



Pacific
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du Pacifique



The Solomon Islands – Pacific Community

Country Programme 2019-2021

March 2019





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Foreword and endorsement

The *Solomon Islands – Pacific Community Country Programme 2019-2021* (the Programme) provides the direction for the Pacific Community's (SPC) engagement with Solomon Islands over the next three years. It outlines key actions that the Government of the Solomon Islands and SPC agreed upon through a consultation process that began in June 2018.

The Programme marks one of the first country programmes for an SPC member that has been developed and endorsed since the *Joint Country strategy 2008–2012* (JCS) (precursors to country programmes). It will be used to guide further planning, implementation and monitoring on an annual basis to support the achievement of development outcomes for Solomon Islands and to consider potential impact pathways to the Sustainable Development Goals.



Hon. George Milner Tozaka

Minister

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External Trade

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Introduction

1. The *Solomon Islands – Pacific Community Country Programme 2019-2021* (the Programme) was developed in partnership with the Government of the Solomon Islands during 2018, under the leadership and coordination of the Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination (MDPAC) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade (MFAET).
2. The process of developing the Programme began in 2015 during consultations with the government to identify country priorities to set the path for a more in-depth collaboration based on the National Development Strategy (NDS) that the government had just embarked upon. Since that time, the Pacific Community (SPC) Regional Office has developed an informal country programme based on all SPC work in Solomon Islands, and focused on improving the rural productive sector (agriculture and fisheries) as per government instructions. Quarterly consultation meetings are held with government to obtain its input on SPC work, emerging needs, and to provide a platform for monitoring, evaluation and learning against the NDS.
3. In September 2018, the SPC Regional Director for Melanesia visited Solomon Islands to introduce the new approach to country programming that SPC has embarked upon. This process provides a clear pathway for establishing and managing shared results with our members, driven by the members themselves.
4. Following this visit, further in-country consultations were held in October and November 2018, led by the Solomon Islands Director of Aid Coordination and the MDPAC Chief Planning Officer. These consultations included central agencies as well as a range of line ministries. This was followed by a process of analysis of key policies, strategies and development priorities of the government and its key development financiers, assessment of the relevance, significance and targeting of SPC's current portfolio of activities in Solomon Islands, and consultations with SPC programme divisions on current and planned areas of support.
5. Based on these consultations and analyses, the Programme was prepared, reviewed and agreed upon by the Government of the Solomon Islands and SPC's Executive Management. It aligns the Solomon Islands government priority interests from its relationship with SPC with SPC's strategic plan development objectives and expected resourcing capability.

Solomon Islands development agenda

Solomon Islands vision

Improving the social and economic livelihoods of all Solomon Islanders.

Solomon Islands mission

To create a peaceful, harmonious and progressive Solomon Islands led by ethical, accountable, respected and credible leadership that enhances and protects peoples' culture, social, economic and spiritual well-being.

National Development Objectives

Sustained and inclusive economic growth.

Poverty alleviated across the whole of the Solomon Islands, basic needs addressed and food security improved; benefits of development more equitably distributed.

All Solomon Islanders have access to quality health and education.

Resilient and environmentally sustainable development with effective disaster risk management, response and recovery.

Unified nation with stable and effective governance and public order.

6. The NDS, a 20-year framework, includes five national development objectives, as outlined above. These are supported by 15 medium term strategies (see Annex B). The NDS is supported by a five-year Medium Term Development Plan (MTDP) 2016-2020, which sets out the development programmes and projects that will be implemented in order to address each of these national development strategies.
7. In addition to these overarching national frameworks, Solomon Islands development actions are guided by a range of sector level strategies and provincial strategies, as well as some key regional and global commitments and frameworks (see Annex B).
8. Solomon Islands implements its development priorities with support from various development partners (see Annex B), chief among these being Australia, Republic of China (Taiwan) and Japan, as well as key multilateral partners such as the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, European Union and United Nations agencies.

SPC organisational context

9. SPC's work within its member countries and territories aims to achieve the following organisational objectives and key results specified in the member-endorsed *Pacific Community Strategic Plan 2016-2020*:

Strategic organisational objective 1: strengthen engagement and collaboration with members and partners.	Expected result: strong engagement by members in SPC's programmes and closer collaboration between SPC and its partners, which enhances the relevance and effectiveness of SPC's work.
Strategic organisational objective 3: address members' development priorities through multi-disciplinary approaches.	Expected result: enhanced, evidence-based, multi-disciplinary approaches to the design and implementation of programmes addressing national and regional development issues (including analysis and prioritisation of responses to social, environmental and economic issues).

Solomon Islands – SPC Country Programme 2019-2021

10. Historically, SPC has provided wide-ranging support to Solomon Islands. Broadly speaking, this support is and has been fairly well aligned with the government's development priorities.
11. The Programme will be led by the Solomon Islands government through MDPAC and MFAET. Within SPC, it will be overseen by the Regional Director for Melanesia. The Solomon Islands government appreciates how SPC has taken an umbrella view of the alignment of development work being done within and across sectors (including by other development partners) and ensuring that its own support is achieving results beyond the activity level – that it is helping Solomon Islands to strengthen its development outlook and results.

Strategic priorities

12. During the Programme period (2019 to 2021), SPC will work more deeply with Solomon Islands in support of the following two priority areas, which were identified by MDPAC in consultation with partner ministries:
 - (1) **Statistics:** improved data and statistical analysis leading towards Voluntary National Reporting (VNR) on the 2030 Agenda and contributing towards the process of Solomon Islands' graduation from least developed country (LDC) status. The Solomon Islands is aiming to submit its VNR report by 2020. In preparation, the Solomon Islands government, through MDPAC, will work collaboratively with donor partners, civil society and wider community groups internally and abroad. MDPAC is seeking SPC technical and advisory support – for the improvement of data within MDPAC and for capacity building of MDPAC to oversee the VNR process and produce the 2020 VNR report.
 - (2) **Agriculture:** support towards sustainable agriculture in terms of food security and in combating the rise of non-communicable diseases (NCD) in Solomon Islands.
13. From SPC's perspective, increased visibility and intensified national engagement in supporting Solomon Islands to address these critical challenges makes sense, given its extensive role and contribution regionally to advancing the management of these issues.

Other ongoing support

14. SPC is already deeply engaged with Solomon Islands on a range of other important development issues. In each of these areas, the current support being provided is highly valued by the government and no significant change in scope or direction is anticipated to be needed in the 2019-2021 period. For example:
 - **Fisheries:** development and support of aquaculture, nearshore fish aggregating devices, tuna fisheries data analysis, stock assessment, training of young professionals and the SPC Fisheries Leadership Programme.
 - **Education:** technical assistance in the assessment and monitoring of literacy, numeracy and life skills (PILNA); and support to the Ministry of Education for development and enhancement of the Education Management Information System (EMIS) – training materials and documentation; data analysis and report-writing; support to integrate national examination results and Pacific Schools Information Management System (PacSIMS) into the system; EMIS support of bilingual capabilities; and capacity building and technical support for analysis and dissemination of education statistics from EMIS.
 - **Health:** provision of materials and training on NCD; and strengthening of laboratory and analytical capacity through data for decision making' training for Ministry of Health Surveillance and Response staff.
 - **Disaster risk reduction:** support to help Solomon Islands bring a resilient development perspective to its planning and implementation of DRR programmes, in particular through the Pacific Islands Emergency Management Alliance (PIEMA) project.
 - **Gender mainstreaming:** SPC has worked with the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children, and Family Affairs for several years to assist in strengthening capacities across government for mainstreaming gender, and is also providing technical support to the Institute for Public Administration and Management to improve gender responsiveness in the delivery of induction training to public service staff, including the delivery of a module on gender mainstreaming. Ongoing support for the implementation of the Gender Equality

and Women's Development (GEDW) policy will continue. Gender mainstreaming country work plan to be finalised with the Solomon Islands government in 2019 for implementation to 2023.

- **Youth development:** SPC has worked with the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs since 2012 to assist in addressing youth unemployment in the Solomon Islands. This is through implementing the Youth@Work Programme, an initiative aiming to increase the economic prospects of young people through providing pre-employment and basic business management training, facilitating internships and supporting small business start-ups. SPC is supporting the Solomon Islands with the Youth@Work Exit Strategy throughout this year.
- **Regional work:** Solomon Islands continues to contribute to and benefit from the broad range of regional work that SPC undertakes, including through participation in regional training, region-wide scientific and technical research and analytical reports, regional databases and information products and attendance at relevant international and regional meetings.

15. A summary of the full range of SPC work currently being undertaken in Solomon Islands is provided at Annex C.

Ways of working

16. **Principles and criteria:** The Solomon Islands Aid Management and Development Cooperation Policy is based on principles of effective development cooperation and forms the basis of the Programme. In particular, the Solomon Islands government:

- (1) Seeks an assurance that SPC, in its engagement and implementation, acknowledges and respects the government's national leadership, ownership, consistency with development priorities, and alignment with national planning processes for economic growth, poverty reduction and debt sustainability.
- (2) Clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the Solomon Islands government central and line ministries in overall aid coordination and management, recognising the lead role played by MDPAC.
- (3) Underlines the importance of an improvement in capacity of MDPAC to allow it to effectively perform the central development cooperation and aid management role.
- (4) Streamlines institutional arrangements to ensure broad and regular consultations and dialogue with development partners and among Solomon Islands ministries with cost effective and efficient implementation, delivery and accountability mechanisms.
- (5) Underlines that the principles of good governance, mutual accountability and zero tolerance to corruption must be observed.
- (6) Recognises the critical importance of inclusive sustainable development that addresses gender equality, environmental sustainability and respect for human rights.
- (7) Ensures that coordination and delivery mechanisms are inclusive of provincial governments, non-government organisations (NGOs), faith based organisations (FBOs) and the private sector.
- (8) Ensures that the aid information management system (AIMS) is fully operational and serves as a single reference point and repository of all information on aid flows and development projects and programmes.

17. In each of its long-standing areas of work at the national level in Solomon Islands, SPC support is highly valued. Nevertheless, there are ways in which SPC's ongoing support can be improved. Solomon Islands and SPC will actively explore opportunities to broaden or improve the contributions being made through these activities, and the ways in which they are monitored, in line with the Solomon Islands government's primary objectives from this partnership. For example:
 - Internally, SPC is in the early stages of developing integrated programming and management approaches that will likely benefit Solomon Islands in key areas such as statistics, nutrition and food security, gender and youth development. Beyond this, integrated programming within SPC will position it better to respond to Solomon Islands' desire for SPC to play a role in helping the government to optimise development results across key sectors and donor projects, where SPC has relevant expertise.
 - SPC will continue to work with MDPAC and MFAET to be accountable to the government for managing its work with the line departments for results. This will be achieved through (a) regular quarterly dialogue to monitor and hone the Programme, held between the SPC Regional Office, MDPAC and MFAET and (b) joint country missions by technical divisions whenever combined support is expected to be delivered.¹
 - Solomon Islands and SPC will consciously seek to assess how their collective work in key sectors translates to improving the lives of men, women and youth at community level.
18. **Activity programming:** for each of the two strategic priorities for the Programme (paragraph 12), SPC staff missions will visit Solomon Islands before the end of June 2019 to flesh out the specific areas where SPC can best contribute.
19. **Resource mobilisation** (financial and technical): Solomon Islands has committed to work with its other development partners to have them use SPC as an implementing agency where feasible and appropriate. There may also be opportunity for co-funding initiatives between SPC and the Solomon Islands government.
20. **Focal points:** progress with implementing the Programme will be monitored and coordinated by the MDPAC Director of Aid Coordination for Solomon Islands and by the Regional Director for Melanesia for SPC.

Tracking performance

21. Solomon Islands will be responsible for monitoring and assessing the performance and contribution of SPC-supported activities within Solomon Islands against its *National Development Strategy* using its national monitoring and evaluation framework for the NDS.
22. SPC will continue to monitor and assess the performance and contribution of SPC-supported activities within Solomon Islands against the *Pacific Community Strategic Plan 2016-2020*. Significant events and achievements are presented to the SPC Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA) each year in the *SPC Results Report*; a country-specific report can be provided on request.
23. This Programme is a living document. It will be revisited annually by both Solomon Islands and SPC, to check and monitor the relevance of ongoing activities to Solomon Islands' specific policy objectives and to update the results matrix (Annex A) with any new activities or emerging priorities.
24. Solomon Islands and SPC will also work together to jointly develop integrated impact pathways in key areas, along with baselines against which monitoring can be conducted.

¹ For example, for food security, this might include experts in non-communicable diseases, climate smart agriculture, value chains and rural youth self-employment support through agri-business development.



Annexes

Annex A: Solomon Islands results framework 2019-2021

This results framework focuses on the two strategic priorities of the Programme. Other ongoing SPC work in Solomon Islands will be reported on regularly through quarterly updates, as well as through contributions to the Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination (MDPAC) monitoring and evaluation framework on request.

Priority	Impact	Result	National Indicators National Development Strategy (NDS) / Medium Term Strategy (MTS) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)	Lead responsibility	
				Solomon Islands	SPC
Statistics	MDPAC better able to analyse data sets and report on national and SDG indicators.	Voluntary National Reporting (VNR) on the 2030 Agenda. Contribution towards Solomon Islands least developed country (LDC) graduation process.	By October 2020, Solomon Islands produce the first VNR report to the United Nations, including a road map towards the LDC graduation process. SDG 17: strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.	MDPAC	Statistics for Development Division
Sustainable agriculture in terms of food security and combating the rise of non-communicable diseases	Livelihoods improved for provincial farmers. Non-communicable diseases reduced.	Better food security in rural areas.	MTS 5: food production index (2004-6 = 100) increased from average 117 for 2008-10, to an average of 130 by 2015, and over 150 by 2020 SDG 2: end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL)	Land Resources Division, Public Health Division
		Better production of key agriculture and livestock products.	MTS 1: agriculture contribution to GDP is expected to increase by 5.5% to value of SBD 781 million by 2020 SDG 2: end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.		
		Efficient and effective processes in place for getting key agriculture and livestock products from provinces to markets. Access to markets.	MTS 3: By 2020, the proportion of the road network receiving routine maintenance is increased to 90%. At least 30% of Solomon Islanders in rural areas have access to essential services as a direct result of rehabilitated roads, bridges and wharves. (Ministry of Infrastructure Development – National Transport Plan). SDG 2: end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.		
	Improved nutrition.		MTS 8: deaths due to non-communicable diseases reduced to 10 per 1,000 before 2020. (Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS), United Nations (UN), Asian Development Bank (ADB). Review and develop legislation for tobacco control. SDG 3: ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.		

Annex B: A profile of Solomon Islands and its development

Overview

Geography: Solomon Islands is an archipelago of nine main island groups and a total of almost 1000 islands. It has a total land area of 28,896 square kilometres, spread over an area of about 1500 kilometres. Most of Solomon Islands comprises rugged mountains, with agricultural land making up just 4% of the country. The country contains several active and dormant volcanoes and there are some low-lying coral atolls. The main natural resources are fish, forests (under pressure), gold, bauxite, phosphates, lead, zinc and nickel. The capital, Honiara, is located on the largest island, Guadalcanal. In terms of environmental hazards, the country is at risk from tropical cyclones, earthquakes and tsunamis, as well as deforestation, soil erosion, dying coral reefs, climate change and rising sea levels.

Population: Solomon Islands' population, estimated to be around 660,000 in 2018, is mostly rural and widely dispersed. Most people live along the coastal regions of islands across the archipelago. Just 20% of the population lives in urban areas and two-thirds of those live in Honiara. Scarcity of fresh water sources and lack of sanitation have been constant challenges for Solomon Islands. For example, an estimated 70% of schools have no access to safe and clean water, leading to high risks of fatality from diseases such as cholera and typhoid. Around 54% of the population is less than 25 years old and the median age is 22.8 years. The population growth rate is currently 1.9%.

Government: Solomon Islands became independent from the United Kingdom on 7 July 1978. The Solomon Islands Constitution became effective on the same day. The constitution has been amended several times, most recently in 2014, and work on a new constitution is close to finalisation.

Solomon Islands is a parliamentary democracy under constitutional monarchy. Queen Elizabeth II is the head of state, represented by a governor general – a Solomon Islands citizen who is appointed by the Queen on the advice of the national parliament. Solomon Islands operates a mixed legal system of English common law and customary law.

The unicameral national parliament comprises 50 members elected for a four-year term. The prime minister is the head of government, elected by a simple majority of members of parliament. The cabinet is chosen by the prime minister and holds executive power. In addition to the national government, there are nine provincial assemblies, each led by a premier. The nine provinces are: Central, Choiseul, Guadalcanal, Isabel, Makira-Ulawa, Malaita, Rennell and Bellona, Temotu and Western. There are several political parties, and people move between them often. Most governments are formed through extensive coalition building and turnover of members of parliament is high, with about half historically losing their seat at each election.

Following an extended period of ethnic tension, violence and service disruption that took hold from the late 1990s, at the government's request, Solomon Islands' law and order, justice and public administration systems were supported by the Regional Assistance Mission in Solomon Islands (RAMSI), also known as Operation Helpem Fren, from 2001 to 2017. RAMSI was a regional stabilisation and state-building intervention involving 15 nations. Largely led and financed by Australia, RAMSI operations were overseen by the region's leaders through the Pacific Island Forum.

The current Prime Minister, Rick Houenipwela, was elected in November 2017 following a vote of no confidence in the former Prime Minister, Manasseh Sogavare. The next national election, expected to be held in April 2019, will be the first since the departure of RAMSI.

Economy: Solomon Islands is classified as a least developed country (LDC), but is aiming to graduate by 2020. Its GDP per capita (PPP) is USD 2,200 (2017 estimate) and per capita GDP growth for 2018 and 2019 is expected to remain stagnant at 0.2%, having recovered from a marked decline in 2016 of -6.7%. Solomon Islands is one of the poorest countries in the region and struggles with the high costs of service delivery to a small and widely dispersed population. Poor infrastructure, under-developed labour skills, high utility costs, land tenure issues, and limited public administration and financial management capacity are serious challenges to economic growth and private investment.

Although the country is rich in undeveloped mineral resources, most people depend on agriculture, fishing and forestry for their livelihood. The bulk of the population is employed in the informal sector, with agriculture providing a subsistence livelihood for more than 75% of the population. The main agriculture products are cocoa, coconut, palm kernel, rice, fruit, cattle, pigs, fish and timber. Tuna fisheries, mining and timber are the country's main industries.

Society: Solomon Islands brings together many different ethnic groups. Some 63 distinct languages are spoken, along with many different local dialects. Although most people live in the provinces, rapid growth of Honiara, mostly due to inward migration from provinces (the capital is now home to over 80,000 people), is severely stretching capacity to provide infrastructure and services. Although food security is not a widespread problem, it is a growing one in urban areas, where land is scarce and squatter settlements are growing. The most recent Asian Development Bank (ADB) estimate in 2013 found that 12.7% of the population was living below the national poverty line.

Overall, development outcomes are lagging, with Solomon Islands ranked 152nd of 187 countries on the 2017 United Nations Human Development Index. Life expectancy in Solomon Islands is 71 years; the infant mortality rate is 21.8 per 1,000 live births; and the maternal mortality ratio was estimated at 114 per 100,000 live births in 2015. On average, people only have 5.5 years of schooling. Gender inequality is entrenched, limiting the opportunities available to women and constraining economic and societal development more broadly. The rates of violence against women are among the highest in the world.

In Solomon Islands, 47.9% of the population has access to electricity, according to a 2016 estimate, 92% of which comes from fossil fuels. There is just one fixed telephone line per 100 people, but 72 mobile subscriptions per 100 people. An estimated 11% of the population has internet access.

Annex C: Solomon Islands development and reform priorities

NDS objective	NDS medium-term strategy (MTS)
1. Sustained and inclusive economic growth.	MTS 1: reinvigorate and increase the rate of inclusive economic growth.
	MTS 2: improve the environment for private sector development and increase investment opportunities for all Solomon Islanders.
	MTS 3: expand and upgrade weather resilient infrastructure and utilities focused on access to productive resources and markets and to essential services.
	MTS 4: strengthen land reform and other programmes to encourage economic development in urban, rural and customary lands.
2. Poverty alleviated, with basic needs addressed, food security improved, and benefits of development more equitably distributed.	MTS 5: alleviate poverty, improve provision of basic needs and increase food security.
	MTS 6: increase employment and labour mobility opportunities in rural areas and improve the livelihoods of all Solomon Islanders.
	MTS 7: improve gender equality and support the disadvantaged and the vulnerable.
3. Access to quality health and education for all Solomon Islanders.	MTS 8: ensure all Solomon Islanders have access to quality health care; combat communicable and non-communicable diseases.
	MTD 9: ensure all Solomon Islanders can access quality education and the nation's manpower needs are sustainably met.
4. Resilient and environmentally sustainable development with effective disaster risk management, response and recovery.	MTS 10: improve disaster and climate risk management, including prevention, risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery as well as adaptation as part of resilient development.
	MTS 11: manage the environment in a sustainable resilient way and contribute to climate change mitigation.
5. Unified nation with stable and effective governance and public order.	MTS 12: efficient and effective public service with a sound corporate culture.
	MTS 13: reduce corruption and improve governance at national, provincial and community levels.
	MTS 14: improve national unity and peace, and promote cultural heritage at all levels.
	MTS 15: improve national security, law and order and foreign relations.

Annex D: Solomon Islands key development policies and strategies

National

- National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016–2035
- Medium Term Development Plan 2019–2023
- Medium Term Budget Framework
- Provincial strategic plans

Sectoral/Thematic

- National Agriculture Sector Policy
- National Anti-Corruption Strategy
- National Climate Change Policy (2012-2017)
- National Energy Policy Framework
- National Policy on Eliminating Violence Against Women and Girls
- Gender Equality and Women's Development National Action Plan
- National Fisheries Sector Policy
- National Gender Equality Policy
- National Health Strategic Plan (2016-2020)
- National ICT Policy (2015)
- National Lokal Kaka Policy
- National Integrated Ocean Policy and Marine Spatial Plan (2019)
- National Population Policy (2017–2026)
- National Water Strategy (2018)
- Strategic Framework for Youth Development & Empowerment in Solomon Islands
- Solomon Islands Youth Status Report 2018
- National Youth Policy 2017–2030

Regional

- SAMOA Pathway (2014)
- Regional Framework for Accelerating Action on Food Security and Nutrition in Pacific SIDS (Draft, February 2018)
- Pacific Youth Development Framework 2014-2023
- Pacific Platform for Action on Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights 2018-2030
- Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration

Global

- Sustainable Development Goals
- Paris Agreement on Climate Change
- SAMOA Pathway

Annex E: Key development partnerships

- **Asian Development Bank** (ADB) support is focused on transport infrastructure (marine and road improvements, support to Solomon Islands Marine Safety Authority) and improving the business environment in Solomon Islands (through the Pacific Private Sector Development Initiative). ADB is also supporting energy (through the Tina Hydro project, and improving provincial power supply, including solar), public-private partnerships, and strengthening financial inclusion. ADB provides support in education through the Higher Education in the Pacific Investment Program and Capacity Building in ICT for better education.
- **Australia** is the largest provider of development support in Solomon Islands. Its current program is focused on stability (governance, justice, police development); economic growth (aid for trade, private sector rural development, generating employment opportunities – especially for women; and access to financial services); and human development (education, including scholarships; and health). Australia also provides substantial support for infrastructure (maintenance and rehabilitation of roads; provision of medicines; school infrastructure; and a recent commitment to construct an undersea cable connecting Solomon Islands and Sydney, to enable high speed internet accessibility).
- **European Union** national indicative programme (NIP) 2014-2020 is focused on support to water and sanitation and rural development.
- **Food and Agriculture Organisation** (FAO) country programme framework (2018-2022) is focused on achieving a sustainable increase in production and marketing of domestic agriculture products and healthy consumption of safe and nutritious food. This will mainly be in the form of policy support, resource management training and support to develop integrated landscape/seascape management plans.
- **German Agency for International Cooperation** (GIZ) supports several projects, including forest and climate protection, agricultural adaptation and food security.
- **Japan** provides assistance to build, manage and maintain basic economic infrastructure, including transport (renovation of the main road in Honiara and wharf facilities, as well as transport planning); electricity; renewable energy; water supply; health; education including scholarship and solid waste management.
- **New Zealand** provides supports for economic governance (Accountant General; Inland Revenue); education, including scholarships; police development; fisheries and aquaculture; provincial tourism; renewable energy; and infrastructure (aviation infrastructure and Honiara multi-purpose hall for youth).
- **Taiwan (ROC)** is a substantial contributor of grants and soft loans in Solomon Islands, focused mainly on support to Constituency Development Funds, infrastructure projects, agriculture and health.
- **United States of America** provides support for port security (US Coast Guard); and for World War II bomb disposal; as well as supporting adaptation to climate change (through the Institutional Strengthening in Pacific Island Countries to Adapt to Climate Change project that is implemented by SPC).
- **World Bank** is supporting work in hydropower (Tina Hydro – a plan for construction of a hydroelectric dam on Tina River, to drive down electricity prices); aviation; rural electrification; infrastructure reconstruction; fisheries (through the Pacific Regional Oceanscape Program); resilience to climate change and natural hazards; and telecommunications and ICT.
- **World Health Organisation** is supporting improved service coverage, including for malaria and tuberculosis control; health worker capacity; health information systems; and preparedness for disasters and disease outbreaks.

Annex F: A profile of SPC support for Solomon Islands priorities

NDS Objective 1: sustained and inclusive economic growth	
Medium Term Strategy (MTS) 1: reinvigorate and increase the rate of inclusive economic growth	<p>Oceanic Fisheries: development, provision, updating, enhancement and training in use of secure internet-based tools, including to acquire and manage tuna fishery data; deliver country-specific scientific advice on the status of oceanic fisheries resources; and prepare and submit national annual catch estimates.</p> <p>Assistance with meeting Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission reporting obligations and provision of tuna fishery data summaries responding to various ad hoc national requests (e.g. for access negotiation briefs).</p> <p>Preparation of scientific and technical reports (e.g., national bio-economic analyses of longline fisheries; report on the distribution of fishing within the Exclusive Economic Zone; and report on seasonality and value of longline bycatch).</p> <p>Scientific analyses, advice and technical support provided to the Tokelau Arrangement.</p> <p>Analyses and outreach in support of the development of harvest strategies for Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) tuna stocks.</p>
<p>MTS 2: improve the environment for private sector development and increase investment opportunities for all Solomon Islanders</p> <p><i>SPC does not currently work in this area but will be able to advise and support Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) on value chain and link to private sector market, resource permitting.</i></p>	
MTS 3: expand and upgrade weather resilient infrastructure and utilities focused on access to productive resources and markets and to essential services	<p>Sea level monitoring: levelling survey of tide gauges and associated land monitoring stations; ensuring tide gauges are operational and delivering precise water level information and that continuous operating geodetic stations monitor ground movement; annual tide calendar printed, distributed to relevant agencies and publicly available online)</p> <p>Real time tide gauge observations are located Honiara, Lata, and Tarekukure, and can be viewed online.</p> <p>Maritime Sector: Safe Operational Plan Audits and other technical assistance activities under the Pacific Islands Domestic Ship Safety Programme.</p> <p>Initial audits of the Maritime Administration and Maritime School as per <i>Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1995</i> (as amended) requirements.</p> <p>Initial Audit of the Designated Authority of Solomon Islands conducted as per the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code requirements.</p> <p>Green Pacific Port project activities implemented, including Port Energy Audit of the Solomon Islands Port Authority.</p>
MTS 4: strengthen land reform and other programmes to encourage economic development in urban, rural and customary lands	<p>Support to Office of Commissioner of Lands, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey and sector working group, e.g., in preparation and submission of new bills (Town and Country Planning Act; Land Surveyors Act; Strata Titles Bill); for customary land reform; for the National Land Board; and to regularise land tenure in Honiara's informal settlements through subdivision planning and facilitating offers of fixed term estates.</p> <p>Training and support to produce and finalise new planning schemes for Auki, Gizo and Henderson areas.</p>
NDS Objective 2: poverty alleviated, with basic needs addressed, food security improved, and benefits of development more equitably distributed	
MTS 5: alleviate poverty, improve provision of basic needs and increase food security	<p>Research and gene bank: through Pacific Seeds4Life Project, strengthen safety and maintenance of crop and tree seed collections ensuring Solomon Islands has ready crop reserves to respond quickly to disaster; mass propagation using bioreactors, screening, preparation and distribution of improved crop diversity (nutrient rich, pest and disease, saline, drought resilient seed system); and provision of technical assistance on the screening, evaluation and documentation of new resilient crop varieties.</p> <p>Coconut/cocoa: Support to MAL to combat and control coconut rhinoceros beetle (CRB), including CRB outbreak and to implement a long-term control strategy.</p> <p>Cocoa: Alignment of cocoa genetic resources production and post-harvest systems to market opportunities.</p> <p>Extension: building Rural Advisory Services capacity to effectively service the farming community; and providing plant health clinics with MAL on Guadalcanal, Malaita and other big population areas for farmers.</p> <p>Plant health: in addition to supporting the combat and control of CRB infestation, SPC is supporting integrated crop management, as well as providing a full-time national project officer on the ground and supporting MAL research with examining CRBG fungus and virus for possible promulgation (mass production) for outbreak areas, if an appropriate virus with potential is identified.</p>

<p>MTS 6: increase employment and labour mobility opportunities in rural areas and improve the livelihoods of all Solomon Islanders</p>	<p>Youth: through the Rural Youth@Work Programme, supporting increased employment and entrepreneurship start-ups for youth in Gizo and Malaita, through provision of training, internships and opportunities to start own businesses with training and materials to youth in provinces (200 per year, including youth with disabilities and released from prison).</p>
<p>MTS 7: improve gender equality and support the disadvantaged and the vulnerable</p>	<p>Human rights and gender: support provided on UN Treaty Body reports (Committee Against Torture (CAT) and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); Universal Period Review implementation planning; Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) implementation and monitoring and assistance in preparation for CEDAW 4th Periodic Report; development of Rights Action Plan; and in-country coalition mentoring provided through the Pacific People Advancing Change .</p> <p>Support for workshop in support of gender mainstreaming by central agencies across government policies, programmes and services; gender analysis and review of selected Institute of Public Administration and Management (IPAM) materials; development of two-day Gender Mainstreaming Module for IPAM/Ministry of Public Service (MPS); technical assistance to the MPS to develop a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Strategy; and capacity development and materials prepared enabling IPAM staff able to deliver gender mainstreaming training.</p> <p>Youth: through the Honiara Youth@Work Programme, provision of training, materials, internships and opportunities to start own businesses (500 per year, gender equal numbers, plus Youth Market beneficiaries, with additional youth with disabilities supported for entrepreneurship training and materials); establishment of LGBTI Youth-net, through partnership with and technical assistance to Pacific Sexual Diversity Network</p>
<p>NDS Objective 3: access to quality health and education for all Solomon Islanders</p>	
<p>MTS 8: ensure all Solomon Islanders have access to quality health care; combat communicable and non-communicable diseases</p>	<p>NCDs: review of work on a sugar-sweetened beverage tax in collaboration with FNU-CPOND; provision of regional training and support for participation in key regional or international meetings (e.g., Pacific Diabetes Association Networking Meeting); and provision of technical inputs into Solomon Islands National NCD plan of action.</p> <p>Support to MoH Surveillance and Response training and membership in Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network and EPI-Net.</p>
<p>MTS 9: ensure all Solomon Islanders can access quality education and the nation's manpower needs are sustainably met</p>	<p>Education: Presented Solomon Islands Standardised Tests of Achievement results for 2017; Support to ensure national and regional benchmarks and enabling policies are in place to improve education system performance; institutional capacity analysis tools developed to support country conduct skills audit; national principal attributes/ criteria developed; trained education officers; implementation manual and programme developed; data analysis and report produced on effectiveness of principal; improved capacity on the development of intervention resources and consequently on teaching of literacy and numeracy; technical and advisory support provided on curriculum learning outcomes, on research, and for accrediting agencies and education and training institutions; and enhanced and improved capacity of national research experts to conduct in-country researches and use research findings and recommendations to inform educational reforms.</p> <p>Pacific Register of Qualifications: database updated with accredited qualifications, registered institutions, professional associations and members, and accrediting agencies; improved capacity of education officers, teachers, and school leaders in order to improve the quality of the regional qualification and in supporting the process of national examinations.</p> <p>Literacy and numeracy assessment (PILNA): technical assistance provided in the assessment and monitoring of literacy, numeracy, and life skills in the Pacific.</p> <p>Education Management Information System (EMIS): training materials and documentation developed; EMIS enhanced with the integration of national examination results and PacSIMS into the system; EMIS supports bi-lingual capabilities; and capacity building and technical support on analysis and dissemination of education statistics from EMIS.</p>
<p>NDS Objective 4: resilient and environmentally sustainable development with effective disaster risk management, response and recovery</p>	
<p>MTS 10: improve disaster and climate change management, including prevention, risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery as well as adaptation as part of resilient development</p>	<p>Climate Change Education: through PACTVET Project, developed and established training courses and support facilities within TVET institutions; and strengthened climate change adaptation and SE training networks.</p> <p>Forestry: REDD+ phase 2 work on forest conservation; support for development of a full National Forest Inventory roadmap, implementation of REDD+ pilot site and development of awareness and training materials; and review of Solomon Islands Code of Logging Practice (with one GIZ/SPC REDD technical expert embedded in Ministry of Forestry and Research).</p> <p>Disaster risk reduction and management (DRR/DRM): through the Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific project, construction of new National Emergency Operation Centre which will also house the Joint Warning Centre for hydro meteorological hazards that include floods, landslides, avalanches, tidal waves, typhoons, hurricanes, cyclones, tornados, droughts, extreme temperatures and wildfires; and geological hazards that include earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis. Attendance at Pacific Islands Emergency Management Alliance meetings supported; warning and alert messages for a range of hazards reviewed and revised with a focus on increasing community members' understanding; and revised post-disaster assessment model adopted and used by all stakeholders. Formal qualifications and disaster risk management capacity building for National Disaster Management Office technical staff supported. Village DRR/CCA plans and early warning systems developed in Makira and Isabel.</p>

<p>MTS 11: manage the environment in a sustainable resilient way and contribute to climate change mitigation</p>	<p>Coastal Fisheries: assisted in facilitation of stakeholder consultations for the National Aquaculture Development Plan, Coral Plan, and Giant Clam Plan.</p> <p>Coastal fisheries governance: implementation of regional Coastal Fisheries Governance Project, to improve fisheries food security and sustainable livelihoods, including development of legislation, policy and management plans, as well as monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement for coastal fisheries and aquaculture, both at national and subnational level. The project includes a capacity building and awareness raising component as well as a number of attachments and Pacific Islander junior professional positions.</p> <p>Aquaculture: implementation of the Sustainable Pacific Aquaculture Development Project, including institutional strengthening and planning in the field of aquatic biosecurity, mentoring of operational business enterprises, and capacity development and technology transfer in feed, seed and brood stock management.</p> <p>Beche-de-mer (BDM): Through the Pacific Regional Oceanscape Programme, improve BDM management, including encouraging Melanesian Spearhead Group countries to work together in management of the BDM fisheries as a sub-region, including marketing, sharing data and having standardised approaches.</p>
<p>NDS Objective 5: unified nation with stable and effective governance and public order</p>	
<p>MTS 12: efficient and effective public service with a sound corporate culture</p> <p><i>SPC does not currently work in this area but, although it does substantial capacity development work with a range of line ministries.</i></p>	
<p>MTS 13: reduce corruption and improve governance at national, provincial and community levels</p> <p><i>SPC does not currently work in this area but, although it does support governance improvements across the range of work it does within sectors and in support of human rights.</i></p>	
<p>MTS 14: improve national unity and peace and promote cultural heritage at all levels</p>	<p>Culture: National Culture Policy peer review and learning supported</p>
<p>MTS 15: improve national security, law and order and foreign relations</p>	<p>Maritime boundaries: development of baseline, zone, limits and boundaries; provision of appropriate maritime boundaries data; support and advice to develop technical/legal solutions, including for shared/overlapping Exclusive Economic Zones ; and technical support for the preparations of negotiation meetings.</p>
<p>Other key areas of SPC support</p>	
	<p>Statistics: support for data dissemination, especially microdata access; NDS indicator reporting aligning also to SDGs in partnership with UNESCO; National Statistics Office (SINSO) in-line adviser; strengthened leadership and management capacity of SINSO senior management; and training on data analysis, interpretation, reporting and digestible dissemination of information products from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey.</p> <p>Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS): Support to CRVS committee and key stakeholders for efficient data capture and storage; and testing and finalisation of data entry screen with validation checks and skip patterns – in partnership with the World Health Organisation, UNICEF, Australia’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Bloomberg.</p>

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