FinnOC

FINNISH OVERSEAS CONSULTANTS LTD.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS





We offer innovative solutions

Finnish Overseas Consultants (FinnOC) Ltd. is a global consulting firm, dedicated to helping organisations and governments successfully implement development and infrastructure projects.

Since our establishment in 2006, we have accumulated nearly two decades of expertise in delivering high-quality technical assistance across a wide range of sectors. Our services encompass feasibility studies, climate change assessments, social and environmental impact analyses, data collection, and capacity building, all tailored to meet the unique needs of each project.

At FinnOC, we combine time-tested methodologies with innovative approaches, transforming insights into actionable strategies and effective management systems. Our commitment to excellence has earned us the trust of leading international financing institutions, governments, and local organizations worldwide.

We currently have presences in Europe, Africa, Asia-Pacific, Central Asia, the Caribbean, and we are proud to be continuously expanding our reach and impact.

OUR MISSION

We empower organizations to achieve sustainable development by delivering innovative consultancy services, cutting-edge approaches, and advanced technologies.



OUR SERVICES





ROADS & TRANSPORT

- Road Asset Management Systems (RAMS)
- Engineering designs
- Construction supervision
- Road condition surveys
- Feasibility studies
- Economic analyses
- HDM-4

CAPACITY & INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Skills assessments
- Capacity building and training
- Institutional development & change management
- Business process mapping
- Technical guidelines and manuals

SOCIO-ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- Baseline, midline and endline studies
- Environmental and Social Impact Assessments
- Environmental and Social Safeguards Management
- Quantitative & qualitative social research
- Renewable energy feasibility studies

CLIMATE CHANGE

- Climate change scenarios
- Climate risk & natural hazard assessments
- Climate change vulnerability assessments
- Climate change adaptation plans
- Climate-resilient systems development
- Biodiversity & Ecosystems Conservation
- GIS mapping



RURAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Agriculture & aquaculture
- Forestry planning & management
- Natural resource management
- Nutrition and food security
- Health & Gender-Based Violence
- Community engagement, participation and sensitisation

OUR EXPERTISE

ROADS AND TRANSPORT

We offer extensive international experience for transport sector projects in both rural and urban settings. We have developed state-of-the-art Road Asset Management Systems (RAMS) in several countries, allowing organisations and governments to maximize their resources available for road management and maintenance. We specialize in RAMS system and database development, HDM-4, and GIS, ensuring robust and effective solutions.

Staying on the leading edge of the industry requires engaging in active research and development and integrating the latest scientific knowledge into our services. We utilise the latest road condition survey tools that significantly reduce the time and cost associated with country-wide mapping of road network condition.

Our specialists actively participate in international expert communities such as the World Road Association (PIARC), enabling us to further the discussion on methods for economic evaluations and appraisals of road projects. This also allows us to embrace the latest best practices in order to utilize them in our work for our clients' benefit. In 2015, our company was awarded the Sustainable Development Award by the World Road Association for developing a model to quantify socio-economic benefits of road projects.





CLIMATE CHANGE

In addition to preparing climate change profiles and scenarios, we advise clients from both the public and private sectors on how to make their projects and assets resilient against the impacts of climate change.

As climate change is a crosscutting issue, our multidisciplinary experts identify, evaluate and quantify climate risks and map out climate change vulnerabilities. We also assess environmental hazards, conduct climate change impact assessments and develop climate change adaptation plans, including proposals for policy reform.

Our holistic approach in implementing sustainable transport projects also takes climate change into consideration, which generates several co-benefits including improvements in air quality, traffic safety and mobility.

CAPACITY & INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

We understand the wide scope of challenges that professionals today face in their fields, and we know how tough it can be to keep abreast of new developments. We believe that continuous education and training creates a platform for institutional change, leading to improved efficiency and enhanced productivity.

We offer capacity and skills assessments as well as a full range of training plans and services. Capacity assessment takes into consideration the goals, structure, resources, performance and culture of your organization. We employ innovative training methods that are backed by behavioral change research and tailored to the learning objectives and target audience.

Whatever the business challenge, our experts can analyse and facilitate the change and development that your organisation requires.



SOCIO-ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

We deliver high-quality research utilising a range of quantitative and qualitative methods as well as state-of-the-art, cost-effective technologies for data collection.

Gender equality and inclusion are a key focus in all our work, and our ambition is to ensure that women are well represented in the research we carry out for our clients. Gender and women's studies are an important part of our social research portfolio, and we are proud to be able to offer strong expertise in this field.

We have extensive experience in successfully carrying out Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) and other studies to anticipate and respond to potential socio-economic or environmental impacts of development projects. These have played a key role in preventing delays, reducing costs, and ensuring smooth implementation of our clients' projects. We also assist in maintaining compliance with national regulatory requirements and international safeguards requirements and best practices, helping our clients to prevent and overcome obstacles.

Our expertise furthermore covers renewable energy, where we have the skillset to prepare comprehensive feasibility studies for solar, hydropower and other renewable energy projects.





RURAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

We work with and in communities facing diverse challenges including climate change, depletion of natural resources, or remoteness from markets and public services.

Through skills development in areas such as agriculture, aquaculture or forestry as well as business and marketing, we support communities with improving local livelihoods. At the same time, we strive to protect the environment through sustainable management of natural resources. To achieve lasting results, we apply participatory approaches that actively include all relevant stakeholders. We not only focus on economic development but also on the social side of sustainable development. We for example assist governments and communities in fighting Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

As rural communities are among the ones affected most by climate change, climate resilience and adaptation to climate change are crosscutting issues in most of our projects.

OUR VALUES



We offer sustainable solutions by addressing both social and environmental aspects in all our projects.



We never compromise on the standards of our work and the quality of the results that we deliver. Always on target, always on time.



Our experts are leading professionals in their industry sectors, and as a company we have experience from over 30 countries.



We have a true global presence and local knowledge. No matter where your projects are, we will be there too.

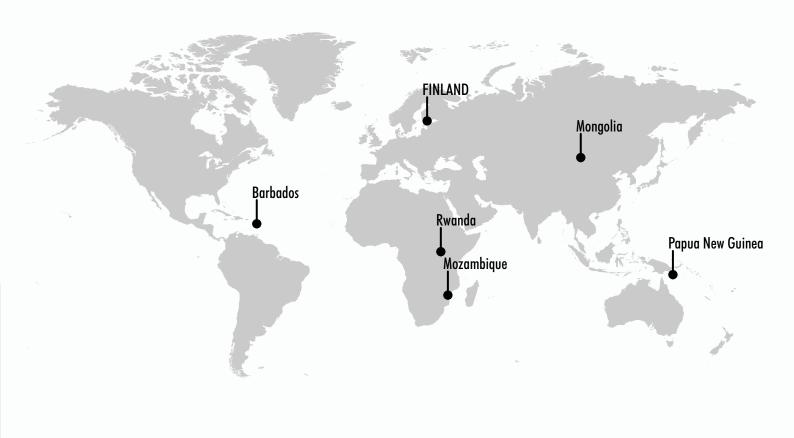


We build lasting relationships with our clients by working closely together with them throughout the project implementation achieving long-term impacts.

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OUR OFFICES

Global presence, local knowledge.



OUR PROJECTS

Feasibility Study and Detailed Engineering Design for Northern Corridor in PNG

Roads & Transport / Socio-Economic & Environmental Studies

Country:	Papua New Guinea
Year:	2023-2025
Funder / Client:	Asian Development Bank (ADB) / Department of Works and Highways
Value:	11.55m USD

The Government of Papua New Guinea (PNG) is committed to enhancing connectivity and economic integration in the northern regions. To support this, FinnOC was commissioned to undertake a comprehensive feasibility study and detailed engineering design for the Northern Corridor (Momase International Highway) between Wutung and Wewak (approximately 440 km), including the Vanimo and Wewak ports. The project aims to identify the most suitable road connection solutions through in-depth technical, environmental, social, and economic analyses.

FinnOC's role encompassed conducting road data collection, preparing preliminary and detailed designs, and developing bidding documents for the Wutung-Wewak section, which includes improvements to existing roads and the construction of a new road link between Vanimo and Aitape. Additionally, FinnOC reviewed and updated previous feasibility studies to produce detailed designs for the Vanimo and Wewak ports.

As part of the project, FinnOC also provided capacity-building activities to strengthen the operational capabilities of the executing agency, ensuring they are equipped to manage these critical infrastructure developments effectively.





Development of Bridge Asset Management System (BAMS) in PNG

Roads & Transport / Climate Change / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Papua New Guinea
Year:	2022-2024
Funder / Client:	Asian Development Bank (ADB) / Department of Works and Highways
Value:	2.81m USD

The Government of Papua New Guinea (PNG) is committed to improving its bridge infrastructure to enhance connectivity and resilience across the country, especially in response to the growing challenges posed by climate change. To support this initiative, FinnOC was engaged by the Department of Works and Highways (DoWH) to assess bridge conditions and implement a comprehensive Bridge Asset Management System (BAMS). Supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the project initially aimed to inspect 400 bridges across all 22 provinces. The core objective of the project was to develop and implement a robust data management system that integrates advanced data collection, climate resilience, and strategic maintenance planning. Key features of the system include a detailed asset register, real-time monitoring capabilities using GPS tracking and ODK apps, and a maintenance management system that supports preventive, corrective, and predictive maintenance.

FinnOC's efforts have exceeded expectations, with 450 bridges inspected to date. These inspections were conducted by our team of experts in collaboration with provincial engineers. In addition to the inspections, capacity-building programs were introduced to train local engineers in using the BAMS. This training ensures that engineers in Papua New Guinea will be capable of independently managing and maintaining bridge assets, thereby optimizing the system and ensuring its sustainability in the future.



Detailed Design and Construction Supervision of City Street Rehabilitation in Mongolia

Roads & Transport / Socio-Economic & Environmental Studies / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Mongolia
Year:	2023-2025
Funder / Client:	World Bank / Municipality of Ulaanbaatar
Value:	0.81m USD

The Ulaanbaatar Sustainable Urban Transport Project aims to enhance urban mobility, reduce congestion, improve road safety, and incorporate climate resilience measures in Mongolia's capital city. As part of this initiative, FinnOC was engaged to provide consultancy services for the detailed engineering design and construction supervision of two key streets: Unur Micro-district street, which spans 2.3 km, and Bayankhoshuu street (Labor Union street), covering 5.6 km. The project focuses on optimizing road space usage, ensuring safe and efficient travel for all road users, and implementing the Complete Streets and Safe Systems approaches. FinnOC's responsibilities include conducting site investigations, developing preliminary and detailed designs, preparing bidding documents, and overseeing construction to ensure compliance with the highest standards of road safety, climate resilience, and sustainability.

A critical component of this project is the integration of climate resilience into the design, taking into account local environmental conditions such as urban flooding, icing, and snow. Additionally, design measures are being developed to enhance public transportation efficiency and reduce congestion. This comprehensive approach not only addresses immediate urban mobility challenges but also lays the groundwork for long-term sustainable development and improved quality of life for residents.



Vulnerability Assessment and Climateinformed Road Asset Management of the Transport Network in São Tomé and Príncipe

Roads & Transport / Climate / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	São Tomé and Príncipe
Year:	2023
Funder / Client:	IDA / Project Administration
	& Fiduciary Agency
Value:	0.44m USD

FinnOC was commissioned to provide technical assistance aimed at enhancing the climate resilience of São Tomé and Príncipe's road network. The project's primary objective was to develop a comprehensive strategy to mitigate climate and disaster risks, ensuring the longterm sustainability and maintenance of the road infrastructure. This involved a thorough assessment of the vulnerability of the country's roads to current disaster risks and the anticipated impacts of future climate change. Based on these assessments, FinnOC developed a national strategy and a prioritized work program for implementing climate resilience measures across the road network. Additionally, FinnOC created guidelines for conducting climate change vulnerability assessments and for developing prioritized work programs for the country's road network assets. To further ensure resilience, the project included the development of guidelines for conducting climate and disaster resilience audits of road engineering designs, alongside a pilot audit. The assignment also encompassed the development of a Road Assets Management System that integrates climate change data, thereby enhancing planning and decision-making processes for future road investments and maintenance.

Improved Biodiversity and Land / Forest Ecosystem Conservation in PNG

Socio-Economic & Environmental Studies / Rural & Social Development / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Papua New Guinea
Year:	2022-2023
Funder / Client:	UNDP
Value:	0.35m USD

This consultancy is part of a broader initiative to conduct feasibility studies on climate change, food and nutrition security, conservation, and land use in Enga Province, Papua New Guinea (PNG). The focus of this component is to enhance conservation efforts, restore natural habitats, and promote sustainable land use. FinnOC was responsible for establishina operational management committees for target Community Conservation Areas (CCAs), developing participatory land use planning and management plans, and conducting comprehensive tree, avifauna, fauna, and community surveys. FinnOC's efforts supported the introduction of sustainable management practices across 10,000 hectares of agricultural, forest, and pastoral ecosystems, including 2,500 hectares dedicated to reforestation and another 2,500 hectares to sustainable agriculture.





Development of Integrated Landscape Management Systems in PNG

Rural & Social Development / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Papua New Guinea
Year:	2023-2026
Funder / Client:	UNDP
Value:	1.3m USD

To protect Papua New Guinea's rich ecological and cultural heritage, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has initiated a project aimed at developing Integrated Landscape Management Systems (ILMS) across the landscapes of New Britain Island. This project aims to sustainably manage and protect 2,712,364 hectares of landscape, benefiting over 66,000 individuals, while contributing to national and global biodiversity conservation.

FinnOC has been engaged to support the implementation of a National Sustainable Land-Use Planning Policy, developing provincial-level management plans, and ensuring that local development aligns with conservation priorities. Key activities include conducting High Conservation Value (HCV) and High Carbon Stock (HCS) mapping, facilitating multi-stakeholder engagements, and providing technical support for the development of land-use zoning maps.

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M&E Baseline Assessment for Highways and Long-Term Maintenance Contracts in PNG

Socio-Economic & Environmental Studies / Rural & Social Development / Roads & Transport

Country:	Papua New Guinea
Year:	2023-2024
Funder / Client:	Australian Government /
	DT Global
Value:	1.13m USD

As part of the Papua New Guinea-Australia Transport Sector Support Program Phase Two (TSSP2), FinnOC was engaged to conduct a Roads Baseline Study aimed at establishing reliable data for assessing the impact of road infrastructure investments on economic growth and connectivity in Papua New Guinea (PNG). This project focused on conducting comprehensive baseline assessments across six key highways subject to Australianfunded Long-Term Maintenance Contracts (LTMCs). To comprehensively measure the impacts of these investments, the baseline study involved the collection of various types of data, including traffic counts using MetroCount devices, road and bridge condition data collected through Roadroid, videologging, and AI defect assessment, and socio-economic surevys. The FinnOC Team selected 35 villages along the six highway corridors, where 1,125 household surevys were conducted, alongside focus group discussions and key informant interviews with various target groups Additionally, environmental and road safety indicators were gathered through visual surveys.

The results of this assessment aim to contribute to a safer and more reliable road network, enhancing both national and regional connectivity and supporting sustainable economic and social development in Papua New Guinea.



Developing Capacity for Climate Resilient Road Transport Infrastructure in Rwanda

Climate Change / Roads & Transport / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Rwanda
Year:	2019-2024
Funder / Client:	Nordic Development Fund
	(NDF) / Rwanda Transport Devevopment Agency
Value:	2.1m USD

As a landlocked country, Rwanda relies heavily on road transport for mobility and regional economic integration. However, its mountainous terrain presents significant challenges for the road sector, heightening vulnerability to climate change and disasters. This project aims to enhance Rwanda's road infrastructure resilience to climate change by improving standards for road construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance, while also focusing on capacity building to equip stakeholders with the skills and knowledge needed to integrate climate adaptation and disaster risk management into all aspects of the transport sector. FinnOC is implementing a comprehensive program that includes GIS vulnerability mapping, targeted technical training, and developing tools for integrating climate change and disaster risks into the entire transport sector lifecycle. A key focus is on construction supervision to ensure road infrastructure incorporates climate adaptation measures and addresses potential vulnerabilities to natural disasters.

The project outputs include countrywide GIS vulnerability mapping, technical training on environmental, climate change, and disaster issues, and a technical assessment with recommendations for road and bridge planning, design, maintenance, and recovery. Deliverables also include "Build-back-better" guidelines and a revised Transport Sector Policy. These efforts aim to enhance stakeholder capacity to integrate climate adaptation and disaster risk management into the transport sector, increasing resilience to climate impacts like landslides, erosion, and floods.

Gender-Based Violence and Child Protection Prevention and Response Support Services in the Solomon Islands

Rural & Social Development / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Solomon Islands
Year:	2020-2023
Funder / Client:	World Bank / Ministry of Communication and Aviation
Value:	0.39m USD

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Violence Against Children (VAC) are serious issues in the Solomon Islands. FinnOC has been tasked with preventing and responding to GBV and VAC in Malaita Province, Honiara, and Munda, areas affected by the Solomon Islands Roads and Aviation Project (SIRAP).

FinnOC provided a mapping of available services for survivors and identified hiah-risk areas and groups. Based on these findings, FinnOC developed a training and awareness strategy to educate communities, contractors, and workers on GBV/VAC risks and available services. Additionally, efforts were made to strengthen the capacity of local stakeholders to provide GBV/VAC services sustainably, even beyond the project's duration.





Sensitization of Communities on HIV / AIDS, STIs, Gender Empowerment, and Road Safety Awareness in Eswatini

Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Eswatini
Year:	2023-2024
Funder / Client:	African Development Bank (AfDB) / Ministry of Public Works and Transport
Value:	0.15m USD

As part of the Development of the Manzini Golf Course Interchange Project, the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini has engaged FinnOC to conduct community sensitization campaigns on HIV & AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), gender empowerment, and road safety. This initiative, funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB), aims to minimize the risk of accidents, promote safe road usage, and address public health issues among communities impacted by the interchange construction.

FinnOC implemented two sensitization campaigns. These included road safety trainings for public transport operators and sensitization activities in local communities, complemented by a radio campaign to raise awareness and educate on safe practices.

Climate Resilience Revision and Road Design Update in Tajikistan

Climate Change / Roads & Transport

Country:	Tajikistan
Year:	2024
Funder / Client:	Asian Development Bank (ADB) / Kocks
Value:	0.5m USD

Tajikistan faces growing risks from climaterelated hazards like floods, storms, and droughts, which are expected to increase in frequency and intensity due to global climate change. Incorporating Green Road designs can offer a costeffective way to enhance decarbonization, climate resilience, and disaster preparedness while reducing pollution and protecting biodiversity.

The project addresses these challenges by conducting a comprehensive climate risk assessment of the transport system and identifying both vulnerabilities and opportunities for the targeted road section. Existing road designs and bidding documents were updated to incorporate climate-resilient measures. Additionally, an institutional assessment was carried out to strengthen the frameworks needed to support long-term climate adaptation in the road sector.





Climate Smart Agriculture Capacity Building and Training Activities in in Uganda

Rural & Social Development / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Uganda
Year:	2019-2021
Funder / Client:	Nordic Development Fund (NDF) / Ministry of Water and Environment
Value:	0.25m USD

In response to the impacts of climate change in Uganda, such as erratic rainfall, droughts, and flooding, FinnOC is building local capacity in climate-smart agriculture (CSA) with a focus on alternative livelihoods and skills development.

FinnOC is training 15,000 farmers and several farmer groups across five irrigation areas to enhance their capacity in CSA, including apiculture, aquaculture, rice, and other value chains. These activities aim to increase farmers' resilience to climate change while improving incomes, rural livelihoods, and food security.

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Road Rehabilitation and Improving Connectivity of Road Infrastructure - Capacity Building in Barbados

Roads & Transport/ Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Barbados
Year:	2023
Funder / Client:	IDB / Ministry of Transport Works and Water Resources
Value:	0.93m USD

To address the growing challenges in Barbados' road infrastructure and transport sector, the Ministry of Transport Works and Water Resources, with support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), has engaged FinnOC to provide capacity-building consultancy services. This project aims to enhance the institutional capacity of the Ministry by improving transport planning, asset management, maintenance methodologies, technical standards, and road safety.

Key activities include the development of computerized tools for resource allocation. training for public and private sector stakeholders, and establishing quality control and assurance standards. Additionally, the project will support the transformation of the Mechanical Workshop into a commercial cost centre, fostering greater involvement of private contractors in road maintenance. FinnOC will also facilitate the identification and management of donor cofunded programs and implement necessary institutional and organizational changes to commercialize the road sector. These efforts will be complemented by initiatives to develop the local construction industry through targeted policy and strategic actions, ensuring a modern, resilient, and efficiently managed road network in Barbados.



Technical Assistance to Develop Capacity for a Climate Resilient Road Sector in Mozambique

Climate Change / Roads & Transport / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Mozambique
Year:	2018-2021
Funder / Client:	Nordic Development Fund (NDF) / National Roads Administration (ANE)
Value:	3.82m USD

The National Roads Administration (ANE) in Mozambique seeks to enhance its capacity to address the significant threats posed by climate change to the country's road network. FinnOC was engaged to provide technical assistance to develop a climate-resilient road sector by strengthening ANE's capacity to integrate climate change adaptation into all aspects of their operations.

FinnOC's services included conducting a climate vulnerability assessment for the road network in the Zambezi Valley, which led to the preparation of a vulnerability map, feasibility studies, and detailed designs for 10 identified hotspot sites. The project also included revising the existing designs for the Cuamba-Muita, Muita-Massangulo, and Massangulo-Lichinga roads to ensure the incorporation of appropriate climate resilience measures, and conducting periodic site visits to verify compliance with socioenvironmental and climate resilience standards.

In addition, FinnOC assessed ANE's organizational structure and recommended changes to better integrate climate considerations into planning, operation, and maintenance activities. A handbook outlining ANE's responsibilities related to climate adaptation, environmental, social, and resettlement issues was developed, along with tools to prioritize interventions for climateproofing the road network.

Training workshops were organized to enhance the capacity of ANE staff in organizational and institutional development, and socioenvironmental and climate change audits were conducted in coordination with the Central Implementation Unit (CIU).

Technical Assistance for Environmental and Social Safeguards in Liberia

Socio-Economic & Environmental Studies / Roads & Transport / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Liberia
Year:	2022-2024
Funder / Client:	World Bank / Infrastructure Implementation Unit (IIU)
Value:	1.35m USD

FinnOC has been contracted by the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) of Liberia, through its Infrastructure Implementation Unit (IIU), to provide technical assistance for environmental and social safeguards (ESS) and gender-based violence (GBV) related aspects under three road rehabilitation and maintenance projects co-financed by the International Development Association (IDA), including the Southeastern Corridor Road Asset Management Project (SECRAMP), the Liberia Road Asset Management Project (LIBRAMP), and the Rural Economic Transformation Project (RETRAP). This includes supporting the IIU in implementing safeguards, developing mitigation measures, and building local capacity to manage E&S impacts, ensuring compliance with World Bank standards and enhancing community well-being.





Beneficiary Survey in Micronesia

Rural & Social Development / Capacity & Institutional Development

Country:	Federated States of Micronesia
Year:	2024-2025
Funder / Client:	World Bank / Department of Transportation,
	Communication and Infrastructure (DoTC&I)
Value:	0.1m USD

The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), with support from the World Bank, is implementing two key road projects: the Prioritized Road Investment and Management Enhancement Project (PRIME) and the Strategic Climate-Oriented Road Enhancements Project (SCORE). Within this scope, FinnOC has been engaged to conduct a baseline survey across the four FSM states, focusing on socio-economic indicators, road use, road safety perceptions, and the gender gap in driver licensing. The survey will gather information to inform project design and measure the impacts on community resilience, economic opportunities, and social outcomes, with a particular focus on the needs of women and persons with disabilities.

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