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MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

- TO :** Representatives of Governments and Administrations of the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Nauru and the Republic of Palau
- DATE:** 19 September, 2016
- SUBJECT:** **Capacity development support for Agricultural Policy, Research and Extension Services through Applied Knowledge Management Tools and Approaches, 17th – 21st October, 2016.**

I am pleased to announce that the European Union supported Pacific Agriculture Policy Project (PAPP) implemented by the Land Resources Division of the Pacific Community, the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Resources and Development with the States Department of Agriculture will be hosting a sub-regional workshop '**Capacity development support for Agricultural Policy, Research and Extension Services through Applied Knowledge Management Tools and Approaches – focusing on Northern Pacific Countries.**'

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

The capacity development workshop will include sessions on knowledge management concepts, processes and approaches, Participatory Learning and Action (PLA), a participatory writeshop exercise to develop knowledge management products on extension and research practices and a learning exchange to highlight the key commodities in FSM. It will also highlight the ongoing projects implemented by SPC-LRD to improve the understanding of potential impacts of climate change on food security.

The objectives of the workshop are:

- a. To strengthen knowledge management capacities for Northern Pacific.
- b. To promote Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools to assess community vulnerability to climate variability and change.
- c. To facilitate a write shop as a knowledge management tool to harvest at least two stories from the participatory rural appraisal community assessment.
- d. To use knowledge management techniques to promote learning exchange between agricultural officers, farmers, youths and women.

BACKGROUND (See Annex – background documents)

The Pacific Community (SPC) and the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) are jointly implementing a partnership to support Agricultural policy processes, value chains and extension support through stronger knowledge management (KM) concepts, approaches and tools. The challenges for the agriculture sector in the Northern Pacific are immense. As small island states, they face special problems of scale, isolation and lack of resources but also vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change. However there opportunities to be gained by leveraging on digital and ICT, collaborating on common sector priorities and promoting niche products from the sub-region.

As small island states, much can be gained from regional or complementary approaches. One of these is around organizing, sharing and disseminating information among key stakeholders particularly the extension and research practices. As such, the SPC-CTA partnership is aimed at bringing in tested regional KM tools, approaches and products from SPC, CTA and other partners to build the knowledge base of the Pacific countries and how KM is better utilized to support agricultural policies, value chains and extension. SPC for instance has knowledge products and services such as crops and livestock databases which is aimed at ensuring these are visible and accessible to various stakeholders.

VENUE

1. The sub-regional workshop will be held at Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

DATES

2. 17 – 21 October, 2016

WORKSHOP TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

3. A draft Agenda is attached.
4. The Announcement includes:
 - a. Concept note
 - b. Nomination Form
 - c. Agenda

ORGANISERS

5. The sub-regional workshop '**Capacity development support for Agricultural Policy, Research and Extension Services through Applied Knowledge Management Tools and Approaches – focusing on Northern Pacific Countries (FSM, Marshall, Nauru and Palau)**' is organized by the European Union-supported Pacific Agriculture Policy Project (PAPP) implemented by the Pacific Community and the Technical Center for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and FSM Department of Resources and Development.

PARTNERS

6. Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), FSM Department of Resources and Development, Pacific Islands Farmers Organisation Network (PIFON), Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation (PIPSO), National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI, PNG), Pacific Islands Research and Advisory Services (PIRAS).

PARTICIPANTS

7. Participants are invited from Federated States of Micronesia (FSM – in-country), Republic of Marshall Islands, Republic of Nauru and the Republic of Palau Nauru (agricultural information officers, agricultural extension and research officers from Ministries of Agriculture and Cooperative Research and Extension Programmes).

8. Agricultural (incl. forestry) Researchers, Extensionists and Information Officers from FSM National Government and its State Governments (Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae); COM-FSM Cooperative Research and Extension, Pohnpei NGO's involve in agricultural research and extension services (Island Food Community of Pohnpei); Agriculture students, Pohnpei Farmers Association, Pohnpei Women's association. Representative from Ministry of Agriculture, Departments of Agriculture, Community Colleges, Corporate research extension, Agriculture students, farmers association, Pohnpei Women's association.
9. A representative from PIRAS, PIFON and NARI

NOMINATIONS OF PARTICIPANTS

10. The nomination of participants will be facilitated through the SPC Pacific Agriculture Policy Project. All nominees should reach the workshop organizers (with names and contact details) **before 28 September 2016**.
11. Nomination forms with copy of the nominee's passport biodata to be sent directly to LaTanya Gwilliam at: latanyag@spc.int and Anju Mangal at: anjum@spc.int and or Poasa Nauluvula at: poasan@spc.int

TRAVEL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

12. The workshop organizers will provide the following for nominated participants:-
 - A round trip or return air ticket by the most direct and economical route from his/her capital city to Pohnpei, FSM (this includes participants from FSM (Chuuk, Yap, Kosrae). All tickets must be used as issued or authorized.
 - Accommodation on a single basis in Pohnpei. No payment will be made to participants who decide to stay elsewhere unless approved by the organizers.
 - An allowance to cover food, accommodation and other expenses for obligatory stopovers to and from the meeting on the basis of the travel itinerary booked by the SPC Land Resources Division.
13. All other interested individuals will participate at their expense, however, morning and afternoon tea and lunch will be provided.
14. All logistics to be directed to Ms. LaTanya Gwilliam at LatanyaG@spc.int or direct line: (679) 3379423 or Mr Poasa Nauluvula at PoasaN@spc.int or (691) 3207523

LANGUAGE

15. The workshop will be conducted in English.

INSURANCE

16. The Pacific Community does not cover insurance for meetings and workshops. Participants are encouraged to fully cover themselves for the duration of the workshop.

FURTHER INFORMATION

17. Enquiries for further information should be addressed to:
 - Ms Anju Mangal, Knowledge Management Specialist, SPC Pacific Agriculture Policy Project, Private Mail Bag - +679 3370733 – Email: anjum@spc.int
 - Mr Poasa Nauluvula, Participatory Extension Officer, SPC Pacific Agriculture Policy, Regional Office North Pacific, P.O. Box Q, Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM 96941 – Telephone: +691 3207523 – Email: PoasaN@spc.int