



ECO-BAG CAMPAIGN: ALTERNATIVE TO PLASTIC BAGS PILOT PROJECT HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS



This report is prepared by:

Environment Unit

Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management & Meteorology

P.O.Box 21

Honiara

Solomon Islands

Tel: (677) 23031/ 26036

Fax: (677) 28054/ 23029

Email: Environment-Helpdesk@mecm.gov.sb

Year: 2015

Contents

Acknowledgement.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.0. Introduction	3
1.1. Background.....	4
1.2. Aims and objectives	5
2.0. Institutional Arrangements	6
2.1. Honiara City Council Markets Bill 2009.....	6
2.2. Honiara City Council Litter Ordinance 2009	6
2.3. <i>Environment Act 1998 and Environment Regulation 2008</i>	6
2.4. Wildlife Protection & Management Act 1998 and Regulation 2008	6
2.5. Protected Areas Act 2010 and Regulation 2012	6
2.6. Shipping Act	7
2.7. Ports Act	7
2.8. Quarantine Act.....	7
2.9. National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2009-2015).....	7
3.0. METHODOLOGY.....	8
3.1. Stakeholders Consultation.....	8
3.2. Initial Public Opinions Survey	8
3.3. Awareness Approach	8
3.4. Monitoring Survey /Assessment	9
4.0. Result and Analysis	10
4.1. Public Opinions on Method of Awareness Approach	10
4.2. Monitoring Survey on Eco-Bag Campaign at Honiara Central Market.....	11
4.3. Willingness to use Eco-Bags over Plastic Bags.....	14
4.4. Issues	14
5.0: CHALLENGES/ISSUES	15
5.1. Technical questions	15
5.2. Public Attitude	15
5.3. Focus of Eco-Bag Campaign	15
5.4. Public Awareness Approach	15
6.0. Recommendations.....	16
6.1. Enforcement of Legislation / Ordinance	16
6.2. Public Awareness and Education	16
6.3. Public-Private Partnership	16
7.0. CONCLUSION	17
8.0. Reference.....	18
ANNEX 1: Initial Eco-Bag Survey Questionnaire (sample).....	19
ANNEX 2: ECO-BAG BROCHURE	21
ANNEX 3: ECO-BAG POSTERS	23
ANNEX 4: ECO-BAG POWERPOINT PRESENTATION	25
ANNEX 5: MONITERING SHEET (sample)	27

Acknowledgement

The pilot project would not have been completed if it were not for the following people and organizations for their contributions and effort put into the implementation of this program as follows;

- The Project Management team and the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management, and Meteorology (MECDM) for coordinating the project activities
- The Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) and the Honiara City Council (HCC) for their collaboration as co- partners to implement this project.
- The Honiara Market Master and staff for supporting the program in terms of availing the use of the market PA system and grounds for awareness talks to the general public.
- Placidah Riahkeni, Enoch Faabusu and Kennedy Rohoi, three volunteers engaged by the Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology for implementing the project activities (awareness raising, initial survey and monitoring assessment survey. Without their tireless effort this project activities would not have been implemented.
- The market vendors, general public at the Honiara Central Market for their time and opinion in participating in the surveys and awareness raising.
- Any other person or individuals who have rendered their support towards the implementation of this pilot program at Honiara Central Market in Honiara.

Finally, the project would like to convey sincere appreciation to France Development Agency (AFD) in partnership with Secretariat Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). Without the financial support towards the implementation of this project, the successful implementation of the program would not have been possible.

1.0. INTRODUCTION

The Eco-Bag Campaign: Alternative to Plastic Bags Project is a pilot project under the regional project financed under the France Development Agency (AFD) and implemented by Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The aim of this AFD Regional Solid Waste Initiative is to build the capacity of the Pacific Island countries to manage wastes through vocational training, and also to improve the management of waste oil (lubricants) in the pacific islands region.

One of the components of this regional project vocational training is to provide funding support to selected trainees to develop and implement a project in their respective countries worth of USD 5000. As such, one of the trainees from the Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) developed a proposal for a project titled “Eco-Bag Campaign” upon return to the country. The proposal was approved for the implementation of the pilot project at Honiara Central Market. Initial implementation of the pilot project on Eco-Bag Campaign was then conducted in 2014.

The Ministry of Environment (MECDM) as the leading stakeholder in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health & Medical Services and Honiara City Council recognizes the need to address the issue of plastic wastes. It was then agreed that that the urgent issue that needs to be addressed is the plastic bag reduction campaign through the promotion of friendly eco-bags to minimize the use and sale of plastic bags in the Honiara City.

The pilot project was implemented with the expectation that it will enhance the capacity of the waste management team to strategically raise awareness on the negative impacts of plastic bags on the environment, health and tourism sector. Through the implementation of the project, one of the expected outputs is the reduce use and or sale of plastic bags at the Honiara Central Market. The project will also facilitate the launching of the Eco-Bag Campaign during which the eco-bags design and logo will be promoted. To ensure the sustainability of the project, the eco-bags will be demonstrated through public awareness raisings to get the interest of women to develop their own designs of the eco-bag which can be sold locally.

This report presents the outcomes of the Eco-Bag: Alternative to Plastic Bags pilot project which was implemented at the Honiara Central Market from April to November of 2014. The components of the report takes into consideration the data collected from the first initial public opinions survey and the final monitoring survey of the project at the Honiara Central Market. The report also contains the main findings and some of the challenges during the implementation of the pilot project. Furthermore, it will draw a conclusion and provide some recommendations based on public overview and general views.

1.1. BACKGROUND

Solomon Islands have been faced with Plastic bags waste and it is a major concern for the growing population in the capital city of Honiara. A waste characterization study in 2011 found that, plastic bags make up 12% of the waste at the Ranadi dumpsite. This percentage does not take into consideration the other percentage of wastes that are either burned and or dumped illegally into the rivers or streams and the curbside. Plastic bag is one of the common litters found on the streets, along the shorelines, drainages and backyards in many areas in the Honiara City.

The crude dumping of the plastic bags into the environment also threatened marine species such as sea turtles and other terrestrial and marine life. It also poses a significant health threats as it can store water and become breeding grounds for mosquitoes and other insects and animals that can transmit vector-borne diseases such as Malaria and Dengue fever. Burning of plastics releases harmful chemicals into the atmosphere such as dioxins that is carcinogenic and persist in the Environment for a long time.

The littering of plastic waste in the environment negatively impacts on the tourism industry in the Country. It is an eye sore for the general public and tourists that are visiting the country. This hinders the potential for income revenue for the economic development of the country. Without the proper management of the wastes, it will cost the National Government millions of dollars for major cleaning up program and awareness raising programs.

Honiara City was identified as the pilot site for the implementation of the Eco-Bag: Alternative to Plastic Bags Pilot Program due to its location. Honiara City also hosts one of the biggest fresh produce and fish markets in the country that operates seven days a week. Within the market facility are small lock-up shops that are leased out by the Honiara Market Division under the Honiara City Council to any interested individuals. The main form of carry bags that are sold at these lock-up shops and by market vendors within the market facility are the plastic shopping bags (Figure 1).

Map of Honiara City

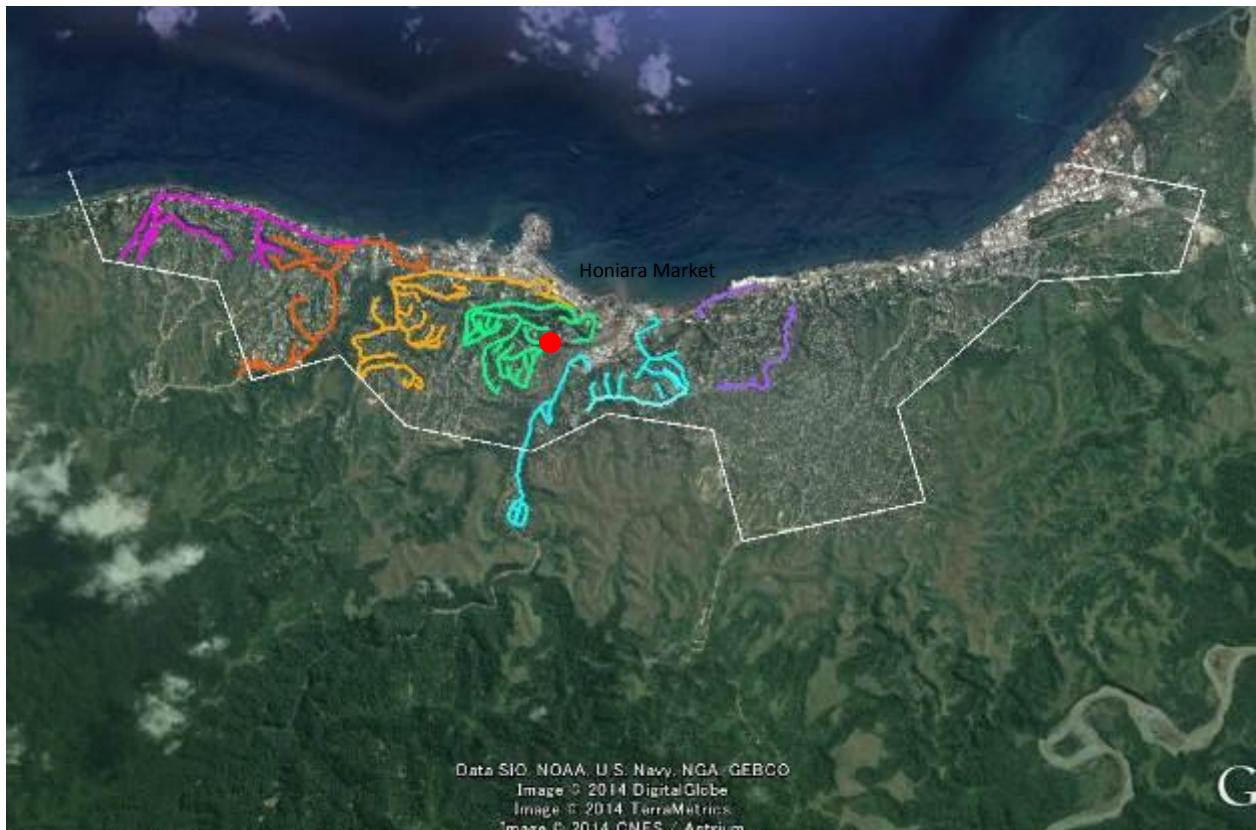


Figure 1: Map of Honiara City waste collection route (Source: Kishimoto, 2014)

1.2. Aims and objectives

The overall objective of this Eco-Bag Campaign project is that the sale and or use of plastic shopping bags is reduced or minimized at the Honiara Central Market. Thus, the main aim of the monitoring assessment is to find out the general public views and opinions with regards to changes or improvements relating to the promotion of Eco-Bags at the Honiara Central Market.

As such, the objectives of the monitoring assessment survey include;

- ❖ Get the publics' feedback on method of awareness conducted at the market.
- ❖ General observation of improvement of Eco-bag at the market by ECD Volunteers.
- ❖ Public overall observation of implementation of Eco-bag at the market.

2.0. Institutional Arrangements

2.1. Honiara City Council Markets Bill 2009

The Honiara City Council Markets Bill 2009 is an ordinance under the Honiara City Council is made pursuant to sections 34 and 35 of the Honiara City Act 1999 (Act No.2 of 1999). This ordinance makes provision for the regulation of Public Markets in Honiara City and for related purposes. It is enacted by the Honiara City Council.

2.2. Honiara City Council Litter Ordinance 2009

The Honiara City Council Litter Ordinance 2009 is an ordinance under the Honiara City Council which makes provision for individuals and business houses within the Honiara City to provide a proper waste receptacle or waste bin storage for proper waste collection.

2.3. Environment Act 1998 and Environment Regulation 2008

The Environment Act 1998 is an [a]ct which makes provision for the protection and conservation of the Environment; the establishment of the Environment and Conservation Division and the Environment Advisory Committee and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Act is enacted by the National Parliament of Solomon Islands and consisted of three parts. Part three of the Act covers Development Control, Environmental Impact Assessment, Review and Monitoring.

2.4. Wildlife Protection & Management Act 1998 and Regulation 2008

The Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998 and Regulations 2008 makes provision for [t]he protection, conservation and management of wildlife in Solomon Islands by regulating the Export and Import of certain animals and plants; to comply with the obligations imposed upon Solomon Islands under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wildlife in flora and fauna and for other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Act comprised of five parts and was enacted by the National Parliament in 1998.

2.5. Protected Areas Act 2010 and Regulation 2012

The Protected Areas Act 2010 and Regulation 2012 was enacted by the National Parliament of Solomon Islands in 2010 and 2012. This Act makes provision for the Declaration and Management of Protected Areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity and the regulation of biological diversity and prospecting research and for matters related thereto.

2.6. Shipping Act

An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to shipping and seaman and to control the registration, safety and manning of ships, and to give effect to certain international maritime conventions, and for other purposes connected therewith.

2.7. Ports Act

An Act to provide for the establishment of a corporation to be known as the Solomon Islands Ports Authority, for the transfer to the authority of certain of the port and harbor undertakings of the Government, for the functions of the authority and for purposes connected with the matters aforesaid.

2.8. Quarantine Act

An act to make provisions for the prevention of introduction of disease in the Solomon Islands through the importation or landing of animals, plants and other things and preventing the introduction of pests and invasive plants; for incoming vessels and aircrafts to provide notice of entrances into Solomon Islands; and for connected purposes.

2.9. National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2009-2015)

The National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2009-2015) is a strategy that is developed as a mechanism from which waste management activities can be drawn out. This strategy mainly focuses on achieving the following objectives;

- Develop and implement a national waste management policies
- Review all existing regulations relating to waste management and draft specific legislation on waste management
- Promote waste minimization in all aspects of development.
- Improve and upgrade existing waste management and disposal systems
- Look at ways of improving waste management awareness and education activities
- Provide relevant documented information for politicians and stakeholders and make them aware of the need for their support in waste management
- Provide a guideline template for rural and community level to practice waste management

3.0. METHODOLOGY

There were several approaches used to collect data and implement the Eco-Bag campaign project at Honiara Central Market. The method used for collecting of data was through use of questionnaires and public opinions. Other information's are collected from the past report (plastic bag and eco-bag survey report).

3.1. Stakeholders Consultation

Prior to the initial start of the pilot project, consultation was conducted internally and externally with stakeholder partner's involvement in the project. A presentation was delivered at the Honiara City Council heads of divisional meeting held on April 1st 2014 at the Honiara City Council Chambers to get the approval and awareness in the program. Another consultation meeting was also conducted with the waste management team in Honiara for possible support in the project.

3.2. Initial Public Opinions Survey

A public opinions survey was conducted by three volunteers engaged by the Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology. The first initial survey to collect data based on market vendors and public was initially implemented in May 2014 due to the interference of Flash Floods in April 2014. A survey questionnaire (Annex 1) was developed to collect relevant information. The purpose of this survey is to collect information on number of plastic bags sold at the market and the cost when sold by vendors and retail outlets. Its objective is to raise awareness on the impacts of plastic bags on the environment; to minimize use of plastic shopping bags and to promote the use of Eco-friendly alternatives such as Eco-Bags. The information on the public opinions survey was also utilized to compare any changes before and after the pilot project is implemented.

3.3. Awareness Approach

The approach undertaken to conduct education and awareness raising for market vendors and general public under this program includes use of printed literature such as brochures (Annex 2) and posters (Annex 3), public awareness talks, Powerpoint presentations (Annex 4), use of PA system and display of environment video clip and types of eco-bags. The awareness campaign went throughout from the month of May until November 2014. A radio script for media awareness and radio health show on the national radio SIBC was also prepared but was not implemented due to some delay with logistic arrangements with the Health Promotion team in the Ministry of Health and Medical Services.



Figure 2, 3, and 4: Face to face awareness talks at Honiara Central Market



Figure 5, 6, and 7: Awareness using PA system and Powerpoint presentation and display of video clips

3.4. Monitoring Survey /Assessment

A monitoring assessment survey (Annex 5) was implemented by the three volunteers engaged by the Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology from 22nd October to 5th November 2014. Participants were randomly selected to participate in the survey. A total of 46 surveys were done randomly at the Honiara Central Market.

4.0. Result and Analysis

4.1. Public Opinions on Method of Awareness Approach

The three different approaches of awareness raising conducted at the Honiara Central Market on the Eco-Bag Campaign is through the use of 15 minutes awareness talks on the PA system, display of printed materials such as posters and brochures and finally distribution of printed materials with explanations within and surrounding the market.



Figure 8: Awareness using
Using PA System



Figure 9: Awareness using
Visual presentations



Figure 10: Awareness raising
by handing out materials

It was discovered that the first method of awareness approach using the electronic Public Address (PA system) system was not really helpful in disseminating information. The reason being that the Market is a venue for buying and trading as such there is a lot of noise and the PA system speaker is not loud enough for the entire public present at the market to listen to the awareness talks that are going on. Most often the market vendors and public at the market do not bother to listen due to the loud noise.

The other method of awareness conducted is the display of literature printed materials like the posters and brochures. Visual presentation using the power point presentation and showing of environment video clips is also implemented. From observation during the implementation of this second method of awareness program, it is found that it attracts a lot of the public at the market. However, the venue used to implement this awareness raising is not suitable as the light from the sun creates a problem for the video show making it not clear to watch the environment videos. Additionally, when it is windy the projector screen used for showing the video and Powerpoint presentation is not stable whilst the volunteers are doing the awareness presentation. It is also found that information only pass to those who move around near the market area but not all the market vendors or public .

Due to the observation found with method two, the third awareness approach which involves distribution of brochures, posters with some explanation about the awareness materials is conducted. With this method, it was found that most vendors or public are able to clarify any queries or information on the impacts of plastic bags and eco-bags on the environment. Most vendors and the public have stated that if the programme should continue then this third approach would be more effective.

Some have suggested that use of media would be an effective method for disseminating information on the eco-bag campaign. The volunteers have prepared short scripts for media but due to time limitation and internal logistics between the Health Promotion departments at the Ministry of Health & Medical Services, the recording for the short scrip awareness was not recorded.

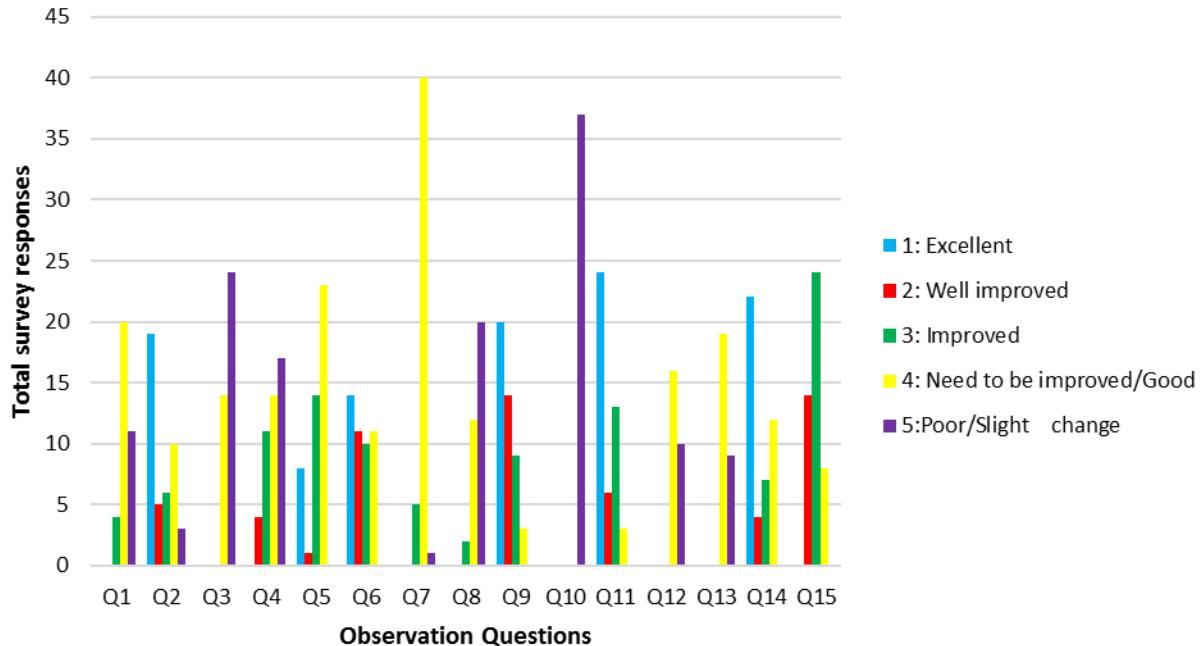
4.2. Monitoring Survey on Eco-Bag Campaign at Honiara Central Market

A total of 46 surveys (Annex 5) were conducted at the Honiara Central Market by the three volunteers engaged by the Ministry to conduct a monitoring survey of the pilot project. Table 1 below indicates the general observation of interviewee's observation on the eco-bag campaign's implementation at Honiara Market.

Table 1: Survey Responses on general observations on Eco-Bag Campaign

Descriptions	Survey Responses				
	1	2	3	4	5
1-Plastic Bag littering	0	0	4	20	11
2-public attitude towards IEC materials at market	19	5	6	10	3
3-use plastic bags for shopping	0	0	0	14	24
4-use of eco-bags for shopping	0	4	11	14	17
5-public response towards pilot program	8	1	14	23	0
6-public response towards IEC materials	14	11	10	11	0
7-Stakeholders involvement in program	0	0	5	40	1
8-Media Promotion	0	0	2	12	20
9-Awareness raising in program	20	14	9	3	0
10-Purchase/sale of plastic bags at market	0	0	0	0	37
11-Method of awareness program conducted	24	6	13	3	0
12-Public compliance to existing legislation	0	0	0	16	10
13-Enforcement of existing legislation	0	0	0	19	9
14-General public involvement & participation in program	22	4	7	12	0
15-Sustainability of pilot program	0	14	24	8	0

Graph 1: General Observation Survey Responses on Eco-Bag Campaign 2014



Graph 1 indicates the responses from the monitoring survey on the overall implementation of eco-bag pilot program at the market which is similar to the responses in Table 1. Based on the survey, it shows that although the project implementation was good there needs to be more improvement on the eco-bag campaign. The survey responses also indicate that there is some improvements on the vicinity of the market. However, majority of the responses observed that there is only a slight change or no reduction in the purchase or sale of plastic bags at the market.

The survey also indicates according to the table 1 and graph 1 that there is still a need for improvement on plastic bag littering at the market vicinity. Although the public have at hand awareness materials the use of plastic bags for shopping at the market needs to improve or minimized. There are not many people using eco-bag when shopping at the market and this may be due to lack of availability of eco-bags at the market. Public response towards the pilot program was good but needs more involvement of the public.



Figure 11: wastes at central market
Photo by: Placyda. Riahnikeni



Figure 12: Plastic wastes along the drainage.
Photo by: Placyda. Riahnikeni

During the project's implementation it was identified that stakeholders involvement in the program was lacking. The promotion of eco-bag in the media was also very poor in that public are only aware of the pilot project and impacts of plastic bags to human health and environment at the market. The response received in terms of public compliance to existing legislations indicates that there is a need for more awareness raising and consultation. Some of the likely reasons are that the public are not aware of the market ordinance, there is a lack of enforcement and so people just ignore them. In-terms of sustainability of the pilot program, survey indicates that there is a possibility for the project to be extended or to be expanded to another pilot site or focus site.

4.3. Willingness to use Eco-Bags over Plastic Bags

From the monitoring assessment, results shows that majority of the responses are willing to use eco-bags over plastic bags if the bags are available at the market.

4.4. Issues

Some of the major issues highlighted during the monitoring survey include;

- Poor Public Attitude towards Solid Waste Management
- Poor coordination of relevant agencies
- Lack of effective awareness
- Lack of media promotion
- Lack of enforcement of existing legislations

5.0: CHALLENGES/ISSUES

As it is the case faced in most project implementation, there are also some major challenges or issues that have been identified throughout the implementation of the Eco-Bag: Alternative to Plastic Bags campaign at Honiara Central Market.

5.1. Technical questions

Most questions asked are answered but when the question sounds technical, that is where we find words to say. In such case we will just refer their questions back to the officers for further and clearer answers.

5.2. Public Attitude

Some people seem to be acting disrespectful by the way they respond when we answer their questions. Some said we are wasting our time and money to talk about those things. The public will not act on what we are trying to carry out. That gives us a bit down hearted but we accept it and see as a lesson learn for us.

5.3. Focus of Eco-Bag Campaign

Disappointment with focus area of campaign the vendors and public also stress their disappointment that the campaign should be carried out at other market areas as well, not at central market itself. They added that the Chinese shops should be the most targeted areas, because they are the ones who import plastic bags. Not the vendors.

5.4. Public Awareness Approach

Most vendors are very busy thus they don't want to waste time with us. Also too crowded in the market place and noises, we find it difficult to explain the information to the group of people.

6.0. Recommendations

6.1. Enforcement of Legislation / Ordinance

There are some existing legislation and ordinance under the Honiara City Council and some line ministries relating to waste management in the country that needs to be enforced effectively to regulate and minimize the importation of plastic bags into the country. The Market Ordinance Bill 2009 particularly prohibits the sale of some products not to be sold at the market facility. Such ordinance and legislation need to be effectively enforced to reduce the importation or sale of plastic shopping bags at the market or in the country.

6.2. Public Awareness and Education

Public needs to change their attitude towards solid waste management. There is more effort required to implement effective public awareness campaign. The program should also be piloted at other markets in the provinces and to the retail outlets or shops. The program is recommended to be extended to continue the eco-bag campaign.

6.3. Public-Private Partnership

There is an association of Market Vendors that works with Honiara City Council to clean up the market voluntarily. It is recommended that the council and other stakeholders to continue to work closely with such group to continue the Eco-Bag Campaign.

7.0. CONCLUSION

The Eco-Bag Pilot Project was successfully implemented despite a lot of challenges. Importation of plastic bags into the country and lack of enforced legislations or local ordinance are some of the issues that the Government and relevant stakeholders need to take action and address. In the meantime, local authorities and partners in the project need to continue with the eco-bag campaign. Public should be provided access to relevant information on the impacts of plastic bags to the human health and environment. Alternative options for plastic bags needs to be made available for general public.

8.0. Reference

Honiara City Council. 2010. *Honiara Litter Ordinance 2009*, Honiara.

Honiara City Council, (2009) *Honiara City Council Markets Bill 2009*, Honiara.

Kishimoto, N (2014) *Map of Honiara City Waste Collection Routes*, LEAF Project, Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Solomon Islands Government, (1996) *Agriculture Quarantine Act 1996*, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Honiara

Solomon Islands Government. 2009. *National Solid Waste Management Strategy 2009-2014*. Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology, Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Solomon Islands Government.1998. *Environment Act 1998*.Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology, Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Solomon Islands Government.1998.*Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998*. Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology, Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Solomon Islands Government. 1998. *Protected Areas Act 1998*. Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology, Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Solomon Islands Government.1990. *Ports Act 1990*. Ministry of Infrastructure and Development, Honiara.

Solomon Islands Government. 1998. *Shipping Act 1998*. Ministry of Infrastructure and Development, Honiara, Solomon Islands.

ANNEX 1: Initial Eco-Bag Survey Questionnaire (sample)

Section 1: General Information & Demographics

Initial Name: _____ Place of Residence:

Age range: _____ Occupation:

Province: _____ Sex:

Section 2: Waste Management Questions

Q1. Do you know what is waste management is ? (Low, moderate, high)

Q2. How often do you use plastic bags for per week and for what purpose? (once, twice, daily)

Q3. Is it good for us to throw our wastes or plastics everywhere ? Yes/No

Q4. How do you manage your wastes /rubbish or plastics at household?

(Burn/Throw in waste bins/ back yards compost/ placed in bags or plastics/ crude dumping (throw in river, stream, road, bush), others)

Q5. Do you have any concern about the current waste practices that your household did?

Q6. Have you heard /read about the dangerous or negative impacts of improper dumping or disposal of plastic bags in environment (burning, threat to marine mammals, visual impacts , and longer decomposition)? Yes /No

- i. If yes, where did you get your information about the dangerous or impact of poor disposal of plastic bags (newspaper/posters/billboards/ radio/ others/ site seeing/ public awareness)

Q7. Do you think that the society has enough information about the dangers or negative impact of improper disposal of plastic bags ? Yes/ No

Q8. What is your general opinion about the littering problem in Solomon Islands ? What should we do ? How can we improve?

Section 3: Eco-Bag

Q9. There are many alternatives for plastic shopping bags such as cloth, linen and paper bags , traditional bags, etc do you know them ? Yes/ No

Q10. Do you re-use plastic bags? Yes/No

Q11. Do you use clothing bags/ alternatives of plastic bags while shopping (distributed by some of shopping centres)? Yes/No

Q12. If eco-bag is introduced at the central market I Honiara, are you willing to use eco-bag and traditional baskets than plastic bags? Yes/No

Q13. Do you think that you can reduce your rate of consumption of plastic bags?

Q14. Do you agree with the idea not to import plastic bags to our country? Yes/No

Q15. Do you think eco-bag is the best solution/ alternative for plastic bags? Yes/No

Section 4: Shops/Vendors

Q16. How often do you sell plastic bags? (Once/wk, twice/wk, daily/wk)

Q17. How many plastic bags do you often sell?

- i. In one day? (0-25 bags, 25-50 bags, 50+ bags)
- ii. In one week? (< 50 bags, 50-100 bags, 100-200 bags)

Q18. What is the overall cost you spend to get the plastic bags for resale at the market?

Q19. What is your view/ opinion if plastic bags are prohibited from being sold at the market?

Q20. Would you be willing to produce/ sell eco-bags or cloth bags for sale at the market?

ANNEX 2: ECO-BAG BROCHURE

Can plastic waste be minimized?

YES

- Plastic bags can hold rain water and becomes a breeding places for mosquito.
- Plastic bags can contaminate soil.
- Plastic bags can end up in rivers, along side roads, drains, lakes, land fields and sewages.
- This will cause a negative impact on tourism industry too.



WAYS TO MINIMIZE PLASTIC

1. The best option to reduce use of plastic bag
Is to take your own bag when you go shopping.
2. Practice 3Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

REDUCE. Count the number of plastic bag that you use and aim to reduce that number each week.

REUSE. If you cant avoid plastic bag then reuse it. Make your own floral art or baskets. Keep a spare reusable shopping bag in your hand bag or wallet.

RECYCLE. Because we do not have plastic recycling machines in the country, the only option is to bury plastics and not burn.



Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management & Meteorology

P.O.BOX 21, Honiara,

Solomon Islands

Phone: (677) 230312, 26036



Plastic waste at the Central Market.

"So Together we can"

Reduce

Reuse

Recycle

PLASTIC BAGS

General Information of Plastic Bags.

More than 12% of plastic bags are end up in Ranadi dumpsite every year,

Ranadi dump site.



The above figure excluded the burn ones, dump near side roads, rivers, sea, lakes and streams. In Solomon Islands plastic bags is one of the main pollutant in the environment. It is a non biodegradable material that can take hundreds of years before completely rot. Plastic bags have very light weight and moisture resistance which means can float and can travel at long distance. Therefore, this project help to address the issue of using plastic bags in the market.



What should you know about plastic bags.

- Plastic bags cost you money - when clean-up.
- Plastic bags create more waste.
- Plastic bags can take hundreds of years to breakdown.
- Plastic bags are import product from overseas.



Plastic bag Wastes at the Central Market

Impact of Plastic Bags in the Environment.

1. Marine Environment

- Plastic bags can be hazardous to Marine life potentially entangling turtles, seals, whales and coral reefs.
- Also turtles, dolphins and whales can mistake plastic bags as food..
- Plastic bags can contaminate waterways.
- Coastline can look unhealthy with plastic bags.



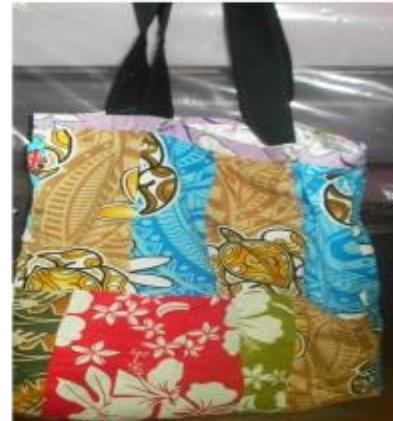
Endangers Marine Species

ANNEX 3: ECO-BAG POSTERS

ECO-BAG FACT SHEET

Ten good things about Eco-Bags

1. Eco-Bag is an Environmentally Friendly bag.



2. Eco-Bag Can Last Long.

3. Eco-Bag is cheaper.

4. Eco-bag create less waste.

5. Eco-bag is stronger.

6. Eco-bag can easily rot.

7. Eco-bag can be produce in the country.

8. Eco-bag is reusable.



9. Eco-bag can be a source of income.

10. Eco-bag can reduce the rate of plastic waste in our town.

"Simple change comes, when you said no to plastic bags and use eco-bags".





“SAY NO TO PLASTIC BAG WHEN YOU GO SHOPPING”

- PLASTIC BAG CAN LITTER AND DEGRADE OUR ENVIRONMENT .
- PLASTIC BAG CAN BE HARMFUL TO MARINE PLANTS AND ANIMALS.
- PLASTIC BAG CAN MAKE OUR ENVIRONMENT UNTIDY AND UNCLEAN.
- PLASTIC CAN CAUSE DISEASE SUCH AS MALARIA OR DENGUE TO BREED IN IF NOT PROPERLY MANAGED OR DISPOSED.
- PLASTIC BAG COSTS YOU MONEY TO CLEAN UP OR PAY EVERYDAY.
- PLASTIC BAGS TAKE A LONG TIME TO BIODEGRADE OR ROT.



WHAT WE CAN DO?

1. WHEN YOU GO SHOPPING, REMEMBER TO BRING ALONG A CLOTH BAG, ECO-BAG
2. PRACTICE THE 3Rs TO REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE.
3. KNOW HOW MANY BAGS YOU BOUGHT EACH DAY AND TRY TO REDUCE IT
4. TRY TO BRING ALONG AN EXTRA BASKET OR BAG WITH YOU EVERYTIME YOU GO SHOPPING SO YOU DO NOT HAVE TO PAY FOR PLASTIC BAGS
5. TRY TO MAKE YOUR OWN ECO-BAG OR BASKET FROM ANY RECYCLED MATERIAL OR OLD CLOTHINGS
6. BEFORE YOU PAY FOR A PLASTIC BAG WHEN GOING SHOPPING, THINK, ACT AND DO THE RIGHT THING TO HELP PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

ANNEX 4: ECO-BAG POWERPOINT PRESENTATION



Presentation outline.

ECO-BAG : ALTERNATIVE OF PLASTIC BAGS.



Prepared by Environment Unit
Environment and Conservation
Ministry of environment , climate change , disaster management & meteorology

- Method of awareness
- Aims & Objectives
- Findings
- Challenges
- Lesson learnt.
- Recommendations.

Method of awareness.



Awareness Aims

1. To aware the public about the impacts of plastic bags on the environment and human health as well.
2. Reduce use of plastic shopping bags.
3. To promote the use of eco-bags.

Findings.

- Eco-bags are slowly becoming popular to market vendors and as well as the public.
- Most of the interviewees have support the idea to use eco-bags and prohibit the sell of plastic bags in the central market.
- few vendors and public, especially women often practice the use of eco-bags as carry bags for their shopping.
- Slight changes also taken place at the site.
- Market Vendors Association. works with HCC to clean the market every day.

Results of Initial Survey (1st)

The table below shows daily, weekly, and monthly sale of plastic bags for the month of May.

No. of Vendor	Range no. at which bags are sold.	Average no. of bags sold/ vendor/day	Estimated No. of bags sold / day according to no. of vendors.	Estimated No. of bags sold/ week.	Estimated No. of bags sold/month
3	0-25	19	39	234	956
8	26-50	39	312	1,872	7,488
9	51-75	65	585	3,510	14,040
3	76-100	91	273	1,638	6,552

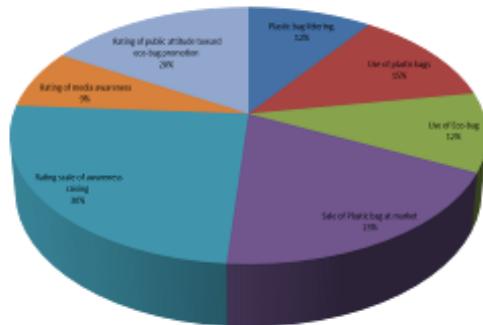
Cont.

Table 2. The table below shows the weekly cost of plastic bag for vendors and shops at Central Market.

Note 1 dn plastic bag contains 30 packets.
 1 packet contains 100 bags.
 1 plkt cost \$30.00
 1 dn \$900.00 (L), \$500.00 (M) and \$300.00 (S)

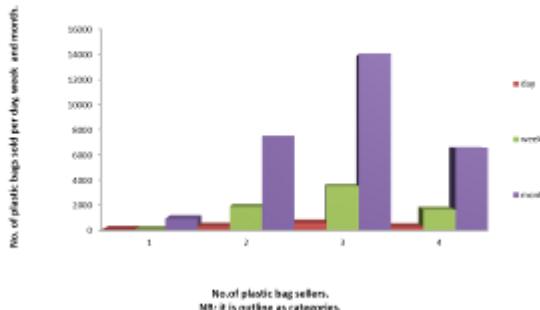
Category	Range no. of bags sold	Weekly cost of plastic bags purchased from Chinese shops.
1	0-25	\$60.00
2	25-50	\$90.00
3	50-75	\$180.00
4	75-100	\$1,800.00

Total Overall Rating of Eco-Bag promotion at Honiara Central Market



Cont.

Graph 1. shows the number of plastic bags sold out by vendor and local shop at Honiara Central Market.



Challenges

- **Answering questions**-Most questions asked are answered but when the question sounds technical, that is where we find words to say. In this case we will just refer their questions back to the officers for further and clearer answers.
- **People's attitude**- Some people seem to be acting disrespectful by the way they respond when we answer their questions. Some said we are wasting our time and money to talk about those things. The public will not adhere to what we are trying to carry out. That gives us a bit down hearted but we accept it and see as a lesson for us.
- **Disappointment with focus area of campaign**- the campaign should be carried out at other market areas as well, not at central market itself. They added that the Chinese shops should be the most targeted areas, because they are the ones who import plastic bags. Not us the vendors.
- **People complain**- most people complain of the same information about eco-bag and plastic bag at the central market.
- Most vendors are very busy thus they don't want to waste time with us, also too crowded in the market place and noises, we find it difficult to explain the information to the group of people.

Recommendations

- Enforcement of existing or new legislation on SWM.
- Eco-bag cannot be used by everyone unless plastic bags are totally ban from import and selling at the market. Government should ban importing of plastic bags into the country .
- Public needs to change their attitude towards SWM .
- Cooperation of the public with the organization carrying out the program.
- Law enforcement officers should carry out their work honestly and not NEUTRALISM.
- Leaders must take note of small problems as this to be heard in parliament.
- Cooperation of all responsible Ministries, non- organization other agencies and the public as a whole.
- Leaders should think of reviewing some of the old by-laws .
- Educate the law enforcers. Take-up training to understand the legislation.
- This program is one of the vital program that help to reduce use of plastic bags in the market and town as well. Also help shoppers to work out their spending on plastic bags.
- The program needs more awareness to the general public and effective . Therefore; this program should be carried out to other Market in town as well as extended to other markets in the provinces and also to Chinese's shops.
- Need continuous awareness program in the central market.
- This project should be extended .

ANNEX 5: MONITORING SHEET (sample)

Initial of Name: _____

Date: _____

Place of Residence: _____

Age range: _____

Occupation: _____

0-15 yrs	
16-25yrs	
26- 35yrs	
36- 45yrs	
46yrs +	

Overall Observation for overall implementation of Eco-Bag Pilot Program at Market

Scale:

1- *Excellent*

4- *Need to be improved/Good*

2- *Well improved*

5- *Poor/ Slight changes*

3- *Improved*

6- *Very Poor/No changes*

Ref	Description	Scale (1-6)
1	Plastic bag Littering	
2	Public attitude towards IEC materials at Market	
3	Use of Plastic bags for shopping	
4	Use of eco-bags for shopping	
5	Public response towards Pilot Program	
6	Public response towards IEC materials	
7	Stakeholders involvement in program	
8	Media Promotion	
9	Awareness raising at Market	
10	Purchase/ Sale of Plastic bag at market	
11	Method of Awareness Program conducted	
12	Public compliance to existing legislation	
13	Enforcement of existing legislation	
14	General public involvement and participation in program	
15	Sustainability of pilot program	

	Question	Responses				
1	Are you aware of a pilot program "Eco-Bag: Alternative to Plastic Bags" being implemented in Honiara Market?	Yes/ No				
2	Are you aware/ sighted some of the IEC materials posted around the market?	Yes/ No				
3	Are you aware of the IEC materials distributed every Wednesday at the market?	Yes / No				
4	Are you aware of the official launching of the pilot program at the market?	Yes/ No				
5	What is your rating (scale) in terms of methods of awareness rising conducted at the Market? <i>Scale : 1- Excellent , 2- Very good, 3- Good, 4- Poor, 5- Very poor</i>	1	2	3	4	5
6	What is your overall rating of media awareness/ promotion on program? <i>Scale : 1- Excellent , 2- Very good, 3- Good, 4- Poor , 5- Very poor</i>	1	2	3	4	5
7	What is your overall rating of public awareness/attitude towards eco-bags promotion? <i>Scale : 1- Excellent , 2- Very good, 3- Good, 4- Poor , 5- Very poor</i>	1	2	3	4	5
8	Would you prefer to use Eco-Bag over Plastic bag for shopping or vice versa?	Yes/ No				
9	What do you think about public's access to information on program and waste management?					
10	What are some of the problems/issues you see regarding the program's implementation at market? (please tick boxes where relevant)	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor public attitude towards SWM <input type="checkbox"/> Poor coordination of relevant agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of effective awareness <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of media promotion <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of enforcement of existing legislations				
11	What are some of your recommendations/suggestions?					
12	What are your opinions/ general comments about the overall implementation of the program at market?					

