

Project #3

Photo: James Hardcastle/ TNC

SOLOMON
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National
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Committee



Helping Coastal Communities Adapt to the Impacts of Climate Change

Project Duration: 36 months (2012-2015)

Proponent: Climate Change Division and Environment and Conservation Division, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology

Objectives: The project aims to build up the coastal communities' vulnerability profile. It also intends to get data (exposure, sensitivity adaptive capacity) from the vulnerability and adaptation assessments to inform the national, provincial and community stakeholders on strategic planning for climate change adaptation. Furthermore, the project aims to identify and rank the most vulnerable areas to prioritise resource allocation.

Funding: Total amount of USD\$349,580 for Solomon Islands.

Government Counterpart: The Solomon Islands Government will provide 20% of the total cost, amounting to USD\$70,391

Background: The country stepped up national efforts and initiated policy directions to addressing the impacts of climate change. Solomon Islands have developed in 2008 a National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) to address its urgent adaptation needs following a rapid vulnerability assessment of its development sectors. The NAPA has established a baseline of vulnerability

situations and priority vulnerable sectors that will need to be reviewed from time to time as vulnerability assessments become better informed through the use of scientific and socio-economic tools and when data is more readily available.

Early 2012, the Solomon Islands National Climate Change Policy was established under the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology.

With more than 80% of Solomon Islands population rural-based, vulnerability assessments are important to inform strategic adaptation activities for this population. Coastal communities will most likely face future challenges such as coastal erosion, flooding of food gardens and settlements, freshwater contamination, etc because of the impacts by sea-level rise, flooding, extreme weathers (e.g. cyclones, and droughts).

Through the National Plan of Action for Coral Triangle Initiative, the Community based resource management (CBRM) has been chosen as the most suitable method for getting communities to mainstream climate change components into their resource management planning.

There is currently a pilot project under the CTI Coral Triangle Support Program

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(CTSP) for climate change adaptation using the Local Early Action Plan (or LEAP) tool. However, there is not yet a national approach for undertaking data collection for community exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity levels to climate change

This project intends to address the above identified gaps for adaptation planning:

- Lack of a national vulnerability and adaptation assessment approach for coastal communities. Pulling together the existing vulnerability and adaptation assessment tools will provide the 'learning' on the best strategies for adaptation planning at the community level.
- Limited analysis of vulnerable communities, who is the most vulnerable? And to what climate change variables? How do we prioritize?
- Lack of data and information on how/ why coastal communities are

vulnerable to climate change impacts. A thorough assessment should assist the national government to advice coastal communities on their adaptation options.

Geographic area: The project intends to cover all nine provinces, working on selected communities 5 communities per Province per year.

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Budget Distribution:

Activities	Total Cost in US\$	Gov't investment	Request
Salaries	68,867	26,791	
Meeting/Training and Special events	61,061		
Renting space/office	43,613	43,613	
Field operations	71,720		
Institutional Support/Admin.	105,318		
Total	349,580	70,391	279,189

