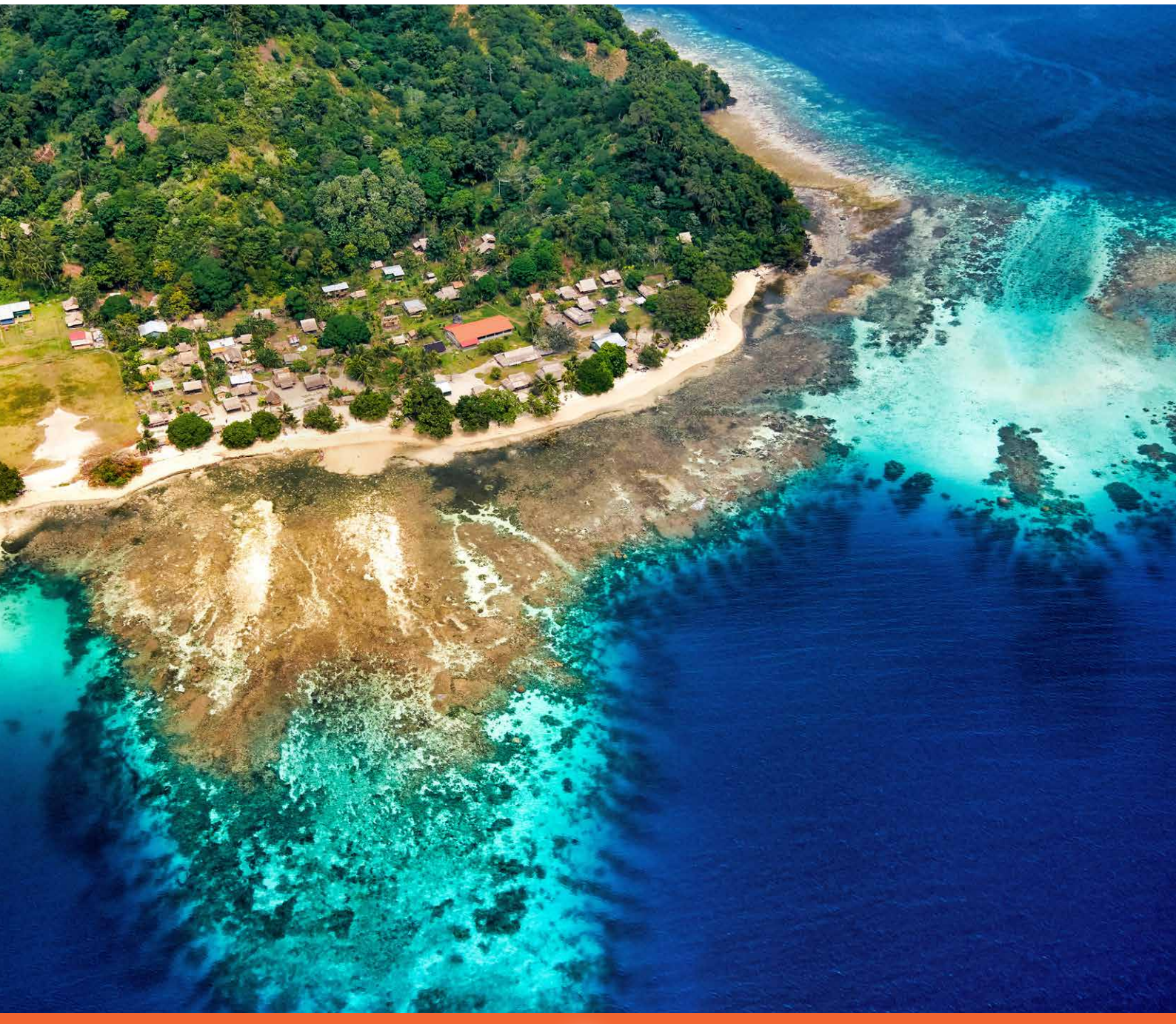
SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

2020–2023



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Inform
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR DECISION MAKING

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GLOSSARY

ABS	Access Benefit Sharing
BSI	Biosecurity Solomon Islands
CTI-CFF	Coral Triangle Initiative, Coral Reefs Fisheries and Food Security
DPSIR	Driver, Pressure, State, Impact, Response model
EBSA	Ecologically or Biologically Sensitive Areas
ECD	Environment and Conservation Division
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ERWHS	East Rennel World Heritage Site
FFA	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency
FPR	Framework of Pacific Regionalism
FTRU	Forest Timber Act
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HCC	Honiara City Council
IEA	Integrated Environment Assessment
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
LLEE	Live and Learn Environment Education
MAL	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
MCA	Ministry of Communications and Aviation
MCT	Ministry of Culture and Tourism
MECDM	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Management and Meteorology
MEHRD	Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development
MHMS	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
MFMR	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
MFR	Ministry of Forestry and Research
MID	Ministry of Infrastructure and Development
MLHS	Ministry of Lands, Housing & Survey
MMA	Marine Managed Area
MMERE	Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification
MNPDC	Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination
MOFT	Ministry of Finance and Treasury
MWYCFA	Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MPGIS	Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan
NCDs	National Communicable Diseases
NDF	Non-detriment Findings
NEMS	National Environment Management Strategy
NGO	Non-government organisation
NISAP	National Invasive Species Action Plan
ODS	Ozone Depleting Substances
OPMC	Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
OUV	Outstanding Universal Value
PACAM	Pacific American Climate Fund
PIFACC	Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change
PILN	Pacific Invasives Learning Network
PMO	Prime Minister's Office
PNA	Parties to the Nauru Agreement
RSIPF	Royal Solomon Islands Police Force
RWASH	Rural Water Sanitation and Hygiene
R2R	Ridge to Reef
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEA	Strategic Environment Assessment
SICED	Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division
SIG	Solomon Islands Government
SINSO	Solomon Islands National Statistics Office
SINU	Solomon Islands National University
SIRAC	Solomon Islands Refrigeration and Air conditioning Association
SIWA	Solomon Islands Water Authority
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SoE	State of Environment Report
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
USP	University of the South Pacific
WATSAN	Water and Sanitation

MESSAGE FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE, DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND METEOROLOGY

The Government of Solomon Islands recognises the importance of the country's environment to the health, welfare and economic development of the country and its people. Thus the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) welcomes the *Solomon Islands National Environment Management Strategy (NEMS) 2020–2023.*

Since the NEMS is derived from the key recommendations in the State of the Environment (SoE) report 2019, its status as the environment blueprint for government to alleviate the significant pressures on the country's environment and socio-economic wellbeing is assured. The strategy will guide the MECDM to address environment issues and promote better livelihoods for the country. The SoE contained disturbing revelations about the impact on our environment from multiple drivers and pressures. We can all do better.

As an environmental policy framework with strategic directions, the NEMS has the potential to strengthen partnerships within sectors and provide opportunities for funding support from donor partners. The NEMS is a sign of commitment by MECDM to ensure national development targets and sector planning activities are carried out coherently, and promote environmental sustainability.

It also provides direction to the government to fulfil its regional and global commitments under international frameworks such as the SAMOA Pathway, Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEA), and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The actions recommended in the NEMS will enable MECDM to address these issues in an organised manner, with the necessary support.

The Government of Solomon Islands is grateful for the financial and technical support provided by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), through the GEF/UNEP INFORM project, and for its leadership in the development of the NEMS. The valuable contributions of stakeholders across public and private sectors alike, toward the NEMS, are also acknowledged.

The successful implementation of the NEMS is vital for the health of our environment and our wellbeing. I sincerely welcome and look forward to further cooperation from bilateral and multilateral donor organisations in supporting the strategy.

Hon. Dr Culwick Togamana
Minister for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology

Ngalimbiu River, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. © Stuart Chape

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION DIVISION

The *Solomon Islands National Environment Management Strategy (NEMS) 2020–2023* is based on information and recommendations in the Solomon Islands State of the Environment (SoE) report 2019. A detailed SoE is a prerequisite for the development of a good management strategy.

The NEMS 2020–2023 is an important policy tool to guide decision-making at the highest level of governance and stewardship of natural resources in the country. It sets out the strategic direction or policy goals for the Environment and Conservation Division (ECD) to achieve environment sustainability for the government and people of the Solomon Islands.

The implementation of the intervention measures and action plans identified in the NEMS will be done in partnership with other government agencies and relevant stakeholders under the guidance of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM). The NEMS aims to contribute to the national sustainable development planning of the Solomon Islands government, whereby the country's development agenda is approached in a holistic and coherent manner. What is required is appropriate and integrated decision-making at strategic levels across and within sectors.

I must take this time to acknowledge the great support provided by the ministries, sectors and partners for putting the NEMS together. In particular, the support by SPREP, through the GEF/UNEP INFORM project, must be gratefully acknowledged. Without the financial and technical support towards the NEMS development process, this important work would not have been completed.

The NEMS is pointing us in the right direction towards environment sustainability for Solomon Islands to fulfil its national, regional and international commitments. The NEMS targets can be achieved with the combined efforts of the government, and its regional and global partners.

Mr Joe Horokou
Director, Environment and Conservation Division

Tanapari Island, Iron Bottom Sound, Solomon Islands. © Stuart Chape

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, SPREP

Our Pacific Islands and her people have lived in close harmony with our natural environment and unique cultures for thousands of years which has helped shaped our Pacific islands way of life.

However, in this changing world, we are faced with complex challenges such as climate change and increasing economic development which are driving and changing the way we live today. These challenges are placing significant pressures on our Pacific islands way of life and natural environment – challenges for which our Pacific islands are rising to address while ensuring our Pacific way of life is sustained. We are encouraged by the actions of our Pacific island governments and stand in unity with our Members to help empower and support such actions.

The development of the *Solomon Islands National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS) 2020–2023* is a clear demonstration of the Government's commitment towards addressing key environmental challenges in a holistic, integrated, and strategic manner.

The NEMS plays a crucial role in guiding and supporting national and sectoral planning processes in achieving national sustainable development priorities. The NEMS will also help Solomon Islands to meet their regional and global commitments such as the SAMOA Pathway, Sustainable Development Goals, and the Multilateral Environment Agreements ratified by the Government of Solomon Islands.

Ensuring the NEMS is useful and effective, it is a practical document that identifies the key environmental policy areas and corresponding environmental programmes required to address them. It also contains strategic actions for achieving sustainable development.

The NEMS was developed through the engagement and contributions of key stakeholders from government ministries, NGOs, and key institutions in Solomon Islands under the leadership of the Permanent Secretary for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM). I am pleased to say that the process has been largely driven with full support and ownership by MECDM and all stakeholders involved.

SPREP's role in the NEMS process has been at an advisory support level which saw us work closely with the Environment and Conservation Division of MECDM. I would also like to acknowledge the financial support provided by the GEFUNEP Regional INFORM project executed by SPREP.

Congratulations on the completion of the NEMS for Solomon Islands and we all look forward to its successful implementation.

Mr Kosi Latu
Director General, SPREP

Russell Islands in the Central Province. Photo: Edward Danitofea, ECD

Honiara Port and Honiara City. Photo © Stuart Chape

1. INTRODUCTION

Solomon Islands lies in the tropical western Pacific roughly between latitudes 5oS and 12oS, and longitudes 152oE and 170oE. The country comprises nine provinces each with its own provincial government: Central Islands, Choiseul, Guadalcanal, Isabel, Makira-Ulawa, Malaita, Rennell and Bellona, Temotu and Western. A big-ocean state, with 1.6 million square kilometres of ocean, Solomon Islands consists of a double chain of six major islands as well as over 900 smaller islands, atolls and reefs with over 5,000 kilometres of coastline. The islands range from large, rugged and mountainous to small, bare sand and coralline atolls. The islands contain a diversity of landforms and life forms as well as a surrounding ocean that teems with its own biodiversity. These natural resources are central to Solomon Islands' culture and peoples, and provide incomes, livelihoods and cultural resources.

Figure 1: Map of the Solomon Islands.

1.1 SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – CONTENT AND PROCESS

In Solomon Islands, the Environment Act 1998 requires the preparation of a State of the Environment (SoE) report every three years. The 2019 SoE report provides an overview of progress against key indicators across seven thematic areas. The report uses the 'Drivers, Pressures, State, Impact and Response' (DPSIR) model to describe the environment. There are a number of key drivers that create pressures on the environment in the Solomon Islands, as reported in the 2019 SoE. The report evaluated the drivers and pressures for environmental changes, examined the impacts, and offered recommendations to assist national efforts in addressing these challenges or gaps.

The SoE report identified key areas of particular concern with respect to environmental management:

- The importance of improving the management of the forestry sector, due to its significant impacts on the environment across a range of sectors – biodiversity, soils, and water quality, as well as providing for economic development and livelihoods. All these aspects need to be managed in a sustainable way.
- The issues around the capital city, Honiara, where the expanding population and urban boundaries place pressures on water and air quality, sanitation and downstream effects on peoples' health.
- A very worrying rate of increase in health conditions broadly linked with the environment, including non-communicable diseases (NCDs), respiratory conditions and waterborne diseases.

The National Environment Management Strategy 2020–2023 is based on the recommended actions to address environment issues identified in the SoE report 2019.

1.2 WHAT IS THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (NEMS)?

Environment management strategies are actions put in place as a means of linking development and conservation of environment with the aim of maintaining sustainable development. The first Solomon Island NEMS was developed in 1992 based on a collection of strategies developed to address environment problems. A key focus is to integrate environment considerations in economic development. This new updated NEMS takes into account the advances since 1992 and was developed alongside the 2019 SoE report.

1.3 RATIONALE FOR THE NEMS

The NEMS is intended to guide the coordination and collaboration amongst all the stakeholders of the implementation of key policies, programmes and actions to promote sustainable development and conservation. It is aligned to the National Development Plan and is linked to other sector plans and policies. The NEMS is a framework that links related policies and programmes to provide a roadmap for environmental actions and stewardship. It promotes the establishment of good governance and best practice. The NEMS also highlights gaps to be addressed for the protection of the environment to achieve economic aspirations and to enhance community wellbeing.

1.4 FORMULATION OF THE NEMS

The NEMS was developed by SPREP in partnership with the Environment and Conservation Division (ECD) based on the 2019 SoE report. National consultation workshops were held with Solomon Island Government Ministries, industries, institutions, community representatives and partners.

Many of the actions and recommendations in the NEMS are supplementary to those presented in national policies and programmes, such as the Climate Change Policy, NBSAP, Fisheries Strategies, and many others. Some of the text derives from sources listed in the references and other reputable sources.

1.5 THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEMS

The NEMS is structured around the seven thematic areas in the SoE:

1. Culture and Heritage
2. Atmosphere and Climate
3. Land
4. Marine and Coastal
5. Freshwater
6. Biodiversity, and
7. Built Environment.

The NEMS has also been informed by the consultation process used to develop the SoE report. Two series of workshops were held in 2018 to address each of the thematic areas. As part of this process, a set of recommendations was developed aimed at improving environmental management across the Themes and Indicators. These recommendations have been subject to additional analysis and developed into the strategic priorities and targets presented in this NEMS Plan. Achieving these targets will require a coordinated approach between departments and agencies, working with partners and relevant stakeholders, to ensure that the environment polices, plans, programmes and regulatory processes work together to support genuine progress over the term of the plan.

The NEMS is aligned to the Solomon Island National Development Strategy and other sector plans. It is a commitment by the government towards regional frameworks such as the SAMOA Pathway, the national sustainable development goals and targets, and also Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs) on Climate Change, Ozone, Biodiversity and Waste.

SUMMARY OF POLICY GOALS AND STRATEGIC LINKAGES

Environment Theme	Strategic Focus Area	National, regional and international linkages
Culture and Heritage	Maintaining culture and traditional knowledge Supporting indigenous language Encouraging traditional / healthy diet	National Development Strategy SDG 3, SDG 10 Social Development Improve livelihoods and wellbeing
Climate and Atmosphere	Maintaining air quality Reducing atmospheric emissions (ODS, CO_2) Monitor climate and support sustainable adaptation measures and Disaster Risk Reduction	National Development Strategy Climate Change Policy Montreal Protocol Pacific Plan, Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC) Regional Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management SDG 7, SDG 13 Sustainable energy and climate change Improve livelihoods and wellbeing and use the environment sustainably
Land	Supporting sustainable production Strengthening controls on logging reduce impacts and increase sustainable returns Manage environmental impacts of mining	National Development Strategy Convention of Bio-diversity SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 15 Economic growth and food security Improve livelihoods and wellbeing Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 18
Marine and Coastal	Manage offshore fisheries for sustainability and value Support sustainable inshore fisheries Protect endangered and vulnerable marine species and ecosystems Increase the area and enhance management of marine protected areas Maintain coastal water quality	National Development Strategy Convention of Bio-diversity SDG 14 Biodiversity and Oceans management Improve livelihoods and wellbeing Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 18 FPR Regional priority CTI-CFF
Freshwater	Manage availability of freshwater for people and economic development Maintain freshwater quality	National Development Strategy Convention of Biodiversity SDG 6 Aichi Targets 6, 8
Biodiversity	Manage invasive species Increase the area and enhance management of terrestrial protected areas Protect vulnerable and threatened species Protect habitats	National Development Strategy Convention of Bio-diversity SDG 14, SDG 15 Ocean and Sea Improve livelihoods and wellbeing Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 18
Built Environment	Monitor and manage expansion of urban centres Improve management of wastes Manage development of urban centres across key sectors: Energy, Water, Sanitation, Health	National Development Strategy Noumea and Waigani Convention SDG 1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12 Biodiversity and Oceans management Improve livelihoods and wellbeing Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 18

2. THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The NEMS 2020–2023 is guided by global principles that include leadership and good governance, collective responsibility for the environment, indigenous knowledge, practices and innovations, and integration of the environment and development.

2.1 LEADERSHIP AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

The Government of the Solomon Islands will lead efforts to protect, manage and promote the sustainable use of the country's environment and its natural resources. This involves upholding good governance practices of transparency, accountability, shared responsibility and fairness in the consideration of environmental requirements in development practices. It respects everyone's right to a clean and healthy environment. It also recognises key principles for respecting the needs and capacities of the natural environment such as the precautionary, polluter pays and carrying capacity principles.

The Precautionary Principle is defined in the UN Agenda 21 Rio Declaration as "Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation".

The Polluter Pays Principle means that populations are justly responsible for the waste and pollution they generate either directly or through payments for the available mitigation and management services. The principle extends to society's responsibility to pay for the programmes that help to replenish, restore and rehabilitate natural resources and the environment that were exploited or degraded through extensive development activities.

The Carrying Capacity Principle may be defined as the ability of the environment to sustain the needs of human development and its own natural requirements. Development should respect the limits of the carrying capacities of its hosting environment if it is to achieve a more sustainable pathway.

2.2 COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Biodiversity and the environment provide important goods and services for communities. It is the responsibility of individuals, organisations and societies to protect and manage the sustainable use of biodiversity. The extraction or exploitation of natural resources have economic and environmental costs. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that these costs are not detrimental to the state of biodiversity and the goods and services it provides.

2.3 TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, PRACTICES AND INNOVATIONS

The people of the Solomon Islands have unique traditional knowledge and practices, which have guided their survival and development for thousands of years. This knowledge and practices can contribute to the sustainable use and management of resources in the Solomon Islands in modern times, and is therefore integrated into and recognised in the strategies identified in the NEMS.

2.4 INTEGRATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

This principle recognises that the environment underpins economic development. It recognises the challenges in balancing the needs of the environment and the development needs of the people of the Solomon Islands. It is vital that economic and physical development must ensure environmental protection, to facilitate long-term economic sustainability. This principle emphasises the importance of credible scientific information to support the integration of the environment into development planning and implementation. It also recognises appropriate value systems of the people in Solomon Islands that promote the integrity of the environment.

The Solomon Islands NEMS contributes to a larger global effort towards the conservation of biodiversity and improving the environment for the benefit of all. It is important that the Solomon Islands NEMS, while local in its approach, is closely linked with regional and international environmental conventions and agreements the Government of Solomon islands has ratified.

3. STRATEGIES, TARGETS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS BY THEMATIC AREA

THEME 1 CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Solomon Island people and cultures are very much influenced by their surrounding environment. Traditional and cultural practices, expressions, language, arts and crafts, farming and fishing methods and tools are made from locally available materials. Changing environment due to drivers and pressures (modern technology) have direct and indirect impacts on these cultural practices. The cultural values change with environmental changes. Sometimes these values are lost or undermined with a changing environment and loss of natural resources.

The Solomon Islands consists of six major islands, and many smaller ones, with a population of about 600,000. With some 70 languages spoken, Solomon Islands has a wealth of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) such as panpipe music and performances, shell money exchanges, and traditional navigation systems, to name but a few. The diverse and unique culture of the islands is expressed in the wide variety of their arts. Crafts are made from ebony hardwood carved in beautiful patterns inlaid with mother of pearl. Baskets are finely woven with amazingly minute patterns. Shells are crafted into everything from intricate shell money (still used today) to the very famous shell jewellery. Communal, clan and family ties remain strong in these islands with the existence of the *Wantok* system. A key part of the Melanesian culture, Wantok means people from the same language group who are blood relatives. They are part of the extended family and support one another.

Fish drive cultural practice at Piruma, Makira Island. Photo: Dickson Asa

CULTURE AND HERITAGE STRATEGIES

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance Indicator	Implementing partners
Culture and heritage	Set up a central database for information sharing, knowledge exchange, decision making and link up with existing platforms, organisations and agencies that have culture and heritage information, etc.	Database in use by 2022.	Database established. Develop indicators for impacts of environmental practices on culture and heritage. Guidelines for information sharing and knowledge exchange are developed. Protocols and guidelines used by partners and agencies. Number of research and cultural studies collected	MEHRD, MCT, MECDM, USP, SINU, MOFT, SINSO, ICT.
	Conduct and promote bio-cultural inventories (tangible and intangible) and research (with guidelines). Bio-culture includes social, cultural, economic and environment aspects.	Number of bio-cultural inventories and research conducted in provinces.	Guidelines for traditional conservation practices developed.	MEHRD, MCT, MECDM, USP, SINU, MOFT, SINSO, ICT.
	Improve the integration of traditional and cultural concepts, practices and language into the national curriculum syllabus from early childhood education (ECE) level; and education and awareness outreach programmes, and community-based resource management (CBRM) initiatives (e.g. songs, storybooks, cultural days, oral history, arts and crafts, etc.).	Develop curriculum materials.	Education materials developed to support culture and heritage curriculum by 2021, and in use by 2022.	MEHRD, MCT, MECDM, USP, SINU, MOFT, SINSO, ICT.
	Enact the Traditional Knowledge Expression of Culture Bill and Traditional Governance Bill aimed at protecting heritage and cultural sites.	Traditional Knowledge Expression of Culture Act in place by 2020. Traditional governance Act in place by 2022.	National and provincial consultations for review of draft laws. Traditional governance framework in place.	MEHRD, MCT, MECDM, USP, SINU, MOFT, SINSO, ICT.
	Develop guidelines for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). Enact legislative frameworks to protect and promote cultural and heritage values.	Appropriate legislation for IPR in place.	Guidelines developed for IPR.	
	Protect and safeguard historical and cultural sites adding value to tourism, conservation, research and other livelihood opportunities for local communities.	Historical and cultural sites declared as sites of interests, and as protected areas for culture and tourism benefits.	Identification of historical and cultural sites for tourism opportunities. Declaration of protection of sites for tourism benefits. Site management plan established for monitoring.	MEHRD, MCT, MECDM, USP, SINU, MOFT, SINSO, ICT.
Language	Support documentation of different languages and word recording (church – Bible).	%/Number of languages or words documented or translated.	Number of initiatives with provincial governments, CSOs, NGOs and traditional groups for documenting language. Change of language use.	UNESCO, School Authorities, House/Council of Chiefs, MWYCFA, National Archives.

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance Indicator	Implementing partners
Traditional Diet	Promote local diets and recipes for households and communities and markets.	Promotions carried out by stakeholders. Local diet dominant in daily diets of communities and households. Reduction of NCD cases. Healthy communities and people.	Policy implemented with necessary resources and budget. More awareness on wellness and good health promotion.	MHMS, MECDM, MCT, Provincial Town Councils, National Security Division (RSIPF).
	Develop or promote local preservative methods for food storage or longer shelf life.	Sustainable food sources maintained during disaster situation.	More awareness and practicing of local preservative method.	
	Establish the baseline for status of diet and health.	Status of diet and health established.	Reduction in NCD cases and monitoring of targets well documented. Implementation of the NCD plan including provinces uptake of NCD plans and strategies. Diet and Health baseline assessment conducted.	MECDM, MOH, MCT, MCT. Provincial & Town Councils.
	Promote sustainable land use planning in villages and communities and promote organic gardening/farming and backyard gardening.	Increase of organic farming initiatives in villages and urban centres. Provinces adapting SLM policies.	Reduction of imported products especially rice, noodles, poultry and meat. SLM training and capacity building expanded. Number of organic farming systems in villages. Provincial governments adopting SLM plans.	MAL, MCT.
	There are initiatives to support small holder production of produce, including traditional root crops and leafy vegetables. Recommended initiatives include: Increasing space for vegetable markets. Ensure affordable, available and accessible food for families and household (food security policies). Establish measures to control food imports i.e. rice, fizzy drinks. Encourage selling of traditional food and improve food safety standards.	National Bio-safety framework reviewed and endorsed	Food safety standards improved and enforced. Regulations for processed food manufactured locally or imported.	

THEME 2 CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE

Climate change is a major impediment to the achievement of sustainable development in the Solomon Islands. According to the International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative report 2011, the annual maximum and minimum temperatures have increased in Honiara since 1951. Data indicates the sea level has risen near the Solomon Islands by about 8 mm per year since 1993. Since the 18th century the level of ocean acidification has been slowly increasing in Solomon Island waters.

The development of the National Climate Change Policy is the country's response to the challenges and opportunities that climate change present. The policy enables better coordination of climate change work in the country and provides opportunities for cooperation and collaboration between the government and people of Solomon Islands as well as with development partners, international and regional institutions, intergovernmental organisations and experts.

In addition to the impacts of climate change, air pollution causes environmental damages and health impacts in the urban centre of Honiara. Air quality in the Solomon Islands can be negatively impacted by vehicle emissions, mining, and waste burning. Urban centres such as Honiara can experience high levels of air pollution. The aim for the government is to ensure that air quality is safe for the public and environment as a whole.

Ranadi Industrial area. Open burning contributing to Climate Change. Photo: Edward Danitofea, ECD

ATMOSPHERE AND CLIMATE STRATEGIES

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance Indicator	Implementing partners
Air quality	Develop national air quality standards and monitoring systems. Ensure proper equipment is in place.	Set up a committee and strengthen coordination between different agencies to action the 2015 Air Quality policies. Build capacity of authorities to monitor equipment. Air quality standards and monitoring systems in place.	Regulate imports of used vehicles and machinery. Regulate imports of air condition systems. Standards endorsed with monitoring equipment made available.	MECDM, MID, MHMS, MCA, HCC, provincial government
	Implement emissions regulations for industries and sectors.	Industry emissions controlled yearly.	Reduction of pollution from industries and sectors.	
	Invest in renewable energy, efficient technology and innovation. Promote alternatives to open biomass burning for cooking (e.g. kiko oven and kiko stove.	New technology and innovation introduced. Reduction in air pollutants. Yearly process.	Improve air quality e.g. reduce pollutants. Reduced use of fuel, and more savings.	
	Air, land and sea transport emissions regulations developed and enforced.		Reduced pollution from sea and land transport. Introduce transport emissions controls / standards by 2023.	
	Strengthen legal frameworks (provincial and urban centres) to regulate open burning of waste. Proper solid waste management practices – incineration, collection and disposal).		Feasibility study presented to Parliament, with recommendations supported.	
	Introduce policy on vehicles and promote LPG gas operated vehicles.	Develop policy on vehicle imports and gas used vehicles.		MMERE, SICED, Solomon Power, SINU
Ozone	Strengthen the monitoring systems on entry of equipment containing ODS and ODS.	Yearly process.	Contributes to safeguards due to health risks associated with ODS gas. Stop the entry of prohibited gases and substances. Effective monitoring and planning put in place. Increased capacity of officers for monitoring and compliance e.g. identification of gases.	MECDM, MID, SICED, MMERE, SIRAC, AC & fridge suppliers
	Develop an up to date database of ODS consumers, ODS imports and consumption.	Data system established to support decisions 2020.	Controlled imports in terms of quantity and quality of gases, cars, refrigerators, air condition systems.	
	Develop minimum standards and legislate on the type of imports of air conditioners and refrigerators.	2021.	Prolong life of systems and reduce the waste streams. Reduce the risk of ODS gas emissions.	

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance Indicator	Implementing partners
Green House Gas	Continue to monitor emissions across all sectors.	GHG Emissions recorded on a yearly basis. Yearly process.	GHG emissions data produced and reported to national, regional and global partners.	MECDM, MID, SICED, MMERE, SIRAC, AC & fridge suppliers
	Strengthen capacity to plan and coordinate future GHG Inventory work including archiving of data and information.		Increased capacity for conducting GHG inventories and carbon assessments. Status of GHG emissions. Facilitate process in meeting targets.	
	Continue to promote mitigation measures and programmes.	Yearly process.	Quota on logging felling license issued per year. Logged areas are rehabilitated.	
	Develop measures to control emissions from forestry logging.	Yearly process.	Reduction in land degradation and promotion of forest protected area.	
	Land and crop management – through adjusting methods of managing land and growing crops.		Alternative farming methods will be introduced to prevent slash and burning. Land use planning for crop farming results in decrease in gas emissions.	
	Improve GHG inventory for Solomon Islands.	Yearly process.	Legislate GHG emission data disclosure by the sectors. Data on GHG emissions to allow proper national, provincial sector planning. Reduction of GHG emissions from waste dumps. Proper management of waste from sources will be achieved. Data will improve planning. Good awareness in households.	MECDM, MID, SICED, MMERE, SIRAC, AC & fridge suppliers

Ranadi Industrial area. Open burning contributing to Climate Change. Photo: Edward Danitofea, ECD

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance Indicator	Implementing partners
Renewable Energy	Promote and invest in renewable energy and energy efficiency measures to reduce emissions.	Renewable energy and energy efficiency measure and options promoted. Yearly process.	Lower emissions, lower fuel purchases and consumption. More solar plant and other alternatives. Community accessibility to electrification.	MECDM, MID, SICED, MMERE, SIRAC, AC & fridge suppliers
	Set clear targets on renewable energy interventions on the new energy policy.	Yearly process.	Availability and accessibility of data to support work related to the target achievement. Increase in imports of energy efficient appliances and alternative energy sources. More budget allocated to achieving energy targets.	
	Encourage private sector partnership promoting renewable technology.	Efficient partnership with private sector established.	Tax exemption in place for renewable energy efficient appliances. Grants available for private sector investment in renewable energy. Provide data to support decision making for government. Collaborate to deliver energy development activities nationwide.	
	Enforce standards and monitoring system on renewable energy appliances.	Yearly process.	Increase in compliance and importation of electrical products that are more energy efficient. Increase awareness of all parties to reduce breaches.	
	Waste Management systems to be put in place for renewable energy appliances.	Yearly process on implementation of waste strategy.	Reduction in e-waste.	
	Improve guidelines on customary and public land and marine area access and use process for renewable energy projects. Use guideline for awareness, negotiation, etc.	To prevent social conflicts over land use.		MECDM, MID, SICED, MMERE, SIRAC, AC & fridge suppliers
	Invest in a range of renewable energy developments to address/ improve access to electricity.	Efficient supply of energy with minimal cost to consumers.	More sources of energy alternatives to cater for needs.	
	Invest in capacity building on renewable energy maintenance and sustainability.	Increase capacities, (technical, finance, management, institutional etc.) and improve knowledge.	Save costs on engaging overseas technicians for maintenance works.	
Physical Climate	Develop national and regional climate profile with a monitoring system in place.	Complete by 2021.	Readily available data for climate research. Intervention on adaptation measures. Integration of climate change risk in development plans. Easily monitor CC impacts and risks to humans.	
	Expand and improve weather observation stations (automatic and manned station).	Number of manned and automatic weather stations in provinces.	Weather monitoring improved.	

THEME 3 LAND

Most human activity throughout history has occurred in land areas that support agriculture, habitat and various natural resources. Areas where land meets large bodies of water are called coastal zones. Uncontrolled land clearing through logging, intensive agriculture and, to a lesser extent, the extension of subsistence farming as a result of increasing population, all place extreme pressures on the land and soil resources.

Land development is a major government policy area. It is important to have access to land and its resources for cultivation and production, supporting livelihoods and health, business opportunities and economic development. Both *kastomary* (traditional customary use) and government land tenure are critical to environmental management. Both systems face issues of conflict of use, access to land and its resources, land tenure, ownership, and use of land in many forms.

The Solomon Islands population of 550,000 mainly depends on subsistence agriculture supplemented by cash crops, fishing and forest products. Changing weather patterns, coupled with highly destructive forest exploitation and environmental damage, can result in severe flooding as well as serious water supply shortages during the dry season. Forest degradation has impacted the health of downstream marine ecosystems, which are a main source of food and income for coastal populations. The Solomon Islands lacks practical solutions for ensuring that landscapes and the people who depend on them for their livelihoods are able to adapt to climate fluctuations, and to thrive in a new climate (Pacific-American Climate Fund (PACAM).

Solomon Islands signed a global agreement on UNCBD to focus its efforts on policy and regulations to support Sustainable Land Management, landscape planning and other land management initiatives.

Coconut and oil palm plantation. Photo: Edward Danitofea – ECD

LAND STRATEGIES

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Agriculture – Livestock Production	Strengthen research on the reduction of livestock farming and impacts on environment. Undertake research to understand soil quality on land cleared for agriculture purposes.	Develop costed proposals for research in 2021. Land quality research findings reported.	Proposal developed and submitted to donor for funding. Research proposal developed and submitted for funding to donor agencies. Agriculture ministry with soil quality data to support agriculture activities.	MAL, MFR, MLHS, MECDM, provincial council.
	Strengthen research on livestock extension to support farmers in sustainable production.	Develop research proposal on livestock extension in 2021.	Proposal developed and submitted to donor for funding. Research proposal developed and submitted for funding to donor agencies.	
Agriculture – Area Under Cultivation	Agriculture census to be conducted.	Plan agriculture census 2020 used for decision-making.	Agriculture census completed and submitted to Parliament for endorsement.	
	Training and awareness programmes provided to farmers on pesticide/chemical handling and disposal.	Programmes developed on pesticide handling and disposal in 2021.	Training on pesticide management held. Improved pesticide handling.	
	Strengthen and regulate control of manufacture, import, storage, sale, use and disposal of pesticides or other agriculture chemicals.	Specific proposal to improve control of pesticide and other agricultural chemical imports in 2021.	Improved procedures implemented.	
	Promote organic farming and develop certification of organic products.	Expand organic farming and establish cost-effective certification in 2021.	Increased adoption of organic farming and certification. Volume of production improved.	
	Develop land use plans and land capability to prevent land degradation, soil erosion, depletion of water resources and encroachment of forests in the country.	Maps used in proper land use planning and knowledge on land capability in 2021.	Land capability and land use maps developed and ready for use.	
	Promote the replanting of coconuts and inter-cropping with cocoa.	Promotion initiatives developed in 2021/2022.	Proper records of number of coconut trees, cocoa areas (ha) planted and monitored.	

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Forestry – Forest Harvest	Strengthen compliance and enforcement of licenses e.g. felling licenses, permits and development consent for progressive rehabilitation, reforestation, site remediation.	Ongoing enforcement and sustainability in forest population with reduction in grassland that promote invasive species growth and land degradation.	Increase in area reforested and sustainability maintained. Maintain record of log shipments and provide good data. Increase export revenue. Reduce undersized log exports.	MFR, MLHS, MECDM, HCC, provincial councils, Attorney General's Office, Solicitor General's Office.
	Increase efforts to promote sustainable forestry practices and alternative livelihood options with communities and resource owners including awareness, education, tree planting, rehabilitation and environmental monitoring.	Increased sustainable forestry practices by communities and resource owners.	Communities and resource owners are aware of their legal rights and understand environment and forestry-related regulations. Communities and resource owners sustainably use their forest.	
	Table the amended Environment and Forestry Bill in Parliament in 2020.	Update Environment and Forestry Legislation enacted.	Improved legislations and regulations for forest use and harvest.	
	Capacity building, training and collaboration for forest police and environment officers, legal practitioners, communities, resource owners and relevant agencies to strengthen monitoring, enforcement and prosecution.	Harmonise Environment and Forestry Act e.g. all logging proposal must undertake the EIA process required under the Environment Act before issue of logging license. Improved monitoring and enforcement carried out annually.	Export database developed and maintained. Number of breaches and offenses committed and prosecuted recorded. Provincial revenue on licenses paid. Contribution to national revenue from logging from fines.	
	Update forestry inventory.	Develop programme to update forest inventory in 2020.	Forest stock is known that support policy decisions. Carbon emissions from the forestry sector determined. Identify high value conservation area. Effective forest and land use planning. Effective reporting on the forest sector achieved that guides effective decision making.	
	Government to strengthen its support financially and technically on logging monitoring and enforcement.	Logging process aligned to EIA regulations and sector collaboration taking place. 2020 Budget Year.	Increase manpower to the forestry sector and resources. Increase budget, and more training. Reduction in river siltation; minimise effect on water quality; reduce flooding and soil erosion.	
	Review and increase logging license fees and keep in a separate account for the forestry sector.	Establish separate account under the forestry sector on licenses and fees. Start process in 2020.	Improve access to funds and effective implementation and monitoring of Forest Act policies and programmes.	
	Promote downstream processing by identifying markets for forestry and timber products and by-products e.g. furniture, plywood, energy, composting.	Establish downstream processing initiatives and market linkages and improved incentives for resource owners by 2022.	Proposals endorsed by government and adopted.	

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Mining	Review of Mines and Mineral Act needs to involve land owners. Harmonise with the Environment Act and other relevant laws.	Review of legislation completed and new Act enacted by 2021.	Review process starts with consultation. Budget allocation for mining sector. Integration of the MMERE in Mining EIA decision-making process.	MMERE, MECDM, Mining Industry, Provincial Offices.
	Prepare village disaster risk plans with simulation exercises for communities living downstream from the tailing dam, and hydro dams.	Prepare plans for communities 2021.	Better decision-making by landowners. Equal share of benefits between landowners, developer and government. Reduced chemical spills. Reduced causalities. Communities well informed of risks.	
	Strengthen, support and equip national laboratories to be accredited to international standards.	Increased national capacity for geology and environment analysis. Costs proposal for laboratory services and capacity developed and financed.	Plans implemented 2020 (quality data produced; increase in revenue from laboratory analysis; new analytical machines installed; on-time data produced and good decisions made; revenue increase, staff capacity up).	
	Develop environment standards to address mineral (gold, bauxite, etc.) and aggregate extraction (sand, gravel).	Environment standards for mining processes developed e.g. environment discharge, tailings management, rehabilitation management guidelines, etc.	Reduced environment pollution from facilities and industries. Health risk minimised. Reduced sedimentation.	
	Strengthen capacity of mining regulators in monitoring and enforcement.	Standards developed and enforced. Start process in 2020.	Strengthen public hearing process in all mining operations.	
	Strengthen awareness of all processes relevant to the mining industry and development with resource owners, communities, investors, other relevant government agencies and partners, etc.	Effective participation of public in mining EIA process. Ongoing from 2019. Resource owners fully aware of the roles in the Mining EIA process. Ongoing from 2019.	More awareness and effective decisions made. Number of notices served and court cases submitted. Number of awareness activities carried out. Number of resource owners taking part in consultations.	
	Develop Mining EIA sectoral guidelines. The EIA process should cover all stages of mining, including operation, closure and post-closure e.g. mining rehabilitation, etc.	Effective enforcement of the Mining Act. Ongoing from 2019. Good mining governance mechanisms in place using the EIA guidelines. Ongoing from 2019.	Good decision-making. Proposal to government 2020. Clear direction on mining investment and approval process required under the EIA. Strengthen sector collaboration.	

THEME 4 MARINE AND COASTAL

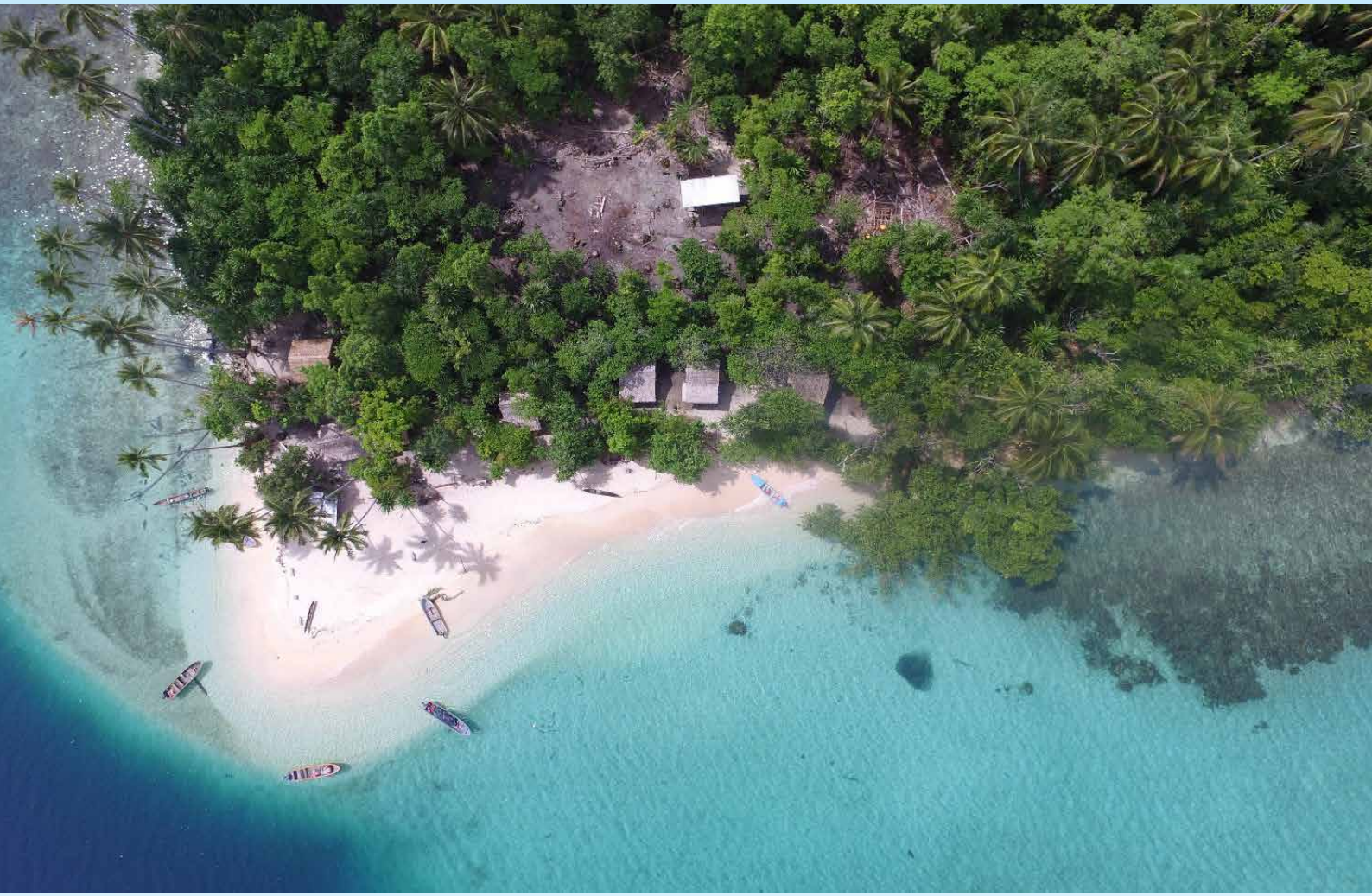
Marine and coastal environments contain diverse habitats that support an abundance of marine life. The life in our seas produces a third of the oxygen we breathe, offers a valuable source of protein and moderates global climate change. Some examples of marine and coastal habitats include mangrove forests; coral reefs; seagrass beds; estuaries in coastal areas; hydrothermal vents, seamounts and soft sediments on the ocean floor a few kilometres below the surface.

With a total sea area of approximately 1.6 million square kilometres and a coastline extending over 4,023 kilometres, Solomon Islands possesses relatively abundant ocean space, and a diversity of potential resources. Coastal and marine resources are an important component of socio-economic livelihoods, as most Solomon Islanders live in coastal areas. The country's marine resources are also important commercially and form a significant contribution to the national economy. The coastal and marine resources of Solomon Islands are extensively researched although a lot has yet to be studied.

The ocean environment is a rich and diverse, yet vulnerable and fragile, ecosystem. The ocean covers coastal and marine waters including the benthic environment. A diversity of ecosystems and habitats provides for a variety of marine organisms. The ocean environment plays an important role in climate regulation, water cycles, ocean productivity, protection and other ecosystem services.

The total annual value of Solomon Islands Marine Ecosystem Services was estimated at more than SBD2.6 billion in 2014 (MESV, 2014). Temperature, ocean currents, ocean acidity and nutrients are important in determining the occurrence, distribution and survival of species in the ocean – all of which can be negatively influenced by anthropogenic factors.

A suite of policies and strategies guide numerous programmes in-country, aligned to regional and international obligations. These include FFA, SPC, SPREP, IUCN, SINOP, SPC, CTI-CFF, RPOA and NPOA, UNOC Voluntary commitments, etc.



Taqu Homestay Choiseul Province. Photo: Edward Danitofea, ECD

MARINE AND COASTAL STRATEGIES

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Offshore tuna fisheries and bycatch	Increase, improve and diversify benefits from offshore fisheries resources.	Control harvest, processing and export of Solomon Islands fisheries through appropriate public- private partnerships. Follow environment laws - Environment Act and EIA regulation.	Benefits from offshore fisheries and valuation including ecosystem services reports. Sustainable processing of harvest with minimal impacts on environment.	MFMR, MECDM, fishing industry, FFA, SPC, PNA.
	Work with regional organisations to develop reference points and harvest strategies for key tuna species.	Increased Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) with international sustainability and trade needs. Work with FFA and PNA to develop reference points and harvest strategies for key tuna species. The points are accepted and implemented by WCPFC. Application of all conservation management measures agreed to by PNA, FFA and WCPFC.	All measures and reporting requirements met – ongoing.	
	Implement the National Oceans Policy	Integrated Oceans governance practised. SINOP strategies implemented and actioned.	Implementation plan in place. Number of strategies implemented. Oceans legislation adopted. MSP implemented. Oceans Policy review findings adopted.	
	Improve current regulatory environment to ensure compliance with the Fisheries Management Act 2015 and its subsidiary regulations by all who fish in our waters and/or export products from our fisheries and aquatic resources.	Elimination of IUU activities.	Reports of IUU activities. MFMR Compliance reports.	
	Improve electronic monitoring and reporting on the fishing industry for management.	Decrease of IUU and unsustainable fishing activities.	Number of incidents reported and recorded by WCPFC portal and SPC (Observer data).	MFMR, MECDM, fishing industry, FFA, SPC, PNA.
	Solomon Islands tuna fisheries is guided by the Tuna Management Development Plan (TMDP); Harvest Strategy and other tuna management frameworks.	100% monitoring on all fishing activities in designated ports (Noro, Honiara). Includes unloading, transhipment, shore-based exports.	Updated Tuna Management Development Plan – compliance with management strategies.	
	Implement IUU measures.	Purse seine fishing vessels maintain 100% electronic reporting and observer coverage. Increase of X number of LL undertaking EM.	Electronic reporting coverage for fishing vessels (LL, PS). Electronic monitoring coverage for longline vessels. Observer coverage: 100% on PS and 5% on LL.	

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Coastal Fisheries	Expand FAD deployment to reduce pressure on coral reef ecosystems.	Develop proposals for FAD deployment and installation. Communities and individuals have access to pelagic fisheries.	FAD deployment and data recorded and monitored.	MFMR, MECDM
	Monitoring of status of reef fish.	Effective monitoring for reef fish.	Data recorded on monitoring works carried out.	
	Strengthen enforcement of regulations under Fisheries Management Act – no compliance section for inshore.	Improved and effective enforcement in 2019/2020 with clear enforcement roles for communities, cross-agencies and provincial governments.	Enforcement section established and enforcing fisheries regulations. Deploy coastal enforcement. Enforcement and compliance cases and reports. Enforcement and compliance guidelines and protocols in place.	
	Support CBRM and natural resource management with capacity building, education, awareness, policies and strategies.	Communities, CBOs, provinces and other partners etc. are supported to implement CBRM and natural resource management programmes.	Number of CBRM and natural resource management programmes and initiatives supported and implemented. Level of management and effectiveness.	
	Update data gaps on coastal fisheries through research and monitoring to inform decision-making and cross-sectoral planning.	Establish research and monitoring collaboration, and partnership and projects. Research and monitoring conducted.	Number of new research conducted. Information shared and used for decision making.	
	Empower provincial governments to effectively support coastal fisheries management and development, through appropriate ordinances using technical and financial support and personnel.	Provinces increase responsibility of coastal fisheries management and development	Capacity gap assessment conducted for provincial governments to support CFM and development. Assessments conducted.	
	Maximise livelihood and economic benefits from sustainable fisheries management and developments.	Improved preservation, market access and enhanced livelihood opportunities for increased socioeconomic benefits and good nutrition.	Number of livelihoods and markets for fisheries products available. Market survey reports. Repeat baseline market surveys at 5–10 year intervals.	MFMR, MECDM
	Implement the National Fisheries policy 2019-2029.	Implementation of management measures.	Implement sales or import restrictions on vulnerable and iconic species and species important to ecosystem maintenance. Implement size limits and gear restrictions (mesh sizes, hooks) for overfished species. Apply a temporary restriction on sales during known spawning times for important species.	
Marine species of special interest	Support community-based species conservation and protection, including enforcement under the Fisheries Management, Wildlife Protection and Management and Protected Areas Acts.	Improved conservation status of threatened and endangered species. Improved IUCN Red List status of identified marine species.	Enlist threatened and endangered species on national protection listing. Complete and finalise national management plans for turtles, dugong, dolphin and crocodiles.	MFMR, MECDM, fishing industry, FFA, SPC, PNA, SPREP,NGO partners, communities.
	Promote and encourage research and monitoring of priority threatened and endangered species including sedentary, and deep-sea habitats as marine species of interest.	Increased information about status of threatened and endangered species. Improve information sharing between communities, NGOs, provinces and line agencies.	Species management plans developed with communities.	

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Seagrass, mangrove and coral reef ecosystems	Continue protection and or management of key ecosystems and habitats through development of management plans, establishment of protected areas and resource management programmes.	Develop and or implement mangrove management plans e.g. mangrove, seagrass, coral reef ecosystem management plans, etc.	Establishment of protected areas. Support for protection and resource management initiatives targeting mangrove, coral reefs and seagrass ecosystems.	MFMR, MECDM, fishing industry, FFA, SPC, PNA, SPREP,NGO partners, communities.
	Strengthen regulations, management plans and guidelines to minimise loss of habitats or degradation of ecosystems. Strengthen monitoring.	Regulations, guidelines and management plans implemented. Restoration, rehabilitation and restocking of degraded ecosystems e.g. coral planting, mangrove replanting, etc. Monitoring systems and database established. Seagrass, mangrove and coral reef ecosystems are strengthened.	Management plan endorsed and implemented with data recorded and monitored. Guidelines implemented. Maps, reports, data and information of key habitats and ecosystems developed and updated. Habitat maps produced for each province.	
	Support establishment and management of MPAs, LMMAs and *tambu* (taboo) areas.	15 % of marine coastal area protected and managed by 2023.	Number of MPAs, LMMAs, CBRM sites and *tambu* (taboo) areas managed and formalised.	MFMR, MECDM, fishing industry, FFA, SPC, PNA, SPREP,NGO partners, communities.
	Update data and status and distribution of key ecosystems e.g. seagrass, mangrove and coral reefs. Include remote sensing for distribution and coverage.	Rapid Ecological Assessment 2023. EA completed for all provinces.		
	Produce provincial ecosystem profiles.	Continue ecosystems mapping activities with communities, provinces, relevant sectors and partners. Completed by 2023.	Profiles produced for each province. All data and information of current and existing baselines of key ecosystems are collected, reported and shared from partners and sectors.	
	Run awareness, education and training programmes on the value and benefits of managing and protecting key ecosystems.	Ongoing (Yearly). All stakeholders and partners reporting on the state and health of ecosystems.	Capacity building improved with EIA training. Community capacity improved to monitor key ecosystems. Number of awareness activities carried out.	
	Promote and support EABM, CBRM, R2R initiatives or programmes that support community, provincial and environmental targets.	People are aware of the value and benefits of protecting key ecosystems. Communities and sectors adopting and applying ecosystem-based approaches to planning and development.	Reduction in loss of key ecosystems. Number community demonstration projects. Ecosystem-based reports produced.	
	Explore Blue Carbon ecosystem opportunities. Implement REDD programme for mangrove protection.	Consider climate change impacts on the ecosystems and habitats and identify options to adapt and mitigate.	Number of initiatives or programmes that support community demonstration and environmental targets.	

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Marine Protected and Managed Areas	Develop, manage and support marine protected areas or managed areas. .	NBSAP Target of 15%. Develop and implement MAME Tool to track effectiveness of MPAs and MMAs. Upscale and expand number and coverage of MMAs nationwide. 50% of inshore and coastal waters covered by an MMA. Communities, provinces and partners supported to establish and manage MMAs and MPAs; and enforce plans and rules including training for rangers, inspectors and enforcement agencies.	Number/coverage of MPAs and MMAs. Effective enforcement and compliance through joint enforcement teams. National scaling strategy for CBRM developed and implemented.	MFMR, MECDM, fishing industry, FFA, SPC, provincial governments, tourism sector and communities, NGOs.
	Complete and implement marine spatial plan.	Spatial data management capacity built. Marine spatial plan developed and endorsed 2020. Draft MSP regulatory framework developed.	Improve spatial data management capacity across SIG (MECDM and MFMR). Online services improved with easy access to centralise spatial data. MSP planning process conducted for provinces and Honiara.	
Coastal water quality	Develop a coastal water quality monitoring and reporting system, including identifying indicators (e.g. biological, physical, etc.) and parameters.	Develop work plan with budget on carrying out coastal water baseline. Identify and establish monitoring sites in 2021. Build a centralised data repository for coastal water quality data, monitoring and reporting. State of Coastal Water report developed.	Work Plan developed and endorsed. Collection of coastal water quality samples and benchmark them to international standards.	MFMR, MECDM, MMERE, MFR, Solomon Water.
	Implement the National Waste Management and Pollution Control Strategy. Improve and increase capacity, skills and knowledge of authorities and partners (shipping, SIMSA, SIPA, city councils, ECD, provincial governments), with a focus on regulating, monitoring, and enforcement of water quality standards.	Improved and enhanced regulating and monitoring capacity of authorities (e.g. equipment, finance, facilities, etc.).	All coastal development projects must produce coastal water quality assessments during construction, and also monitor water quality during operations. Repository system in place to store data. Coastal water quality improved. Reduced pollution of rivers and coastal waters. Increase in sanitation and reduced pollution. Number of capacity building trainings and guidelines, manuals, SOPs, etc. developed and applied. Access to appropriate equipment, facilities, infrastructure, etc.	
	Continue promotion and support for waste management and sanitation programmes.	Communities have proper waste management and sanitation facilities.	Number of waste management programmes/initiatives and sanitation facilities. Number of communities and members trained in waste management. Health incidence reports.	

THEME 4 FRESHWATER

Fresh water is vital to life and yet it is a finite resource. Fresh water (or freshwater) is any naturally occurring water, except seawater and brackish water, found in lakes, rivers, streams and underground.

Fresh water can easily become polluted by human activities or due to naturally occurring processes, such as erosion. Water is critical to the survival of all living organisms. Some organisms can thrive in salt water, but the great majority of higher plants and most mammals need fresh water to live.

The fresh water resource in the Solomon Islands is currently under stress as indicated through the erosion and sedimentation of streams and river systems from logging operations, subsistence cultivation on sloping lands, poor waste and sanitation management and land clearing for plantations. These affect water quality and degrade reefs, mangrove areas and coastal fisheries. There is poor understanding amongst developers and communities of the effects of land clearing, logging, erosion and downstream effects on reefs and fisheries.

Solomon Islands has abundant rainfall and water resources in nearly all provinces which could be developed to provide adequate and quality water supply to the entire population. Rivers, streams and lakes and wetlands are sources of fresh water and surface ground water.

Freshwater species are good indicators for water quality, as freshwater biodiversity is often impacted by water pollution. However, due to ongoing land development, freshwater quality and quantity has been affected and there is a need for good safeguards to protect freshwater sources.

Lower Lunnga River. Photo © Stuart Chape

FRESHWATER STRATEGIES

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Access to Fresh water	Implement SIWA 5-year Action Plan.	Review the SIWA 5-year plan in 2020, and implement.	SIWA reviewed and new plan submitted for endorsement. RWASH Policy reviewed and submitted for endorsement.	Water Resources Division - MMERE, MECDM, MHMS, MPGIS, MID, Solomon Water, councils.
	Implement RWASH Policy and National Environmental Health Strategy.	Review the RWASH Policy 2020, and implement.	More communities with improved access to fresh water.	
Access to potable water (drinking water)	Implement the SI WATSAN Policy 2017.	Develop national drinking water quality standards and guidelines. Develop proposal for increased capacity for water quality analysis (laboratories).	National standards and guidelines for safe drinking water developed by 2022. Proposal to donors 2021.	Water Resources Division - MMERE, MECDM, MHMS, MPGIS, Solomon Water, councils.
	Implement SIWA 5-year Action Plan.	Implement SIWA 5-year Action Plan.	Selected actions completed 2023.	
	Implement RWASH Policy and National Environmental Health Strategy.	Implement the WATSAN Policy 2017. Implement RWASH Policy and National Environmental Health Strategy.	Selected Actions completed 2023. Selected Actions completed 2023.	
Water quality	Develop national water quality standards and guidelines (drinking water, recreational water, and wastewater) under the Environmental Health Act, Rivers Water Act, Environment Act.	Appropriate guidelines and standards developed for water quality.	Appropriate water quality guidelines and standards endorsed and implemented e.g. national liquid waste guidelines endorsed 2020.	MMERE, MECDM, MHMS, Solomon Water; councils.
	Strengthen monitoring, enforcement and compliance in both urban and rural areas.	Increased monitoring, compliance and enforcement by relevant authorities and agencies including provincial governments and communities.	Capacity and needs assessment for training, equipment, budget, personnel, etc. for compliance and enforcement.	
	Strengthening capacity of existing laboratories (state and private) in carrying out water quality and other related analysis.	Needs and capacity assessment of existing laboratories completed in 2021.	Develop and implement budget and plan for regular monitoring and reporting. Reports on needs assessment submitted for resources (technical, finance, infrastructure, equipment, personnel, etc.) with support from donors, SIG and partners. Water quality assessments reports, maps, etc. collected, stored and disseminated.	
	Review of legislative provisions of water quality, e.g. River Waters Ordinance 1969, Environment Health Act and Regulation 1980.	Seek government endorsement on the review of legislation in 2021/2020.	Policy briefs and drafting instructions developed for legislative review.	
	Promote Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) – Ridge to Reef approaches.	Number and area of watersheds, catchments, wetlands, protected and or managed. (Include 15% target for terrestrial PAs in narrative).	IWRM-R2R initiatives, management plans, etc. implemented. Management of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)	
	Continue assessing and monitoring watersheds e.g. Mataniko, Metapono, Kongulai and other watersheds.	Integrity of watersheds and water quality intact. Improved development compliance and planning for decision-making. Continue education awareness and training on watershed management.	Assessment and monitoring reports, maps, community awareness and initiatives implemented. Research reports disseminated.	

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Atolls and low-lying islands	Increase water tanks and roof catchments in villages. Rain water harvesting and other options.	Gather households data on water tank required for villages in 2021/2022. Ongoing. Conduct Integrated Vulnerability Assessments (IVA).	Budget and plan for distribution in place. IVA reports developed and options, recommendations implemented, e.g. desalination programmes, well designs, etc.	MMERE, MECDM, MHMS, Solomon Water; councils.
	Education and awareness, training, community action plans on water conservation and management, including waste management.	Development of community action plans. Education and awareness programmes conducted.	Community action plans developed and implemented. Communities more aware of best practice for water conservation and management.	
	Install common water storage facility.	Assessment of water common storage systems completed in 2019-2023.	Number of common water storage facility. Water conservation improved. Assessment report developed. Budget and plan implemented.	
	Improve monitoring to get good data on water extraction, climate and water salinity.	Develop a plan with budget to improve monitoring system which includes data on water extraction, climate and water salinity collection by 2021/2023.	Plan submitted to government for endorsement for resource support (infrastructure and equipment, finance, etc.) and implemented.	

Lake Tegano World Heritage site, East Rennell. Photo: Edward Danitofea, ECD

THEME 6 BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity refers to the variety and variability of life in an area. Biodiversity typically measures variation at the genetic, species and ecosystem level and the variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat, a high level of which is usually considered to be important and desirable. The extraordinary, special and unique biodiversity of Solomon Islands is highly dependent on intact habitats and a low degree of disturbance. It is therefore vulnerable to loss as a result of a wide range of activities that destroy habitats, such as logging, expansion of gardens and denuding of forest, the expansion of settlements and the establishment of large plantations.

Land based activities including agriculture, forestry and mining, exert pressure on the terrestrial environment which leads to loss of biodiversity, introduction of invasive alien species and land degradation, including negatively impacting inland aquatic ecosystems and resources. Unsustainable use and practices, deforestation activities, and over-harvesting of marine resources are resulting in loss of biodiversity. Although Solomon Islands comprises some of the most diverse ecosystems in the world (World Bank 2007), little attention is given to biodiversity and environmental conservation except for a few initiatives. Plant and animal life in Solomon Islands are of regional and international importance e.g. high endemism of plants and animals, providing opportunities to study evolution and speciation.

The SI NBSAP (revised) provides the overarching framework for biodiversity, aligned with a commitment to the UNCBD. This includes the Aichi Targets and Nagoya Protocol aimed at ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The NEMS is aligned to the SI NBSAP.

Upper Lunnga River. Photo © Stuart Chape

BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Invasive species	Support implementation of the Biosecurity Act (2013) and other regulations addressing entry, movement or spread of invasive species.	Biosecurity Act implementation. Improve collaboration between agencies for biosecurity and border control.	Agency joint enforcement strengthened. Database and registry of enforcement in place. Annual reports on implementation.	MECDM, MFR, MAL, MFMR, MCA, RSIPF, SPREP, PILN, BSI, Port Authority, SICED, provincial governments, communities and development partners.
	Strengthen capacity of ECD, Forestry bio-security port and customs security, police and other relevant agencies to control imports and domestic movement of invasive species.	Government agencies, provincial governments and other partners working together to control of invasive species.	Protection of endemic flora and fauna. Control of invasive species and effective clearance of cargo.	
	Develop and implement invasive species SOPs, guidelines, protocols under the Biosecurity Act.	Invasive species SOPs, guidelines, protocols, etc. developed (incorporating NBSAP targets) from 2020.	SOPs, guidelines and protocols in place and operational. Effective management and systems in place.	
	Support implementation of the programme of actions set out in the NBSAP (Target 10, Actions 10. A-C.) and through Biosecurity Solomon Islands.	Ongoing implementation of NBSAP.	Increase technical and financial resources for NBSAP.	
	Finalise, endorse and implement the National Invasive Species Action Plan (NISAP).	Finalised, endorsed and implemented. National legislation on invasive species are harmonised. Improved coordination and collaboration at national level for effective management of invasive species. Strengthened capacities of relevant authorities including traditional leaders and communities for invasive species management, monitoring and eradication. Improve knowledge on the status of invasive species, their impacts and ways to address them. To raise awareness on invasive species at political level, amongst communities and schools on the negative impacts of invasive species. Central database established for invasive species.	Number of strategic actions implemented to control and reduce spread and outbreaks of invasive species. Number of regional and global partnership for NISAP. Gap assessment and protocols in place. Provincial ordinance in place to support inter-island bio-security work. National Invasive Species Committee in place and functional. Protocol and procedures in place. Capacity development programme conducted for stakeholders. Baseline information on invasive species updated.	
Terrestrial areas managed and conserved	Support the establishment, management and declaration of terrestrial protected areas under the Protected Areas Act 2010, FTRU Act and other legislation or ordinances that promote terrestrial protected conservation areas.	10% of terrestrial areas protected by legislation or through recognised community-based management frameworks.	Implement relevant NBSAP targets relating to protected areas, including the target of 10% terrestrial area protected by 2020 (Target 12: Actions A–F). Provincial ordinance developed to support the establishment of community protected areas.	MECDM, MFR, MAL, MFMR, BSI, SPREP, CBD, IUCN, NGOs, Protected Area management committees.
	Implement the GEF5 and GEF6 projects which promote sustainable land use planning, sustainable forestry management and the establishment and management of protected areas.	Increase number of terrestrial protected areas under the protected areas Act and other mechanisms.	GEF5 target of 5% terrestrial area protected in addition to GEF6 target of 2% terrestrial area protected.	

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Terrestrial areas managed and conserved	Review and update the Protected Areas Act 2010 and its regulations (2012) to address gaps in enforcement (fines, incentives for rangers/ inspectors and management committees).	Protected area network established based on the Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs), Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), and Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs).	Implementation of the national protected areas work programme. Protected area registry developed, updated and used for tracking and monitoring and planning purposes. Effective management and enforcement in PA by rangers, management committees and other stakeholders. Updated regulation on fines, fees and processes. Establishment of the Protected Areas Trust Fund. Increased technical and funding support for management of protected areas (e.g. local rangers).	MECDM, MFR, MAL, MFMR, BSI, SPREP, CBD, IUCN, NGOs, Protected Area management committees.
	Promote sustainable land use planning at national, provincial and community level.	Increase resources and management of protected areas.		
	Enforce update and revise) Town and Country Planning Act.	Zoning of land development strengthened.	Control development in town planning area.	
	Continue the support and management of the East Rennell World Heritage Site (ERWHS).	Improved governance and management for World Heritage Site. Communities provided with small scale economic and sustainable livelihood programmes. Promote East Rennell as an Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) through tourism branding and products. Corrective measures for In-Danger List implemented and enforced.	Management plans developed and implemented. ER Lake Tegano world heritage committee functional. Livelihood initiatives and programmes, projects implemented. SIG Core Team for World Heritage functional and strengthened. Number and progress of corrective measures addressed and ERWHS removed from In-Danger List.	
	Increase knowledge and information through bio-research, bio-prospecting and ecological studies for terrestrial areas.	Continuous bio-research, bio-prospecting and ecological studies reporting and updating of database. Increased knowledge on biodiversity and research reports produced for terrestrial areas.	Improved bio-research and prospecting systems, protocols and permit system. Access Benefit Sharing (ABS) framework developed and integrated in research permit system. Improved capacity of MECDM, provincial governments and partners to regulate bio-research and prospecting. National, regional and international research collaborations and networking.	LLEE, IUCN, OPMC, MECDM, MEHRD, MCT, MMERE, MFR, MFMR, MID, provincial government, ER Lake Tegano Management Committee and other partners.
Threatened, endangered and endemic terrestrial species	Develop comprehensive regulatory controls to address activities e.g. deforestation, unsustainable harvesting that have adverse effects on threatened, endangered and endemic terrestrial species.	Comprehensive review of legislation and regulations applying to extractive activities.	Review completed and regulatory controls endorsed and enforced by government and partners.	MECDM, MFR, MAL, MFMR, BSI.
	Implement relevant provisions and targets in the NBSAP (Target 13) and relevant actions. Develop, promote and support implementation of threatened and endangered species conservation and management programmes.	Relevant targets and actions implemented. Maintenance, recovery of species population. Development of species recovery and conservation management plans, establishment of species management facilities e.g. Santa Cruz ground dove, Solomon Islands monkey-tailed skink, butterfly, crocodile.	Improved status or recovery of species population. Species recovery and conservation management plans implemented.	
	Control and regulate trade, harvest and management of the wildlife.	Increase capacity and resources for management of threatened species (including monitoring and enforcement) from 2020.	Resources and capacity increased. Monitoring and enforcement implemented.	

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Threatened, endangered and endemic terrestrial species	Establish and manage terrestrial protected areas, particularly for endangered and critically endangered species.	Number of endangered and critically endangered species under PA management and protection.	Regulation for The Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998, amended 2017, endorsed and enforced. Improved conservation status of the threatened and endangered species.	MECDM, MFR, MAL, MFMR, BSI.
	Implement education actions outlined in the NBSAP under Theme 2: Species conservation.	Ongoing education and awareness programmes for communities, schools, provinces and other stakeholders	Number of research studies conducted. Awareness programmes conducted and material produced and used.	
	Establish monitoring and rehabilitation programmes for priority threatened and endangered species (*in-situ*; and *ex-situ*).	Monitoring and rehabilitation guidelines developed. Effective protection and management of wildlife.	Captive breeding facilities established for recovery and rehabilitation. Number of species targeted for recovery and rehabilitation species programme.	
	Encourage research and knowledge sharing of SI species biodiversity.	Conduct population and distribution, Non-detrimental findings (NDF) and flora and fauna species survey. Develop field guides, manuals, SOPs. Build national expertise through engagement of locals through research participation, practitioners networks and scholarships.	Species database of population and distribution, GIS maps, NDF reports developed and shared/ disseminate Field guides, manuals and SOPs developed and used. Network or database of local experts and professionals.	
	Develop appropriate legislation to address domestic trade, harvest and management of local native wildlife.	Control and regulate domestic trade, harvest and management of the wildlife.	Legislation developed and endorsed.	
	Review forestry legislation and develop legislative amendments.	Improved environmental governance in forestry to ensure, healthy forest ecosystems and sustainability of forest industry. Develop proposals for improved and strengthened enforcement and coordination across departments and agencies. Harmonise legislation for protection of the forests, forest ecosystems and sensitive areas.	Legislative amendments in place and implemented. Improved collaborative monitoring, compliance and enforcement of regulatory requirements. Enforcement and alignment of Forestry Act and Environment Act and other relevant sectors.	
	Increase protection of selected forest areas.	Prepare protected areas roadmap.	Task force to review enforcement in forestry and natural resource sectors. Prepare proposals for government 2021.	
	Develop a National Sustainable Forests Management and Development Policy.	% Reduction of Forest degradation and deforestation. A national sustainable forests management and development policy implemented.	REDD+ programme implemented. Development Consent (EIA process), felling license (timber rights hearing etc.) and other permit processes harmonised and strengthened. Promote polluter-pays based policies. Expand Forest rehabilitation, re-afforestation and enrichment planting to enhance forest carbon stocks. Promote downstream processing of timber and ban round-log exports.	

THEME 7 BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Built environment refers to the human-made surroundings that provide the setting for human activities. It is defined as 'the human-made space in which people live, work and recreate on a day-to-day basis'. The built environment describes the artificial, man-made structures in which we live, work and play. All artificial surfaces, including buildings, roads, airports, sports fields and stadiums, etc. come under the heading of the built environment. The built environment significantly affects the environment and public health.

For this NEMS, the built environment addresses the improvement and strengthening of urban management, including provincial centres or substations). It also looks at key economic development areas (e.g. Gold-Ridge, Tina Hydro, Noro, Munda) in terms of water, waste and public services; improvement of development consent; upgrading of energy services, and improved sanitation. Urban areas are usually an economic hub and face a lot of socio-economic, physical, and political or governance issues, that impact on the built environment. The strategies for Theme 7: Built Environment are reflected below.

BUILT ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIES

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Urban area	Manage effects of increased urban area and population across issues including: Water and sanitation Waste management Public services Land tenure arrangements	Develop whole city approach to managing urban centres with a focus on Honiara and expand to other provincial urban centres and substations. Use EIA, SEA and IEA.	Joint planning and coordination mechanisms established for urban areas. Zoning plans, land use plans, etc. developed, implemented and applied in all urban planning.	PMO, MECDM, MHMS, HCC, MLHS, MID, MPGIS, MNPDC, Solomon Water, Solomon Power.
	Implement greening of urban cities and towns.	Green spaces created in the city.	Green spaces are created and used.	
	Develop strategic environment assessment (SEA) guidelines for urban planning and development.	Mainstreaming environmental considerations, climate risks and DRR into policies, plans and developments.	SEA guidelines applied in the planning and development (e.g. infrastructure) of urban areas.	
Manage waste	Resources to implement National Waste Management and Pollution Control Strategy 2017-2026: Improve sewer line and sewer treatment. Private waste water companies to provide data to the councils. Waste management systems improved. Strengthen awareness. Improve governance systems for waste water treatment and management. Set up waste water/ sewage treatment facilities. Resources to implement the SINIP. Strengthen enforcement and compliance of legal frameworks. Establish economic instruments for waste management.	Develop proposals for improved waste management guided by the National Waste Management and Pollution Control Strategy 2017-2026, for donor support. Develop SWM plans for urban centres and substations. Waste management studies (characterisations, time and motion, etc.) conducted. Develop communication and awareness strategy. Treatment facilities for urban centres established. Economic instruments in place. Review and develop environment ordinances for provinces. Develop landfills.	Additional donor support from 2021. Proposals developed for improved waste management. SWM plan developed and fully budgeted. Number of waste characterisation studies, time and motion, etc. conducted and reports produced. Communication strategy developed and implemented. Pre-feasibility studies on economic instruments conducted. Options presented to SIG. Environment Ordinances developed, implemented and enforced. Number of landfills established for urban centres.	

Buena VIsta island, Solomon Islands. Photo © Stuart Chape

Action Area	Strategies	Targets	Performance indicator	Implementing partners
Energy	Data collection on energy consumption per person.	Develop data collection procedures.	Data collection and report produced. Key elements of Energy Policy implemented 2021.	MECDM, MHMS, HCC, , MID, MPGIS,, MNPDC, MMERE - Energy Division,, Solomon Power,, Private Sector.
	Implement the Solomon Islands National Energy Policy 2019.	Identify key elements of the strategy to implement.		
Sanitation	Reintroduce the subsidy system on sanitation facilities for rural communities.	Submit cabinet paper for endorsement of subsidy system for the improvement of toilet facilities in 2020.	Subsidy system endorsed and public awareness implemented.	PMO, MECDM, MHMS, HCC, MLHS, MID, MPGIS, MNPDC, Solomon Water, Solomon Power.
	Sanitation improved country wide.	Develop a National Sanitation Master Plan. Project Idea Notes (PIN) for future sanitation projects. Accessibility and availability of materials for sanitation facilities.	National Sanitation Master plan developed by 2021. Develop PIN in 2019/2020. PIN endorsed and ready for submission to donor agencies.	
	Awareness-raising on improvement to toilet facilities.	Ongoing awareness.	Improved toilet facilities in urban centres and urban-rural comparison.	
	Capacity building.	Institutional strengthening programme developed.	Institutions strengthened. Effective multi-stakeholder engagement on awareness.	
Health	Strengthen awareness on health conditions such as diarrhoea, malaria, water related diseases and respiratory infections. Undertake tracing on the causes of disease outbreaks in existing developments.	Review implementation of awareness plans and programmes for each disease. Research conducted on environment-health related diseases.	Trends in airborne and water borne diseases. Number of research studies on environment-health related diseases.	
	Improvement of Health Services and Facilities and environment-related activities.	Improved health services and environment facilities, programmes, capacity and resources (medical stock, finance, equipment, etc.).	Access to health facilities are well resourced. Reduction in communicable diseases.	

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

With limited human resources, technology and funding, the role of external and development partners cannot be understated. Any assistance will be guided by the principles and values as outlined in the NEMS. The NEMS will also guide the ECD submission on its yearly budget needs to government and provide information for national project developments to be submitted for external funding.

Storage facility in Guadalcanal

Gold Ridge Mine pit. Photos: Edward Danitofea, ECD

5. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND REVIEW

The implementation of the NEMS will take effect when it is approved by government. Operational performance indicators will be monitored and reviewed annually by the MECDM and other lead agencies, based on the thematic areas. This will act as a tracking tool and reporting on the national Sustainable Development Goals, targets and indicators, the SAMOA Pathway, regional and global Multi-lateral Environment Agreements ratified by the Solomon Islands Government.

Coordination and collaboration of all government ministries, municipal agencies, non-government actors and external partners will be critical to successful implementation of the NEMS. The monitoring and review of the NEMS will be headed by the Permanent Secretary for Environment supported by ECD and heads of other sectors, organisations, industries and institutions.

Review of the NEMS will be carried out yearly with a report submitted to government for information and decisions. The final national review will occur at the end of 2023, and coincide with the production of the next State of Environment report and NEMS.

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Solomon Islands Climate Change Policy 2012-2017, Solomon Islands Government through the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM), 2012.

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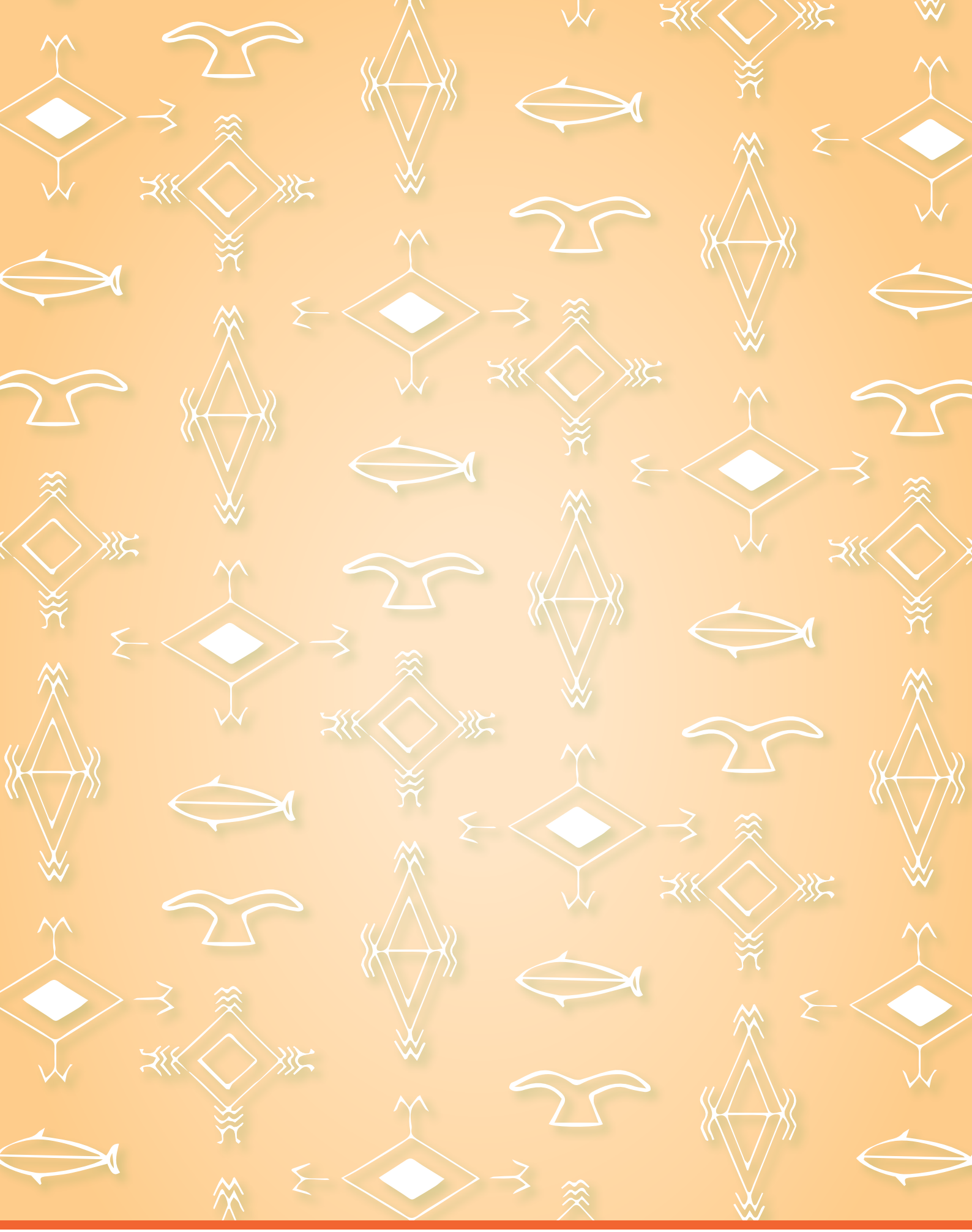
Palm Oil Plantation in Guadalcanal. Photo © Stuart Chape



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ACP MEAs 2

The Nature Conservancy