**LUI BELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATION FORM**

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| **1. Personal Details:**  |  |  |
| **Family name:**  | **Forename(s):** | **Title:** |
| **Gender:**  | **Date of Birth:**  | **Age:**  |
| **Permanent Address:**  | **Address for Correspondence:** |
| **Telephone:**  | **Fax:** |
| **Mobile Phone:** | **Email:** |
| **Country of birth:**  | **Citizenship:** |

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| **2. Title of Award Sought: (please tick as appropriate)** |
| **PG Certificate** | **PG Diploma** | **MSc** | **MEL** | **MA** | **PhD** |
| **Please indicate how you became aware of this postgraduate opportunity.** |

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| **3. Proposed Research Topic & Supervisory Arrangements:** |
| **a) Title or Statement of your proposed research topic:** **b) Alignment to the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme:** *(Please identify where possible particular action(s) to which your studies will be aligned.)***c) Have you discussed your Research Proposal with any Academic Staff Member at your identified academic institution?****[ ]  Yes** **[ ]  No****If YES, whom did you meet, when and what advice were you given?** |

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| **4. College Or University Education:** |
| From/To | Institution | Final Year Subjects | Qualification(BA,BSc, etc) | Precise Category/Grade of Award | Date of Conferral |
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| **Please give details of prizes, medals, scholarships, awards received.** |

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| **5. Relevant Work Experience: (Add additional page if necessary)** |
| *Employment or life experiences are used in assessing candidates for certain research programmes. Please outline relevant aspects of such experiences that you feel qualify you for consideration for this scholarship.* |

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| **6. Research Experience / Project Work (if relevant)** |
| *Present an overview of any previous research project work you may have carried out either at undergraduate or postgraduate level or in previous employment. State briefly the project title and objectives, an outline of the methodology used and any relevant output (e.g. publications / patents / level of award)* |

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| **7. Personal Statement: (Maximum word count 500. Add additional page if required)** |
| *State briefly why you are interested in this scholarship and indicate the nature of research you would prefer and what you hope to gain from it.* |
| **8. Academic Reference:** |  |  |
| *(Please provide the name and address of a senior person acquainted with your academic work who is prepared to write on your behalf indicating your academic fitness and general suitability to undertake the course for which you are applying)* |
| **Name:**  | **Title:** |
| **Address:**  | **Tel:**  | **Email:** |

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| **9. Checklist:** |  |  |
| Have you attached the following documents to this application?* Transcript of your results
* Admission letter from academic institution for programme of study.
* If relevant, PSC letter to support release from work commitments to pursue studies.

Applications without these attachments will be deemed invalid.  |

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| **10. Declaration:** |  |  |
| I declare that the information provided by me in this application is true to the best of my knowledge and judgement.Signature: Date: Please submit completed application form by 31 October 2019 to: Karen BairdThreatened and Migratory Species AdviserSPREPPO Box 240ApiaSAMOAkarenb@sprep.orgph: +685 21929 ext 281fax: +685 203231  |



**ANNEX 1:** **By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management - Key Result Area 5 of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme.**

The By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) initiative has been initiated by SPREP to implement Key Result Area 5 of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme.

The Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme addresses some of the most serious challenges faced by the region. Among these are the increasing depletion of coastal fisheries resources; the threats to marine biodiversity, including negative impacts of climate change and disasters; the uneven contribution of oceanic fisheries to national economic development; the need for improved education and training in the sector; and the need to mainstream a rights-based approach and to promote greater recognition of gender issues within the sector.

This five-year programme is funded by the European Union with additional targeted support from the government of Sweden. The programme provides direct assistance through regional organisations to support regional and national level activities in the Pacific.

SPREP has been awarded 6.5 million Euros to implement BIEM activities and the work is due to be completed by December 2022. BIEM activities are relevant to all P-ACP countries. However, to maximise the positive impact of the Programme with the funding and time available, the team will focus the majority of activities in Fiji, PNG, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

**The focus of BIEM:**

BIEM is focusing on assisting Pacific Countries to meet their priorities in the sustainable management of their coastal resources and marine biodiversity. BIEM has eight integrated components which will be implemented at both national and regional geographical scales to ensure that impact is maximised, the following four are relevant for this scholarship.

**The integrated components of BIEM of relevance for the LB Scholarship:**

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| **Activities:** | **Geographical scope:** |
| **Assessment of by-catch of endangered species and extinction risk evaluated:** In recent years, the WCPFC has reported annually on by-catch of non-target and/or threatened species from observed purse-seine vessels, which have full (100%) observer coverage. WCPFC, SPC and NGO’s have occasionally analysed the very limited observer data from the longline fleet, which has low observer coverage (2-5%), to provide estimates and risk assessments of the by-catch of turtles, sharks, seabirds and marine mammals. Additionally, there is no information available on the by-catch of non-target species in Fish Aggregation Devices (FADs). Assessing the extinction risk of threatened species in the Pacific islands from fisheries bycatch is a priority and contribution from targeted catch for consumption is relevant. The contribution to conservation that can be made through mitigation measures introduced into commercial fisheries will be measured. | Regional |
| **Development and implementation of by-catch mitigation strategies:** Research and experimental fishing carried out in other parts of the world and in the Pacific (seabirds – tori lines and hookpods) have identified ways in which the by-catch of threatened and endangered species can be mitigated. Mitigation is required for turtles, seabirds and sharks, although improvements in implementation are needed and further work is required for marine mammals. Crews have received training by qualified trainers and outreach including foreign fleets regarding seabird bycatch mitigation. Collaborations will be further developed with fishing fleets to educate them on what mitigation measures are required, and to train a much greater number of crews in their effective implementation such as through port workshops. The WCPFC will be encouraged to improve required measures where needed. | Fiji, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Vanuatu |
| **Support for community monitoring and protection of endangered species:** Many communities in the Pacific islands play a direct and valuable role by monitoring and protecting breeding sites – e.g. by controlling invasive species such as rats and pigs on islands that harbour nesting seabirds, by protecting turtle nesting sites from feral animals and removal of eggs by humans or by putting in place measures to protect other endangered species from fishing or habitat destruction. Monitoring important sites for threatened species that are taken as by-catch can help to offset the unintended consequences of fishing and can also provide a means of alleviating poverty and generating revenue through possible employment opportunities in ecotourism. | Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu |
| **Capacity development on Non-Detrimental Findings process for CITES partners:** Trade in CITES-listed marine species in the Pacific islands has provided a livelihood for coastal communities over many years. The most frequently-traded species in the region are corals, also giant clams. However, the threat of coral bleaching due to thermal stress driven by warming oceans is now raising major concerns about the sustainability of this trade, particularly at historical levels. Trade in CITES-listed species is subject to a Non-Detriment Finding (NDF) and it would be highly beneficial to conduct an inclusive NDF process amongst CITES Parties in the region, to establish whether or not countries that have traditionally exported coral specimens can continue to do so at current levels. | Regional |