



SEISMIC MITIGATION PROJECT



SMP Newsletter – Issue2 [JULY 2020]



Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to share the second issue of the SMP Newsletter with you. In this issue we are providing project updates to let you know what we have been working on and what to expect next. We are also providing information on how Business Readiness involves you and requires your active participation.

This issue also offers some exciting ideas and concepts on a 'new way of working' and provides you with an opportunity to test our award-winning concept and prototype for a future workplace solution. In the coming weeks, we hope to engage our clients on this exciting journey with a view to hearing your creative ideas and gathering your feedback.

We are very happy to let you know that the SMP website went live on 30 May 2020, and last, but not least, you will find an introduction to members of the SMP team. We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and invite your feedback.

Stay safe, healthy, and happy!
The SMP Team

TENDERING ACTIVITIES & BUSINESS READINESS

What is Happening During the Tendering Phase?

During 2020, the project team will continue working with the ESCAP Procurement Unit on tendering activities related to the key contracts required to start construction in 2021. Many of these are high value contracts that require extensive outreach to attract interest from the construction market, followed by a prequalification process to shortlist suitable, qualified bidders who will then be invited to respond to the Request for Proposals issued by ESCAP. During the next 4-6 weeks, ESCAP Procurement will issue Request for Proposals (RFP) for 3 key contracts including the General Construction works, the Construction Administration Services and the Moving and Logistic Services. The collective estimated value for these contracts exceeds USD 21 million.

The SMP has already completed the technical evaluations for the furniture contracts in June and the shortlisted furniture providers will be invited to stage mockups of their furniture samples at the ESCAP premises later this year. This activity had to be delayed because of restrictions related to Covid-19. When the furniture is eventually staged, all occupants at the ESCAP premises will be invited to see, test and try out the furniture on display and provide their feedback. Contracts are expected to be awarded by late 2020/early 2021.

Milestones related to these key contracts are shown below.



	UPCOMING	General Construction (GC) Services RFP to be re-issued in July 2020
	UPCOMING	Construction Administration Services RFP to be issued in July 2020
	UPCOMING	Moving and Storage Services RFP to be issued in July 2020
	UPCOMING	Provision of Furniture [On-site mockups] [DELAYED] Anticipated for September 2020
	UPCOMING	Future Office Space – Learning Series Session Scheduled for 8 July 2020

What is Business Readiness and How Does this Impact You?



Based on the current project schedule, the main construction work is expected to begin in the second quarter of 2021. **Business Readiness is the process of getting you ready for moves out of the Secretariat and into swing space.** Moves are expected to begin in the first quarter of 2020. Business Readiness will address all the logistic activities that need to happen such as moves of personnel and moves, disposals and storage of equipment.

Move and Logistics Readiness Meetings

The project team has already started engagement with the occupant groups at the ESCAP premises to prepare them for the moves to swing space in early 2021. The first such meeting with clients from 15 UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes was convened on 12 June 2020. During this meeting, much valuable feedback was received from the participants regarding support required in the preparation for moves. The logistic activities discussed included moving of staff and equipment, storage, disposal, and archiving/document management.

The project team will continue these meetings regularly to ensure that all staff are well prepared and ready to move into swing space in time for the Secretariat building to be handed over to the General Contractor.

CLIENT ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION

Second Quarterly Stakeholders Committee Meeting

The second quarterly meeting of the SMP Stakeholders Committee took place in early July 2020. This is the first meeting of the committee that was conducted remotely via MS Teams. The meeting agenda included a progress update on key project activities including progress made on tendering and business readiness, the Secretary General's progress report for the 75th General Assembly session, the status of the project budget and current project risks. An update was also provided on concepts under consideration for office space in a COVID-19 world and updates on progress made in the areas of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH).

The meeting was attended by 57 participants from ESCAP and the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes as well as the Global Asset Management and Policy Service (GAMPS) at UNHQ which provides oversight for the project. The next meeting will be convened in September.

SMP Website is now LIVE!

We are excited to announce that the SMP website went live on 30 May 2020. You can access the SMP website by scanning the QR code or clicking on the link below:

OUR WEBSITE IS
LIVE !

PLEASE SCAN QR CODE ON THE RIGHT

OR

PLEASE VISIT

<https://www.unescap.org/smp>



Upcoming Activities in the Next 3 Months



OTHER NEWS

A New Way of Working - Innovation Space X Workshop



The Innovation Task force at UNESCAP conducted a month-long Training workshop to support ESCAP staff to develop Innovative projects using Design Thinking and a Human Centered Design approach. A team consisting of staff members from the Division of Administration and the Statistics Division proposed a concept and prototype named **Workspace innovative Normal (WIN)** which is a new way of working for the UN community in Bangkok.

The solution aims to provide staff the flexibility to work from anywhere at any time, using **a one UN collaboration platform with redefined physical and virtual spaces and advanced digital tools, to customize their ideal workday**. The solution aims to provide more work life balance while supporting a more agile and connected UN community who are better able to deliver on our shared Organizational goals.

The proposal won both the People's Choice Award, based on the highest number of votes received from viewers who joined via YouTube as well as the User Desirability Award based on the decision of the panel of judges. The team consisted of Sunari Silva (SMP/DA), Chayanon (Ton) Mesanthasuwan (SMP/DA), Rathaputh Karasuddhi (FMU/DA) and Ayodele Marshall (SD) and team mentors Flavia Reale and Maryan Blas Lobo.



You can watch recording of Demo Day here
[Our presentation begins at 42:40 seconds]

Meet the SMP Team



SRI LANKA

**Sunari Silva,
Project Manager**

"An Architect and traveler with a passion for design, food and color"

Joined SMP in Sept 2017. 20 years of experience including 15+ years with the UN, at multiple locations across 4 continents, including at UNHQ & Peacekeeping Missions.



CANADA

**Patrick Fowler,
Project Engineer**

"Solution oriented father of four under-five"

Joined SMP in May 2019, with 10+ years in major renovation and new construction experience, including as the project engineer for UNOG's USD 835M refurbishment.



UNITED STATES

**Liana Santoro,
Project Coordinator**

"Big fan of nature, all things culinary & working with great professionals."

Joined SMP in 2018 with 20+ years in architecture, construction and real estate for private & public sector projects in USA, Africa, West Asia, South America and Asia Pacific.



SOUTH AFRICA

**Liesl Van Der Bank,
Cost Engineer**

"A Quantity Surveyor who finds great joy in spreadsheets and cats"

Joined SMP Mar 2018. Previously worked on some exciting projects such as Universal studios adventure rides, salt mines & airports!

DID YOU KNOW:

**The SMP team
consists of
10 staff from
7 countries**



The team includes architects, engineers, quantity surveyors, logistics officers and procurement and IT specialists, with broad experience working in North America, Africa, Europe, Asia & the Caribbean.

Collectively, The SMP team members speak 10 different languages.



UNITED STATES

**Elizabeth Mary Kenyon,
Civil & Structural Engineer**

"Detail-driven engineer & architect who loves running & getting things done"

Joined SMP in Mar 2017. 10+ years of experience in design & construction for public & private sector in USA, China, Myanmar, Trinidad & Tobago and Haiti.

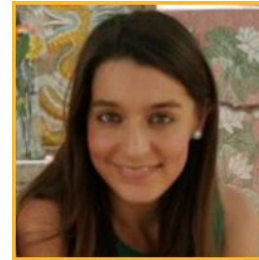


THAILAND

**Wathit Tangpitsityothin,
MEP Engineer**

"Mechanical Engineer and new Dad who is a cat lover"

Joined SMP in Feb 2019, licensed engineer with 6 yrs. of experience in facilities management in the oil & gas industry plus 3 years in engineering, procurement, and construction of a powerplant.



SPAIN

**Marta Cucala Escorihuela,
Procurement Officer**

"Energetic & customer-oriented person with a passion for football and the sea!"

Joined SMP in Feb 2019, with 12 years of experience in procurement and quality assurance for emergency and crisis situations in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America.



THAILAND

Supreeya Setthameteekul, Logistics Officer

"Loves working with people and hopefully cause them (no) troubles"

Joined the SMP in Sept 2019, but previously worked in the area of operations and supply chain management for numerous global companies.



INDIA

Manish Raturi, IT Assistant

"IT professional who loves to collect exotic Cactus and Succulents"

Joined SMP in Sept 2019 & working with the UN since 2006, mainly in IT Support in a 24/7/365 work environment. ITIL Certified and very focused on customer satisfaction.



THAILAND

Chayanon Mesanthsawan, Architect

"A Tech Savvy Architect with a great sense of Design Visualization"

Joined SMP in Jun 2019. Licensed architect with 5+ years of experience in architecture and construction. Specializes in BIM and lectures on BIM at the university.

SMP FACT

Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymer (CFRP) will be used to implement the seismic reinforcement works under the SMP scope.



CFRP column wrapping technique

WHAT IS CFRP? CFRP is a very strong, light, and expensive woven composite material commonly known as reinforcing fabric (or carbon fiber). It has many applications in aerospace and automotive fields, as well as in civil engineering. SMP will use CFRP to retrofit selected structural elements in both the Secretariat and Service buildings to ensure the buildings meet the life safety performance objectives (code compliance) in the event of an earthquake.

The increased use of carbon fiber composites is displacing aluminum from aerospace applications. Currently Airbus A350 uses more than 50% of this composite material in place of traditional aluminum applications.



For questions or suggestions please contact | escap-smp@un.org