

Technical Adviser for National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT)

Support to Anti Money Laundering (AML) Supervision & Statistical Advisory Capacity

Organisation: National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT)

Location: Remote & Tonga with at least 6 months in-country in Tonga, with at least the first 2-3 months spent in Tonga

Duration: The duration of this role will be up to 12 months

Availability: Commencing July 2026.

Objectives: The key responsibilities of this role are to:

1. Strengthen National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT)'s Anti-Money Laundering (AML) supervisory capacity for financial institutions, Money Transfer Operators (MTOs), and Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professional (DNFBPs).
2. Develop and institutionalise a risk-based Anti-Money Laundering (AML) supervision and enforcement framework.
3. Build staff skills through training and mentoring to ensure sustainable capacity.
4. Support implementation of the amended Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime Act (MLPCA) and associated regulations.

Key Functions

The successful candidate will be a member of The National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) which is mandated under the Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime Act (MLPCA) as the Transaction Reporting authority (TRA) and oversees Tonga's Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU).

This role will be managed by the Governor of the National Reserve Bank of Tonga. The successful candidate will work closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade (MFAT) Activity Manager to ensure all work is aligned with New Zealand's current support. The Activity Manager will be based at the New Zealand High Commission in Nuku'alofa.

This role requires the following expert knowledge:

- Strong understanding of central banking functions, including monetary policy, financial stability, and reserve management
- In-depth knowledge of macroeconomic policy and analysis, particularly in small island or developing economies
- Familiarity with financial sector regulation and supervision, including banking systems and prudential frameworks
- Knowledge of foreign exchange management and exchange rate policy
- Understanding of public financial management and its interaction with monetary policy

- Experience with economic data analysis, forecasting, and reporting
- Awareness of regional and global economic trends, especially within the Pacific context
- Understanding of institutional capacity development and technical assistance delivery
- Knowledge of governance frameworks and best practices for central banks
- Familiarity with donor coordination and stakeholder engagement, particularly with partners such as Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade (MFAT)

Deliverables / Key priorities:

- Assist in training or developing training programs for Anti Money Laundering (AML) supervisors.
- Setting up of an appropriate Anti Money Laundering (AML) supervisory and enforcement framework, including the development of supervisory manuals, new policies, frameworks, and standard operating procedures.
- Advising on any supervisory tools and training of staff to effectively use it.
- Advising on technology upgrades for data management and security.
- Coordinating with relevant institutions and agencies to combat financial crimes.

Reporting, Accountability and Working Relationships:

All work is to be undertaken in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with quarterly progress reports provided to Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade (MFAT), the Governor of the National Reserve Bank of Tonga, and other key stakeholders.

From a management perspective, the Technical Advisor will report on their performance and delivery of contractual requirements to the Governor of National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) and liaise closely with the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU).

Qualifications, Skills and Experience:

Qualifications:

- Postgraduate qualification (master's degree or higher) in Economics, Finance, Public Policy, or a related field
- Relevant professional certifications (desirable), such as CFA or similar
- Demonstrated commitment to continuous professional development

Knowledge of, and demonstrated experience in:

- Significant experience (typically 7–10+ years) in central banking, financial institutions, or relevant government agencies
- Demonstrated experience in monetary policy, financial stability, banking supervision, or related areas
- Experience working in developing countries, preferably in the Pacific region or small island economies
- Proven track record in providing technical advice and supporting institutional strengthening

- Experience working with international development partners and donor-funded programmes
- Experience in delivering training, workshops, or on-the-job capacity building

Skills:

- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, with the ability to interpret complex economic and financial data
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to prepare high-quality reports and briefings
- Stakeholder engagement and relationship management skills, with the ability to work collaboratively across institutions
- Strong organisational and project management skills, including the ability to manage competing priorities
- Capacity-building and mentoring skills, with experience supporting institutional development
- High level of professionalism, discretion, and cultural awareness

Personal Attributes

- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, with the ability to interpret complex economic and financial data
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to prepare high-quality reports and briefings
- Stakeholder engagement and relationship management skills, with the ability to work collaboratively across institutions
- Strong organisational and project management skills, including the ability to manage competing priorities
- Capacity-building and mentoring skills, with experience supporting institutional development
- High level of professionalism, discretion, and cultural awareness

Assessment criteria

Applications for this role will be assessed against the following key criteria:

Assessment criteria	Weighting
1. Technical Expertise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depth of knowledge in central banking functions, including monetary policy, financial stability, and financial sector supervision • Strong understanding of macroeconomic analysis and policy development • Familiarity with foreign exchange and reserve management 	30%
2. Relevant Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated experience (7–10+ years) in central banking, financial institutions, or public sector roles • Experience in developing countries, preferably in the Pacific region or small island economies • Proven track record in delivering technical advice and institutional strengthening 	25%
3. Analytical and Advisory Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to analyse complex economic and financial data • Experience in policy development, forecasting, and reporting • Strong problem-solving and strategic thinking skills • Demonstrated ability to consider and implement right-sized creative and innovative solutions to problems in a Pacific island context. 	15%
4. Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in mentoring, coaching, and training staff • Ability to build institutional capability and support sustainable skills transfer 	10%
5. Communication and Stakeholder Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent written and verbal communication skills • Ability to engage effectively with senior stakeholders, including government and development partners • Strong interpersonal and cross-cultural communication skills 	10%
6. Qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate qualification in Economics, Finance, Public Policy, or a related field • Relevant professional certifications (desirable) 	5%
7. Cultural Fit and Professionalism	5%

Assessment criteria	Weighting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated cultural awareness and ability to work effectively in a Pacific context • High level of integrity, professionalism, and adaptability 	
Total	100%

Assessment Methods

Candidates may be assessed through:

- Review of CV and cover letter
- Panel interview
- Technical assessment or presentation (if required)
- Reference checks

Appendix A: Position background, context, and scope of work

Position background and context

The National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) is mandated to maintain monetary stability, promote a sound financial system, and support sustainable economic development in Tonga. As a small island economy, Tonga faces unique challenges, including external economic shocks, limited financial sector depth, and capacity constraints.

With support from development partners, including Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade (MFAT), NRBT is strengthening its institutional capability to effectively carry out its core functions. This includes enhancing monetary policy frameworks, improving financial sector supervision, and building robust analytical and reporting systems. The Technical Adviser role is established to provide specialised expertise and hands-on support to the National Reserve Bank of Tonga, while also contributing to long-term capacity development and institutional strengthening.

Scope of Work

The Technical Adviser will work closely with the Governor, senior management, and technical teams within the National Reserve Bank of Tonga to deliver the following:

- Provide high-level technical advice on monetary policy, macroeconomic analysis, and financial stability
- Support the development, implementation, and review of policy frameworks and operational tools
- Strengthen financial sector regulation and supervision, including risk-based approaches
- Enhance economic analysis, data management, and forecasting capabilities
- Support foreign exchange operations and reserve management practices
- Build capacity of National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) staff through mentoring, training, and knowledge transfer
- Contribute to strengthening governance, systems, and institutional processes
- Engage with key stakeholders, including government agencies and development partners

All work will be undertaken in close collaboration with National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) and relevant stakeholders, ensuring alignment with national priorities and partner-supported programmes.

Appendix B: Key Terms and conditions

- Contract Type: Individual consultancy contract (or as otherwise agreed)
- Duration: The assignment will be for a period of 12 months, commencing in July 2026, with the possibility of extension subject to performance and funding availability
- Duty Station: The Technical Adviser will be based at the National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, with potential for limited travel as required
- Reporting Arrangements: The Adviser will report to the Governor of NRBT (or delegated senior official), with regular engagement with Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade (MFAT) and other key stakeholders
- Remuneration: Fees will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and aligned with agreed contract terms
- Payment Schedule: Payments will be made in instalments, linked to the satisfactory delivery of agreed outputs and submission of invoices
- Performance Management: Performance will be assessed against agreed deliverables, timelines, and the quality of outputs, including contribution to capacity development
- Confidentiality: The Adviser will be required to maintain strict confidentiality of all information obtained during the assignment
- Conflict of Interest: The Adviser must disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest and comply with all relevant policies
- Code of Conduct: The Adviser is expected to adhere to National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade (MFAT) standards of professional conduct, including cultural sensitivity and integrity
- Intellectual Property: All outputs produced under this assignment will remain the property of NRBT (and/or as agreed with Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade (MFAT))
- Termination: The contract may be terminated by either party in accordance with agreed notice periods or contractual terms
- Insurance and Taxation: The Adviser is responsible for their own insurance (including medical and travel) and tax obligations unless otherwise specified

Assignment

- Technical Adviser – National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT)
- Duration: The contract will be for a period of 12 months, commencing in July 2026, with the possibility of extension subject to performance and funding availability.

- Level of Effort: The Adviser is expected to work full-time, with a detailed workplan to be confirmed at the outset of the assignment.
- Duty Station: The Adviser will be based in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, at the National Reserve Bank of Tonga, with flexibility for remote engagement if required.
- Travel Requirements: The role may require occasional domestic and/or international travel, including travel within the Pacific region, subject to NRBT and MFAT requirements.
- Relocation and Travel Costs:
 - [Option A – Covered]: Reasonable relocation and international travel costs (including flights to and from Tonga) will be covered under the contract.
 - [Option B – Not Covered]: The Adviser will be responsible for their own relocation and international travel costs unless otherwise agreed.
- Other Costs and Allowances:
 - The Adviser will be responsible for personal expenses, including accommodation, insurance, and taxes, unless otherwise specified in the contract.
 - Any work-related travel or approved operational expenses will be covered in line with agreed policies.

Appendix C – MFAT Supplier & Delivery Partner Code of Conduct

In addition to the requirements of the Technical Advisor to deliver the Services in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Contract,¹ MFAT requires Technical Advisors to maintain proper standards of integrity, conduct, and behaviour whilst working overseas as prescribed in the [Supplier and Delivery Partner Code of Conduct](#)². Any breach of this Code could lead to the termination of the Contract.

¹ If there is any conflict between this Code of Conduct and Schedule 2 Standard terms and Conditions, Schedule 2 Terms and Conditions will prevail.

² This Code is based on the New Zealand State Services Commission 'New Zealand Public Service Code of Conduct' and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade 'Code of Conduct'. The Code includes UN requirements, such as the Ministry Policy on Preventing Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH), and also reflects the [New Zealand Government Procurement Supplier Code of Conduct \(external link\)](#) approved by Cabinet and published by MBIE as Procurement Functional Lead