the FSM's Pave the Nation Program

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On June 15th, 2021, His Excellency David W. Panuelo—President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)—solicited support from U.S. President Joseph R. Biden Jr. to assist in the Nation's Pave the Nation program for Climate Resilient Roads. The President proposed that the Territorial and Puerto Rico Highway Program, a U.S. Government program which assists U.S. territories in the construction and improvement of arterial and collector highways, and necessary inter-island connectors, could be expanded to the FSM, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and that increased funding for the program at large would be beneficial to both Micronesian and U.S. interests in the region.

President Panuelo described how the Pave the Nation program of Climate Resilient Roads is one of the Panuelo-George administration's keystone priorities. "The practical reality is that the roads across the [FSM] are often poor at best, and absent at worst; the practical effect, then, is that I have solicited support from other development partners to assist us in our endeavor to establish climate-resilient roads for our Pave the Nation project."

"Mr. President," President Panuelo continued, "we have been blessed to have recently received \$40,000,000 from the World Bank for the purpose of our climate-resilient roads initiative. We have also solicited support from the People's Republic of China (China), and recently signed a technical and economic cooperation agreement for approximately \$16,000,000 in assistance, the bulk of which I would intend to augment our Pave the Nation project. Further, as I discussed with Prime Minister Morrison [of Australia] and confirmed in a recent a meeting with [the] Ambassador of Australia [to the FSM], I have learned that the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) may be able to augment this project, too. Certainly, we put our own meager national resources into developing our roads as well, but too often we find that our funding means little when we're constantly facing typhoons, heavy rains, and other Climate Change-related scenarios that dilapidate our road infrastructure. Taken in isolation, the numerical value in the assistance I describe here is large compared to no assistance at all—but it is not nearly enough to fully implement our Pave the Nation program."

President Panuelo wrote that it is in the interest of the FSM that the United States of America—the Nation's first and foremost ally—be the "visible reflection of our Nation's infrastructure development."

"Thus, Mr. President, I would like to propose to you an idea for your consideration. You will recall that ...the Territorial and Puerto Rico Highway Program...'assist[s] each government of a territory in the construction and improvement of a system of arterial and collector highways, and necessary inter-island connectors.' Funds are used for the construction of highways, bridges, boats, terminal facilities, preventative maintenance, engineering and economic surveys, and

more. We understand that approximately \$145,000,000 are scheduled per annum for the U.S. Territories and Puerto Rico under this program. Taking action to increase appropriations for the Territorial and Puerto Rico Highway Program, and to expand this program to the Freely Associated States...would go a long way towards improving U.S. visibility in our Nation's development and implementation of crucial infrastructure projects, and ensure the Pave the Nation program's success."

"I appreciate your attention and concern to this issue, Mr. President," President Panuelo concluded. "Rest assured that the People and Government of the [FSM] look forward to deepening our Enduring Partnership over the years and decades to come, and that we look forward to Building Back Better through our construction of climate-resilient roads."

As part of the Panuelo-George administration's efforts to initiate dialogue on this issue, President Panuelo has also sent his letter to President Biden to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the U.S. Senate, for the information of all Members of the U.S. Congress.

Citizens, residents, and stakeholders may find President Panuelo's letter to President Biden here: https://gov.fm/files/June_15_letter_to_President_USA.pdf



H.E. David W. Panuelo, President of the FSM, signs his letter to H.E. Joseph R. Biden Jr., President of the USA

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RE-ADVERTISEMENT

Vacancy Announcement 2021/32

The UNDP Pacific Office seeks to recruit a suitably qualified FSM national for the following positions to be based in Pohnpei:

Procurement & Administrative Associate

The Procurement & Administrative Associate works in close collaboration with the Operations, Programme and projects staff in the North Pacific Office and UNDP Pacific Office in Suva, Fiji and other UN agencies staff to exchange information and ensure consistent service delivery.

Summary of Key Functions:

- Implementation of operational strategies
- Efficient procurement and administrative support
- Implementation of sourcing strategy
- Support to supply and assets management
- Coordination of Registry and Receptionist functions
- Support to office maintenance and assets management
- Support to knowledge building and knowledge sharing

Minimum Qualifications and Experience

Secondary education. Certification in administration desirable. University Degree in Business or Public Administration desirable, but it is not a requirement. 6 years of relevant experience in procurement, administration or programme support service. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc.). Experience in handling of web-based management systems. Proficiency in English. Working knowledge of other UN language desirable

Level: G6

Contract Type – Fixed Term Appointment

Finance Associate

The Finance Associate works in close collaboration with the operations, programme and projects' staff in the UNDP Pacific Office in Suva and with UNDP HQs staff for resolving finance-related issues and information exchange.

Summary of Key Functions:

- Implementation of operational strategies
- Administration of budgets and cost-recovery system
- Accounting and administrative support
- Global payroll
- CO cash management
- Facilitation of knowledge building and knowledge sharing

Minimum Qualifications and Experience

Secondary Education with specialized certification in Accounting and Finance. University Degree in Business or Public Administration would be desirable, but it is not a requirement. 6 years of progressively responsible finance experience is required at the national or international level. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc) and advance knowledge of

spreadsheet and database packages, experience in handling of web based management systems. Proficiency in English. Working knowledge of other UN language desirable.

Level: G6

Contract Type – Fixed Term Appointment

Driver

Under the guidance and supervision of the Operations Manager, the Driver provides reliable and safe driving services to the UNDP office, and other UN officials and visitors ensuring highest standards of discretion and integrity, sense of responsibility, excellent knowledge of protocol and security issues. The Driver also demonstrates a client-oriented approach, courtesy, tact and ability to work with people of different national and cultural backgrounds.

Summary of Key Functions:

- Provision of reliable and secure driving services
- Proper use of vehicle
- Day-to-day maintenance of the assigned vehicle
- Availability of documents/ supplies
- Provision of administrative support

Minimum Qualifications and Experience

Secondary Education. Valid Driver's license. 2 years' work experience as a driver; safe driving record; knowledge of driving rules and regulations and skills in minor vehicle repair. Proficiency in English. Working knowledge of other UN language desirable.

Level: G2

Contract Type – Fixed Term Appointment

General Terms and Conditions of Employment: Various benefits including health insurance, pension and annual/sick leave apply.

Closing date of applications: 30 June, 2021 (NY Time).

Applications can be submitted electronically on <https://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/jobs.html> or email to vacancies.fj@undp.org or applications can be drop at: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 2/F Kevin Pelep Building, Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM 96941, Tel: +691 320 4456. Applicants should provide all relevant information required, to the best of their ability.

Incomplete applications will not be considered and only candidates for whom there is further interest will be contacted. Full job description is available on <https://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/jobs.html>

UNDP is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

UNDP does not tolerate sexual exploitation and abuse, any kind of harassment, including sexual harassment, and discrimination. All selected candidates will, therefore, undergo rigorous reference and background checks.

The FSM National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA) is calling for students to submit interest in participating in its annual Internship program and the work-study/community service placement program.

A. INTERNSHIP PROGRAM:

These paid internships target high-achieving college students (primarily juniors and seniors, but freshmen or sophomores may also apply) who are near graduation or recently graduated, with an interest in fisheries or fisheries-related fields (including majors in natural resource management, environmental science, economics, accounting, business administration, finance, political science, etc.).

NORMA is made of five Divisions reporting to the Executive and Deputy Directors. Internships can be with any of the Divisions within NORMA.

Application process

Paid internships are limited. If you are interested in an internship, please complete the following items and email them to info@norma.fm

Required Documents

- Completed Internship Application (available on NORMA website: <http://www.norma.fm/category/internships/>)
- CV/Resume
- Proof of health insurance
- Endorsement Letter from parents or school

An internship at FSM-NORMA will be dependent on FSM-NORMA staff commitments and the availability of staff to support the beneficiary's term at FSM-NORMA. The minimum duration of a paid internship is 2 months but variations on duration can be negotiated. A report of the project plus a presentation will be submitted to FSM-NORMA upon completion of the internship.

B. WORK-STUDY/COMMUNITY SERVICE PLACEMENTS

NORMA also has ongoing opportunities for work-study students and community service placements. These are unpaid positions with timing and focus to be negotiated on a case-by-case basis. If you are interested in one of these opportunities, send an email to info@norma.fm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT NORMA AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

National Oceanic Resource Management Authority
Office Location: 2nd Floor, Ambrose Building, Kolonia, Pohnpei
PO Box PS 122
Pohnpei, FM 96941
Federated States of Micronesia
Telephone: (691) 320-2700/5181
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President Panuelo recommits the FSM's support to the FSM-Israel enduring friendship

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, Pohnpei—On June 14th, 2021, His Excellency David W. Panuelo—President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)—sent a letter of congratulations to His Excellency Naftali Bennett, the newly sworn-in Prime Minister of the State of Israel. In addition to the congratulatory remarks, President Panuelo reaffirmed the Nations' commitment to standing with the People and Government of Israel on matters that are “right and just.”

Citizens may recall that, while it is

common protocol and procedure for any Head of State and/or Head of Government to send congratulations to a newly sworn-in Leader, the FSM and Israel have a particularly close Enduring Friendship, based on shared values and ideals.

“Your commitments to peace, unity, and liberty are noble, and your successful practice of democracy and democratic principles is truly commendable. Our People and Government offer you our sincerest wishes for your success, as well as my assurance that our Nation will support you and the People of Israel as

you assume the heavy responsibilities that accompany leadership,” President Panuelo wrote.

“Prime Minister,” President Panuelo continued, “as demonstrated by our voting history at the United Nations, the [FSM] stands with Israel in what is right and just. I would like to personally reassure you that it remains the policy of the Government of the [FSM] that our Nation will continue to support our shared Judeo-Christian values and traditions. We recognize, and deeply appreciate, that Israel was the first non-Pacific country to extend diplomatic recognition of our sovereign Nation.

Both of our countries have an enduring partnership with the People and Government of the United States of America, and Micronesia's closeness with the United States is thematically equivalent to our closeness with Israel. Indeed, Prime Minister, Israel is an enduring ally, and an enduring friend; it is my commitment to you that our relations will only strengthen, never weaken.”

President Panuelo's letter to Prime Minister Bennett may be found here: https://gov.fm/files/June_14_letter_to_HE_Naftali_Bennett_of_Israel.pdf

Opinion Editorial

For happiness and rejuvenation of China for peace and development of humanity

Reflection on 100th Anniversary of Founding of Communist Party of China

July 1st, 2021, marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC). In around a week, people all over China will be celebrating this historical moment, for the Chinese Government, under the leadership of the CPC, has won the broadest support of the Chinese people. In July, 2020, Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government released a policy brief showing that the Chinese people's overall satisfaction toward the Chinese government for the past decade has kept exceeding 93%. According to a survey done by York University in Canada, the Chinese people's trust in the government increased to 98% after COVID-19 pandemic.

Many foreign friends, including several national leaders and high officials of the FSM, have also extended congratulatory messages to the CPC on this important occasion. The reason lies in the fact that the CPC always carries out its original aspiration and founding mission to seek happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation and is dedicated, at the same time, to the cause of human progress.

The long-term ruling-party status of the CPC in China is by choice of the history and the people. More than a century ago, when the old China was enduring severe impoverishment and debility, countless

patriotic heralds before the CPC had explored multiple pathways in an attempt to salvage China from subjugation, but all in failure. The situation had never turned for the better until the CPC united and led the Chinese people, by integrating the basic tenets of the advanced Marxism with China's actual conditions and characteristics of the time, to overthrow imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism, which had weighed like “three big mountains” on the back of the Chinese people before the founding of the new People's Republic of China. Later, the CPC-led Chinese government initiated reform and opening-up, which blazed trail for socialism with Chinese characteristics, leading to the Chinese nation's achievement in the tremendous transformation from standing up, growing rich to becoming strong. Hence the staunch support of the Chinese people for the CPC.

The CPC is a political party that breathes the same air and shares the same future with the people. Ever since day one of its founding, the CPC has always adhered to its fundamental purpose of serving the people wholeheartedly, upholding the value of putting people in the first place. To meet the people's aspiration for a better life is the goal of the CPC. No matter in the historic courses of striving for national independence, the country's development and people's well-off or faced with contemporary challenges like combating COVID-19 pandemic, poverty alleviation, science and technology innovation and environmental management, the CPC has always rooted in the vast land of China, related to the Chinese people from all ethnic groups like flesh and blood and taken the people's support, approval, happiness, and consent as the fundamental

criterion for judging all its work. While the Chinese people's sense of gain, happiness and security continues to increase, the CPC has grown from a small party with over 50 members in the beginning into a major party with over 91 million members today and has long been a ruling party in the world's most populous country.

The CPC is a political party that has noble feelings for the world. Under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, the CPC always takes making new and greater contributions to mankind as its mission and is committed to fulfilling its responsibility as a major country to promote human progress. China remains firm in pursuing an independent foreign policy of peace, advocates and actively promotes the building of a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity and contributes by offering Chinese wisdom and solutions to global issues such as poverty reduction and climate change. China firmly opposes hegemonism and power politics and advocates making international relations more democratic and rules-based to forge a new form of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness, justice, and win-win cooperation. China contributes more than 30% to world economic growth. It is the second largest contributor to assessed contributions and peacekeeping budget of the UN and the largest troop contributor of peacekeeping operations among the permanent members of the UN Security Council. China's development has broadened the path to modernization for developing countries, including the FSM. China will stay a promoter of world peace, contributor to global development and upholder of the international order.

The CPC is an open and inclusive political

party that encourages exchanges. The CPC is committed to creating more opportunities for the world through China's development and discovering the development laws of human society by studying in depth on its own experiences to share with other countries while actively learning from civilization achievements created by people all over the world. The CPC always strengthens mutual learning and exchanges of experience on governance with political parties and leading groups of other countries on the basis of seeking common ground while shelving differences as well as mutual respect. The CPC respects the right of the people of all countries to choose their own development path. The CPC never outputs its own socio-political system or development pattern and opposes ideological confrontation.

As a comprehensive strategic partner, China genuinely welcomes friends from all walks of life in the FSM, upholding the spirit of equality and mutual respect, to get a fair understanding of the real CPC from history and reality and get to know China as it is. On such a basis, we expect you to meet the Chinese side half way to further deepen exchanges and cooperation between China and the FSM in various areas and to work shoulder to shoulder to make new contributions to the pursuit of the Belt and Road Initiative and the building of a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity, as well as to the constant development and elevation of the China-FSM “Great Friendship” and Comprehensive Strategic Partnership to new heights.

*Ambassador of the People's Republic of China
Huang Zheng*



Laptop Student Care for Summer & Fall 2021 | Apply Now

The College of Micronesia-FSM recognizes the unprecedented challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, the college put together the Laptop Student Care to encourage and equip with laptops students to be able to participate in the learning process while attending the college.

Eligibility Requirements, the applicant must:

1. Be a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia.
2. Be enrolled at the college in an undergraduate program of study in the summer or fall of 2021.
3. Demonstrate the need to use laptops as part of his or her classes.
4. Must attend and satisfactorily complete tutorial services from the college's counseling & tutoring services.
5. Must show progression in cumulative grade point average.

Selection of recipients for the COM-FSM Laptop Student Care will be based on three groupings: Group 1 being the first to receive the COM-FSM Laptop Student Care, Group 2 second, and Group 3 the last.

Group 1

Full-time students in the summer or fall of 2021, and who have completed their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application; re-enrolled in an undergraduate program of study at the college and maintained at least 2.0 cumulative GPA. For new students, a high school transcript will be used to evaluate their cumulative GPAs as the basis for selection. Graduating students who completed the FAFSA application and met the minimum GPA may be considered depending on the required credits needed to graduate.

Group 2

All less than full-time students who have completed their FAFSA, enrolled in the summer or fall of 2021, and earned at least 2.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 point scale.

Group 3

All other students who are enrolled in any of the undergraduate program of student at the college in the summer or fall of 2021.

Application for the COM-FSM Laptop Student Care for summer 2021 is open June 21, 2021, and closes on July 2, 2021, 5:00 PM Pohnpei/Pacific Time., and for fall 2021, July 12, 2021, and will close on August 13, 2021, 5:00 PM Pohnpei/Pacific.

Application form is available from Financial Aid Offices (FAO) at all campuses.

If you have questions or in need of assistance regarding the Laptop Student Care, please contact your nearest COM-FSM campus FAO

We Care Student Aid for fall 2021 | Apply Now



The College of Micronesia-FSM recognizes the unprecedented challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, the college put together the We Care Student Aid intended to support students facing financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing recipients supplemental financial assistance to cover their outstanding (or unpaid) balance at the college after all federal grants, national and state scholarships are applied.

The We Care Student Aid will be applied to the recipient's outstanding balance on tuition and required matriculation fees, including room and board fees, transportation and books, at the college for the academic term beginning spring 2020.

Eligibility Requirement, the applicant must:

1. Be a citizen of the freely associated states (Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands), or a US citizen or national.
2. Be a continuing or returning student at the college in the fall of 2021.
3. Enroll in an undergraduate program of study as a full-time (at least 12 credits) student at college in the fall of 2021. Graduating students in the fall of 2021 may be considered depending on the remaining required credits needed to graduate.
4. Be eligible or was eligible for US Federal Student Aid (FSA).
5. Have incurred outstanding (or unpaid balance) at the college on tuition and required matriculation fees, including on-campus room and board fees, transportation, and books, during spring, summer, and/or fall 2020 terms, and spring or summer 2021 terms.
6. Make use of the college's student support services, such as tutoring services in lieu of withdrawing from classes.

Application for the COM-FSM We Care Student Aid for the fall of 2021 is open Monday, June 21, 2021, to Friday, July 30, 2021 (5:00 PM Pohnpei/Pacific Time). Application forms are available from Financial Aid Offices (FAO) at all campuses. Forms may also be downloaded by clicking on this link.

If you have questions or in need of assistance regarding the We Care Student Aid, please contact your nearest COM-FSM campus FAO, you can email wecare@comfsm.fm