GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Federated States of Micronesia Digital FSM Project – National Digital Connectivity Infrastructure Digital Development Global Practice GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE Loan No./Credit No./TF No./Grant No. D556-FM Project ID No. P170718

The Federated States of Micronesia has received financing in the amount of US\$15 Million equivalent from the World Bank toward the cost of the Digital FSM Project and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, works, non-consulting services and consulting services to be procured under this project.

The National Digital Connectivity Infrastructure Project, which is part of the wider FSM Digital Project, will be implemented by FSMT Cable. FSMT Cable is a FSM National Government Corporation that is tasked with owning and operating the Open Access Communications Infrastructure for FSM.

The National Digital Connectivity Infrastructure Project has two components:

- The first is building an open access fiber to the premises network through the four main islands of each state of FSM by the end of 2022. This is approximately 14,000 premises, with a mixture of underground and aerial distribution. In the first half of 2020, FSMT Cable will be looking for consulting services for the detailed design, technical and training services. FSMT Cable will also be looking for civil contractors to build the network. Specifically, it is interested in in experience in rapid trenching and in aerial network construction in the Pacific. FSMT Cable will separately procure passive fiber materials to the design and civil construction services.
- 2. The second component is to bridge the connectivity gap for priority outer islands. FSMT Cable is looking for a Public Private Partnership (PPP) or similar arrangement to provide and maintain connectivity solutions for approximately 42 islands that each have over 100 residents. The solution is expected to be a combination of solar power, LTE base station and satellite connectivity. FSMT Cable is an open access provider and so will be looking for a solution that solves the connectivity challenge and meets FSMT Cable's open access requirements. FSMT Cable will be looking to issue an initial selection process for this component later in 2020.

More details on both projects and the mission and goals of FSMT Cable are available at <u>www.fsmcable.com</u>.

Procurement of contracts financed by the World Bank will be conducted through the procedures as specified in the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (July 2016 revised November 2017 and August 2018) (Procurement Regulations), and is open to all eligible firms and individuals as defined in the Procurement Regulations. After project negotiations, the World Bank shall arrange the publication on its external website of the agreed initial procurement plan and all subsequent updates once it has provided a no objection.

Specific procurement notices for contracts subject to open international competitive procurement will be announced, as they become available, in <u>UN Development Business</u> online, on the World Bank's external website and <u>https://fsmcable.com/</u>.

Interested eligible firms and individuals who would wish to be considered for the provision of goods, works, non-consulting services and consulting services for the above-mentioned project, or those requiring additional information, should contact the Borrower at the address below:

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