



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2021 – Revised Template



Period covered: 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	Pacific
Country (ies):	Solomon Islands
Project Title:	Integrated Forest Management in the Solomon Islands
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/SOI/001/GFF
GEF ID:	5122
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity, Land Degradation, Climate Change, SFM/REDD
Project Executing Partners:	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology; Ministry of Forests and Research; Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
Project Duration:	5 years
Project coordinates: (Ctrl+Click here)	Pacific

Milestone Dates:

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	May 4, 2016
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	March 13, 2017
Proposed Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	July 30, 2021
Revised project implementation end date (if applicable) ²	July 30 2023
Actual Implementation End Date³:	n/a

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	5,676,454
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¹ As per FPMIS

² In case of a project extension.

³ Actual date at which project implementation ends - only for projects that have ended.

Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc⁴:	30,670,500
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2021 (USD m):	2,805,530
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2021⁵	13,587,500

Review and Evaluation

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee Meeting:	23 December 2019
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	May to July 2021
Actual Mid-term review date:	May to July 2021
Mid-term review or evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022)⁷:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or No <input type="checkbox"/>
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	March 2023
Terminal evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022):	No
Tracking tools/ Core indicators required⁸	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or No <input type="checkbox"/>

Ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	S	The project is being implemented through modalities such as Letters of Agreements, FAO technical staffs and involvement of government technical staffs have paved the way for implementation. There is good progress made with large
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⁴ This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

⁵ Please see last section of this report where you are asked to provide updated co-financing estimates. Use the total from this Section and insert here.

⁶ The MTR should take place about halfpoint between EOD and NTE – this is the expected date

⁷ Please note that the FAO GEF Coordination Unit should be contacted six months prior to the expected MTR date

⁸ Please note that the Tracking Tools are required at mid-term and closure for all GEF-4 and GEF-5 projects. Tracking tools are not mandatory for Medium Sized projects = < 2M USD at mid-term, but only at project completion. The new GEF-7 results indicators (core and sub-indicators) will be applied to all projects and programs approved on or after July 1, 2018. Also projects and programs approved from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018 (GEF-6) must apply core indicators and sub-indicators at mid-term and/or completion

		,parts of the project objectives met. Overall progress is satisfactory.
Overall implementation progress rating:	S	The application of LOAs and service contracts helped immensely to push the project forward. Both local and international contractors and consultancies have been engaged in implementing activities under the components.
Overall risk rating:	M	Risks exist. However, with the existing modalities of implementation combined with technical competencies and support at the higher level and the application of standards and procedures ensured mitigation measures and where major risk potentials and their occurrences removed.

Status

Implementation Status (1 st PIR, 2 nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):	4th PIR
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Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Affiliation	E-mail
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2. Progress Towards Achieving Project Objectives and Outcome (DO)

(All inputs in this section should be cumulative from project start, not annual)

Project objective and Outcomes (as indicated at CEO Endorsement)	Description of indicator(s) ⁹	Baseline level	Mid-term target ¹⁰	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2021	Progress rating ¹¹
Objective(s):						
Outcome 1: 1.1 Terrestrial protected area network expanded to improve ecosystem coverage.	Area formally brought under the national system of protected areas legally designated with the consent of local landowners.	0 ha terrestrial PA formally recognized	--	Terrestrial protected area network expanded to cover an additional area of 143,000 ha; that covers key biodiversity hotspots	Progress about Protected Areas (PA) network: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of 5 identified large protected area zones in five provinces (Malaita, Makira, Western – Kolombangara, Guadalcanal and Choiseul), 3 tribal regions in one PA Site (Choiseul) have already have their PA areas designated, under the LoA with Natural Resource Development Foundation (NRDF) which supported the project to fulfil this output. Two tribal groups, Qarasa and Vuri have had their objection case heard with the two tribes being cleared as rightful owners. 	MS

⁹ This is taken from the approved results framework of the project. Please add cells when required in order to use one cell for each indicator and one rating for each indicator.

¹⁰ Some indicators may not identify mid-term targets at the design stage (refer to approved results framework) therefore this column should only be filled when relevant.

¹¹ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory** (HS), **Satisfactory** (S), **Marginally Satisfactory** (MS), **Marginally Unsatisfactory** (MU), **Unsatisfactory** (U), and **Highly Unsatisfactory** (HU).

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • However, now there is appeal cases following the result and so work is pending further outcome. A third tribal group, Padezaka, have an objection case also and the local court hearing date is set for early 2021. • Work is still underway to continue the development of all tribal regions at the rest of five sites towards PA status, including Choiseul. • PA Management Committees (PAMC) have been setup at those PA designated areas and more PAMCs will continue to be formed in remaining PA areas. • The Ecological Solutions Foundation (ESF), which is a local not-for-profit organisation specialising in biological and ecosystems survey which also has experiences and very familiar with the national PA processes have been contracted to undertake PA establishment in the 4 remaining sites in Choiseul. • PA consultations have taken place in Makira where at least 9 tribes have been identified. • In South Malaita there are now 7 tribes identified with committee now already being appointed. • In Choiseul, three tribes not covered by NRDF being engaged with by ESF. • On Guadalcanal a joint taskforce under the Bahomea House of Chiefs and the Malango House of Chiefs have identified and nominated 9 tribal groups for PA consultations. 	
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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unfortunately, on Kolombangara, the land issues, even on the Fixed term Estates held by Kolombangara Forest Products Ltd (KFPL), have now seemed to hamper progress. It is very likely work will not progress with KFPL. Nevertheless, on the customary land there is chances for the KIBCA to relinquish certain tribal groups to be dealt with by the Integrated Forest Management Project (IFMP) while the rest will be taken care of by Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Solomon Islands. Total 30 tribes have shown their interest to undergo Protected Area establishment in all five provinces. 	
1.2 Improved management effectiveness of new and existing terrestrial protected areas.	Protected area management effectiveness score as recorded by METT	Baseline METT scores Kolombangara – 65, Bauro Highlands – 30, Tina-Popomana seu – 28, Are'areMaramasike – 32, Mount Maetambe – 33	--	METT score increased by 25% over baseline for each PA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PA management committees and protected area management plans are expected to be fulfilled in output 1.1 Under this output, establishment of an Inter-sectorial Coordinating Committee has been agreed following a meeting with ECD, MECDM in March 2021 and this is now being vetted by the PA Advisory Committee on April 31 2021. Identification and selection of members shall be made in close consultation with ECD. Further under this output a ranger training (75 participants) was held on 27 and 28 April at Malangono South Choiseul. The objectives were to support the participants to understand the enforcement laws and regulations under the PA Act including other related 	MS

					environmental laws, roles and responsibilities outlined in their Management Plans; and to ensure participants be equipped with skills and knowledge to monitor, report and enforce protected areas breaches or offences to enforcement authorities.	
1.3 Sustainability of protected area management improved through sustainable financing and local income generating activities.	PA finance scorecard	No formal PAs system and financing system in existent	--	Target for the scorecard to be established	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of one international and one national consultant is underway via the formal process. The project expects the consultants to be on board soon to undertake tasks to ensure a conservation financing scheme (PATF) is established. 	MS
Outcome 2: 2.1 Improved decision-making in management of production landscapes	ha. under SLM practices	Landscape s not effectively coordinate d for SLM	--	51,650ha.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract agreement is being finalized to engage a suitable contractor to undertake activities relating to policy reviews and development. It is expected that work will start in third quarter of year 2021. Meanwhile a coordination committee (Integrated Land Management Committee) of relevant Ministries to improve collaboration for policy coordination for integrated land management has been established with Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) holding Chairmanship. Initial meeting was conducted on 29 April 2021 with the Terms of Reference being approved with amendments. 	S
2.2 Improved land use practices promoted	Number of HH adopting SLM practices such as conservation agriculture,	Poor land use practices affecting soil and	--	At least 25% of HH living in/around PAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live and Learn Environmental Education is contracted to undertake activities under this output. Good progress is made with a draft report on initial assessment of SLM training 	S

	integrated soil fertility management and agroforestry (including women headed households)	water quality in and around PAs			<p>requirements already available and being reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training packages and programs for target groups will be developed and rolled out under the arrangement. 	
Outcome 3: 3.1 National capacities enhanced to monitor carbon stocks in natural forests and plantations	Number of peer reviewed national Carbon monitoring reports	None	--	At least 1 Carbon monitoring report available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Reference Level report was produced and published by UNFCCC • Further technical refinement will be necessary to improve the Forest Reference Level as provided in the conclusions of the report. • National Forest Monitoring System and Remote Sensing Training Organized at the Solomon Islands National University from 14-18 June 2021. • Discussion on continued support to REDD Unit on REDD+ Strategy development activity planning. 	S
Outcome 4: 4.1 Restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks in forests	tCO ₂ sequestered in forests through degraded forest restoration	Unsustainable logging operations affecting carbon stocks	--	Degraded forests restored and carbon stocks enhanced 3183842tC sequestered in 5 years of project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Forestry in March 2021 has given direction to enhance effort on the establishment of further nursery facilities. • All the 5 PA zones are considered and will be reviewed for specific restoration activities. • A work plan is being developed by the Forest Development and Restoration Division for implementation. 	MS
Outcome 5: 5.1 Increased local capacity to monitor, evaluate and manage biodiversity, land-use change and	M+E system operational and producing regular reports for use in national projects, policies and plans as well as reporting to	Low levels of capacity to monitor, evaluate and manage biodiversit	--	Local capacity increased to monitor, evaluate and manage biodiversity land use change and SFM.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranger training has been conducted in Choiseul through NRDF under Outcome 1.2. Meanwhile, the Project Management Unit under MECDM takes care of M&E of all ministry projects. • Satellite remote sensing and GIS training given to more than 40 participants from 	S

sustainable forest management.	international organizations	y land use change and SFM		An operational M+E system in place producing national	<p>government, university, and NGOs to enhance the level of MRV capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity survey in all five provinces started in June 2021 to enhance and update the baseline 	
5.2 Community-based Forest management (including tree planting) strengthened	Number of communities involved in effective forest management	No formal community-based forest management	--	Community based forest management strengthened and forest areas under effective local community control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With reference to outcome 4.1, nursery facilities will be installed at the PA zones PA Management committee established in 16 tribal areas for community-based forest management. Further, community based SFM training will be provided during the course of PA establishment in all PA areas. Discussion with MOFR paved the way for SFM training requirement identification and planning underway for organizing such training in all five provinces Timber Legality Standard Road map development is in progress in consultation with forestry stakeholders, MOFR and FAO staffs. 	S
5.3 Policymakers and the general public are better informed about biodiversity conservation, climate change, SLM and SFM.	Number of policymakers and general public aware about issues on BD conservation, CC, SLM and SFM through training and workshops	NA	--	100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under LOA with SINU, two Program Advisory Committee meetings were conducted. The first was regarding development of Bachelor's of Forestry Science in April 2021. The second was in May 2021 in relation to development of Degree in Environmental Studies. Further rounds of consultations and meetings are expected to occur in the course of year. These followed the launch of the Computer Laboratory which was installed with 60 PCs under the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries together with the university forestry 	S

					<p>herbarium and Science laboratory equipment and instruments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue and consultations were held to further strengthen the FAFF in Agricultural Studies towards a Masters' program and Diploma program on GIS and Geo-Spatial technology within the faculty, and including the possibility of support to transfer Forestry Certificate program to Poitete on Kolombangara, Western Province. 	
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Action plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Outcome 1: 1.1 Terrestrial protected area network expanded to improve ecosystem coverage.	More consultations Clearing the doubts of landowner groups	IFM project personals Government ministry officials Service providers and stakeholders	On going
1.2 Improved management effectiveness of new and existing terrestrial protected areas.	Management plans preparation and discussion with tribes Training on management plans and SFM techniques	IFM project personals Government ministry officials Service providers and stakeholders	On going
1.3 Sustainability of protected area management improved through sustainable financing and local income generating activities.	PATF establishment Training on PATF fund raising Fund utilization	IFM project personals Government ministry officials Service providers and stakeholders	On going
Outcome 4: 4.1 Restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks in forests	IFM project supporting MOFR in monitoring of existing nurseries, establishment of new nurseries, organizing SFM, law enforcement trainings	IFM project personals Government ministry officials Service providers and stakeholders	On going

3. Progress in Generating Project Outputs (Implementation Progress, IP)

(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as planned in the Annual Work Plan)

Outputs ¹²	Expected completion date ¹³	Achievements at each PIR ¹⁴					Implementation status (cumulative)	Comments Describe any variance ¹⁵ or any challenge in delivering outputs
		1 st PIR	2 nd PIR	3 rd PIR	4 th PIR	5 th PIR		
Output 1.1.1 Community agreements to designate new protected areas	Q4 2022	Community groups and tribal members made aware of Conservation opportunities using the PA Act and the need to establish PA Committee, with PA management plans and their agreement to protect terrestrial land areas. Also work under activity 6: to	Number of communities and wider interest groups were further consulted on PA efforts with continued awareness raising. This is being supported through mobilisation of project staff to continue work with communities, for example in	LOA with ESF established and signed. ESF will undertake task of biodiversity survey and PA establishment at four project sites Makira, Choiseul (partly, other part covered by NRDF), Guadalcanal and Malaita. ESF has completed initial round of PA awareness in Makira and Malaita whereas 2 nd round of consultation to establish PA management committee is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of project NTE • Extension of LOA with ESF and NRDF • Designation of PA in Choiseul • Total 30 tribes agreed for PA • 3 PA declared in Choiseul • Management committee formed for 16 PAs • Remaining tribes under consultation • Undertaking biodiversity baseline studies on proposed PA sites 		40%	<p><i>Lack of experience and knowledge by field staff especially at the community level in relation to PA establishments and processes is a huge barrier.</i></p> <p><i>Prior training on PA processes to build confidence in field officers would prove useful</i></p> <p><i>Land issues and objections to PA causes delay and attracts huge cost to settle disputes</i></p> <p><i>Clear concepts and ideas on alternative livelihood opportunities and income generating activities needs to be provided to the communities. There are common questions on benefits that also relates to livelihood options and sustainable development.</i></p>

		<i>consolidate and undertake biodiversity and other relevant baseline studies</i>	<i>Makira covering the Bauro Highland areas and as well as at Mount Maetambe on Choiseul, and support on the establishment of tree nursery at the Tina/Mt. Popomanaseu while awaiting processes for funds to undertake wider consultations and awareness on PA</i>	being undertaken in Makira and Malaita. NRDF LOA is being extended to complete Choiseul part of Choiseul PA process. NRDF has completed PA establishment of one tribe whereas other three tribes are at final stages of tribal chief's hearing for no objection.				
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¹² Outputs as described in the project logframe or in any updated project revision. In case of project revision resulted from a mid-term review please modify the output accordingly or leave the cells in blank and add the new outputs in the table explaining the variance in the comments section.

¹³ As per latest work plan (latest project revision); for example: Quarter 1, Year 3 (Q1 y3)

¹⁴ Please use the same unity of measures of the project indicators, as much as possible. Please be extremely synthetic (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

¹⁵ Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

			<p><i>network establishments for the area.</i></p> <p><i>Four tribes on Choiseul have made submission for PA and a 30-day public notice was in place for Qarasa and Siporae tribe. Meanwhile the Qarasa tribe have received objections and as such will have to go through a hearing process.</i></p> <p><i>On Makira 3 Conservation Association were established under which a great</i></p>					
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			<p><i>number of Community Based Organisations some of which represents tribal groups get affiliated to. Pamahima is an example of one association that have made commitments to move towards PA establishment. They have already defined their land boundaries and undertook genealogy recordings and have established their management committee.</i></p>					
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			<i>Waihita is yet another Association under which six tribal groups are affiliated. All of them, is are ready to go through the process and would need close guidance and support.</i>					
Output 1.2.1: Effective inter-sectorial coordination for PA management	Q3 2021	<i>Inter-sectorial coordination mechanism is yet to be established</i>	<i>Not started</i>	Discussion held with Environment Conservation Division. Deeper consultations will need to be organised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue held with ECD, MECDM on the establishment of inter sectoral coordination committee and PA Advisory Committee has endorsed it. • Discussion underway with MECDM for nomination of members. 		20%	Awaiting finalisation of Minutes of Meeting by the PA Advisory Committee in order to select and register representatives of the committee
Output 1.2.2: Current weaknesses in protected area management identified and rectified through the establishment	Q4 2022		As per Output 1.1.1 four tribal groups in the Mt. Maetambe region of	Establishment of management plans are a prerequisite to PA establishment as such is achieved through LOA service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More tribal groups nominated to establish PA Management Committees in all provinces except Kolombangara 		30%	Due to the complexity in the land tenure system, it may not be possible to place one whole area over one whole site a single PA. In this case there is now subset of PAs at the tribal level with

<i>and implementation of conservation agreements with communities and management plans</i>			Choiseul have submitted for PA. PA Management Plans would have been in place prior to submission as required under the PA Act 2010.	providers (ESF and NRDF).				separate PA Management Committees and Plans. A number of PA and PA management Plans are therefore envisaged.
Output 1.3.1: National Level PA financing strategy	Q2 2022	Not started	Not started		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interview of PATF international and national consultant completed, consultant shortlisted and recruitment underway 		10%	On track
Output 1.3.2: Sustainable income generating activities in each protected area as part of PA management plans	Q1 2023	Not started	Not started	Consultations held in January 2020 with stakeholders on Kolombangara and the KLTF has shown keenness to engage on the feasibility study to establish water bottling facility for the local tribes and communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water bottling plant was not considered due to environmental concerns because it will lead to adding plastic wastes Identification of sustainable income generation activities completed through study conducted in output 2.2. This will be further discussed with 		10%	On track

					integrated land management committee chaired by MAL for implementation planning.			
Output 2.1.1: <i>Assessment of impacts of current land-use practices on biodiversity, land degradation and the provision of other ecosystem services (ecosystem valuation) and identification of potential areas for improvement</i>	Q3 2022	Not started	Not started	Discussions on selection of consultant is ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outputs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 merged together to call for one bid • Call for bid invited • Bidder evaluation completed • Waiting for final decision of procurement committee to finalize agreement of winner to undertake the activity. 		10%	Contracting process underway. Activities developed under LOA for contractor to fulfil and achieve this output
Output 2.1.2: <i>Policy, legal and regulatory frameworks for land-use change reviewed and revised as necessary</i>	Q2 Y3	Not Started	Not started	Not started	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outputs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 merged together to call for one bid • Call for bid invited • Bidder evaluation completed • Waiting form final decision of procurement committee to finalize agreement of winner undertake the activity. 		10%	Contracting process underway. Activities developed under LOA for contractor to fulfil and achieve this output
Output 2.1.3: <i>Mechanism for policy coordination</i>	Q2 2021	Not started	Not started	Sustainable Land Management (SLM) coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating Committee called the Integrated Land Management 		100%	First committee meeting held, and members approved Terms of Reference with amendments. The committee

<p><i>between sectors (i.e. government ministries and agencies) established and operating successfully</i></p>				<p>committee is being established through Ministry of Agriculture which currently has a mandate over SLM in general. It is being referred to as the Integrated Land Management Committee (ILMC). As per consultations, the ILMC will be responsible for providing general oversight of project execution within component 2 of the project and will ensure that all activities in this project are adequately prepared and carried out.</p>	<p>Committee formally established and operating successfully.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Below is the key TOR of the ILMC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Provide guidance on review of existing status on policy, legal and regulatory frameworks on land use, including existing activities of MAL and other related programmes in consultation with relevant responsible agencies both at the provincial and national levels. · Development of Mechanism for agriculture and land use policy coordination between sectors (i.e., government ministries and agencies) to achieve coordination among different ministries and government agencies, nongovernment organisations and development partners. Provide guidance on review and development of policy, legal and regulatory frameworks for land-use change, 		<p>will meet 4 times in a year but there may be more meetings depending on the requirements.</p> <p>Second meeting will be organised in July 2021</p>
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					<p>development priorities and gazetting them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Support and provide guidance and opinions where necessary on selection of experts and service providers under component 2. · Guidance on the development and adoption of land use strategy at IFMP site with Sustainable Land Management (SLM) plans · Identification of training needs, including on responsible governance of land, for ILMC members and for senior level managers of government using Food and Agriculture Organisation’s voluntary guidelines and other training needs of community stakeholders including farmers and agriculture extension workers. · Provide support in the development of systems or processes to sustain coordination for land use and landscapes management. · Will use benchmarks as provided in the project documentation as yard 			
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					stick to monitor activities and to make reasonable recommendations for adjustments to implementation plans based on current situations.			
Output 2.2.1: Sustainable land and forest management techniques applied in protected area buffer zone	Q3 2022	Not started	Not started	LOA with Live and Learn Environmental Education has been developed and ready for implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outputs 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 merged together to have one LOA for implementation • Contract signed with Live and Learn • Stakeholder assessment for SLM training needs and alternate livelihood plan development completed. 		20%	Live and Learn recruited Nationals to implement activities under agreement
Output 2.2.2: Training Programme on SLM	Q3 2022	Not started	Not started	LOA with Live and Learn Environmental Education has been developed and ready for implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outputs 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 merged together to have one LOA for implementation • Contract signed with Live and Learn • Stakeholder assessment for SLM training needs and alternate livelihood plan development completed. 		20%	Live and Learn is developing training programs and manuals
Output 3.1.1: Carbon monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV)	Q3 2020	Started	The REDD+ Unit of the Forest Management Division	Technical reviews had been conducted and a report on the FRL is available at:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FRL report published • Carbon emission baseline form forestry sector calculated 		100%	Completed

<i>systems for forests in the Solomon Islands</i>			submitted Solomon Islands proposed Forest Reference Level (FRL) to the UNFCCC and currently undergoing reviews	https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/tar2019_SLB.pdf . Further technical refinement will be necessary to improve the FRL as provided in the conclusions of the report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRV training provided to stakeholders 			
Output 3.1.2: <i>National capacity to control deforestation, forest degradation and carbon measuring and monitoring</i>	Q4 2021	A review on the Forest Timber Utilization Act has been conducted	Finalisation of the reviewed Timber Utilization Act is pending with further reviews to be undertaken	Land Use Land Cover Map (Forest Cover information similar as FRL) preparation for year 2000 and 2020, Change assessment and change map preparation, data development and compilation for NFMS and conducting capacity building training on each item was arranged through an international consultant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training on National Forest Monitoring Systems (NFMS) and Remote Sensing conducted NFMS web portal development is underway and to be completed by Q4 of 2021 		75%	Web Portal on NFMS to be developed by consultant
Output 3.1.3: <i>National forest carbon assessment</i>	Q3 2020	Not started	Not started	National forest carbon was estimated in FRL report which was	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity is completed through output 3.1.1 		100%	Completed

				reviewed by UNFCCC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRV capacity building exercise will continue 			
Output 4.1.1: <i>Forest cover increased through agro-forestry, small-scale tree planting and assisted natural regeneration</i>	Q1 2023	Not started	<p>Efforts have gone into establishing a tree nursery at the site on Guadalcanal (Tina/Popomanaseu).</p> <p>MoFR currently has a Donor Obligation as part of their Development Budget Proposal and is part of the forest restoration effort that of which IFMP communities can Make submissions for micro finance and in-kind support</p>	<p>Two nursery facility had been established at Bauro Highlands and Mount Maetambe besides Tina/Popomanaseu.</p> <p>Due to the size and topographical features of the islands, two additional sites are being requested for opposite sides of Bauro Highland and Mt. Maetambe to ease up community access.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with Forestry in March 2021 has given direction to enhance effort on the establishment of further nursery facilities. All the 5 PA zones are considered and will be reviewed for specific restoration activities. A work plan is being developed by the Forest Development and Restoration Division for implementation. 		30%	Ongoing efforts on establishing tree nurseries with major drive expected from MOFR.

			such as for tools to undertake activities ranging from nursery work to tree growing efforts.					
Output 5.1.1: <i>Baseline surveys of local flora and fauna, invasive species threats, genetic conservation, etc.</i>	No Activities until Dec 2019	Few surveys carried out on Makira under output 1.1.1	On-going	On-going and in conjunction with LOA with ESF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rangers training to effectively monitor and enforce PA areas including extensions of knowledge and understanding about biodiversity and ecosystems under outcome 1.2 Training on conducting and producing baseline survey of local flora, fauna, invasive species and on genetic conservation in all project sites have started 		40%	On track.
Output 5.2.1: <i>Training on SFM techniques such as in forest restoration, land suitability, harvesting</i>	Q4 2022	Not started	Not started	FAOHQ and FAORAP is working on development of timber legality standard keeping in mind various requirements for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparatory meeting on the organisation of national workshop for the staff of MOFR on law enforcement for SFM including logging conducted with MoFR 		25%	On track

<p><i>techniques, law enforcement, fire management, etc.</i></p>				<p>timber harvesting, trade and value addition as well as law enforcements. They are also planning for a backstopping support on forestry downstream processing policy development support. Other SFM activities mentioned in output will be delivered through a local service provider under the leadership of FAO.</p> <p>Activities will start in November/ December 2020.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber legality road map development meeting with MOFR completed and draft report under review • Training plan for SFM laid down in consultation with MOFR 			
<p>Output 5.3.1: <i>Training, awareness and educational materials produced and disseminated through SINU, RTC's and</i></p>	<p>Q2 2022</p>	<p>Not started</p>	<p>Not started</p>	<p>LAO with SINU signed and implementation underway. This LOA will establish two graduates' courses in Solomon Islands National</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under LOA, work began on development of Bachelors of Forestry Science and development of Degree in program in Environmental Studies. Procurement 		<p>60%</p>	<p>On track</p>

<p><i>relevant Government Ministries and NGO's</i></p>				<p>university i) forestry and ii) environmental science, with full laboratory support and trained teachers.</p>	<p>of IT equipment, completed for computer laboratory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of Computer Lab at SINU FAFF and the installed herbarium and Science laboratory equipment and instruments completed. 			
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4. Information on Progress, Outcomes and Challenges on Project Implementation

Please briefly summarize main progress achieving the outcomes (cumulative) and outputs (during this fiscal year):

- Importance of natural environmental settings are realized as important criteria for sustainable development and key to future community livelihoods and sustenance
- More communities become aware of Solomon Islands' Protected Areas Act 2010 and other relevant legislations and government policies
- Alternative options to logging such as with payments for ecosystem services through incentives such as the Nakau programme is realized.
- Forest Reference Level (FRL) to the UNFCCC Secretariat is being published
- Continued engagement with relevant communities ensures commitments by tribal groups
- The importance of continued training and capacity building is completed and enhanced through institutions
- More communities and tribal groups engaged in PA processes and training and involved in project assessments
- Development of relevant course programs at the University and successful installations of training facilities at campus
- Establishment and formalization of relevant committees as prescribed under the project
- Signing of LOAs and recruitment of consultants to undertake relevant tasks and fulfilling them under the outcomes and outputs
- Accomplishing identified training needs
- Continued dialogue and engagements with lead ministries for redirection and best approaches
- Good practice guidance related to PA establishment is being prepared.

What are the major challenges the project has experienced during this reporting period?

- Lack of proper office space and equipment continue to cause problems with staff physically located at two separate offices buildings making it difficult to comfortably work and coordinate daily tasks.
- Varying educational levels and standards of experiences by subordinates at the field sites continue to display varying understandings and so as the different knowledge to skillfully deal with communities and stakeholders
- Isolation of admin and operations unit from project operations and the project field sites has contributing factors to staff performances and outputs. At least with two local positions created would probably remove burdens and speed up process time
- The Covid-19 global pandemic has impacted the project badly and especially on its implementation

Development Objective (DO) Ratings, Implementation Progress (IP) Ratings and Overall Assessment

Please note that the overall DO and IP ratings should be substantiated by evidence and progress reported in the Section 2 and Section 3 of the PIR.

For DO, the ratings and comments should reflect the overall progress of project results.

	FY2021 Development Objective rating¹⁶	FY2021 Implementation Progress rating¹⁷	Comments/reasons¹⁸ justifying the ratings for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	<i>Despite the challenges, now the project has been noticing healthy implementation and realistic achievements on ground. The project progress is satisfactory and it is anticipated that all milestones will be achieved.</i>
Budget Holder	S	S	<i>The project has made significant strides in identifying and resolving bottlenecks that impede achievement of the set milestones, this has resulted in achievement of clear and tangible outputs.</i>
GEF Operational Focal Point	S	S	<i>The project has made considerable progress in achieving its milestones by resolving the challenges faced in implementation. These lessons should encourage the PMU team to continue to work harder and strive to achieve all its project outputs.</i>
Lead Technical Officer¹⁹	S	S	<i>Despite COVID-19 related restrictions affecting the direct technical backstopping and provision of technical support on the ground, the project has made a good progress in the reporting period. The project is well on its way to achieve all the key project outputs.</i>

¹⁶ **Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating** – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet.

For more information on ratings, definitions please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁷ **Implementation Progress Rating** – Assess the progress of project implementation. For more information on ratings definitions please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁸ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

¹⁹ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	S	S	<p><i>The project has made significant progress towards meeting its objectives, despite several challenges, including COVID-19 impacts and other implementation issues. The participatory engagement with tribal groups, in establishing protected areas, respecting the customary rights and tenure, despite serious challenges, has aided in strengthening community ownership and sustainability. Capacity building at different levels – communities, university students, government officials, NGOs, etc – have all contributed to the project’s sustainability. Moving forward, the project could develop a communications and outreach strategy to capture the different learnings and focus on preparation of a sustainability strategy and action plan.</i></p>
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5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved ESM plan, when appropriate. Note that only projects with **moderate** or **high** Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to **low** risk projects. Please add recommendations to improve the implementation of the ESM plan, when needed.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				

In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate if the initial Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid; if not, what is the new classification and explain.

Overall Project Risk classification (at project submission)	Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ²⁰ . If not, what is the new classification and explain.

Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.

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²⁰ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is changing, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

6. Risks

Risk ratings

RISK TABLE					
<p><i>The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified in the course of project implementation. Please make sure that the table also includes the Environmental and Social Management Risks captured by the Environmental and social Management Risk Mitigations plans. The <u>Notes</u> column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in your specific project, as relevant.</i></p>					

	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
1	Natural changes in ecosystems and associated species due to gradual changes in climate and extreme weather events.	M	The monitoring system developed under Component 3 and 5 will be designed to identify changes in ecosystems likely to be linked to climate change (e.g. occurrence of forest fires, pests and diseases, spread of invasive species) so that remedial actions can be taken. If necessary, this will be supported by research activities under the same component.	MRV and NFMS training conducted to build capacity to mitigate this risk. NFMS portal development is underway with Forest Department for data and information dissemination to create awareness and to empower reporting.	

²¹ GEF Risk ratings: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High

²² If a risk mitigation plan had been presented as part of the Environmental and Social management Plan or in previous PIR please report here on progress or results of its implementation. For moderate and high risk projects, please Include a description of the ESMP monitoring activities undertaken in the relevant period”.

	Risk	Risk rating²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
2	Productivity changes in forestry and agriculture.	M	Plant and assist natural regeneration of multiple purpose tree species used for restoration and improvements to agriculture (for SLM and income generation) will be selected in such way that they are resilient to the most likely impacts of climate change (e.g. drought, outbreaks of pests and diseases, etc.) and also provide multiple benefits to the local communities. Climate resilient forest and land management techniques will also be promoted in local communities (e.g. soil and water conservation).	Progress made for establishments of tree nursery at two sites in Guadalcanal and arrangement for SLM training through Live and Learn Environmental Education. SFM training needs identified and plan for conducting training is being prepared.	
3	Risks to biodiversity from introduction of new invasive alien species	M	SIs, being a nation of small islands is vulnerable to accidental introduction of invasive alien species. The project will ensure that PA management and landscape management also consider monitoring any presence or increase of such species.	PA management plans are prepared for all 30 identified PAs Biodiversity survey to improve baseline information is in progress Trainings are being given to herbarium department of MOFR Herbarium established in SINU Sample specimen collected during biodiversity field survey will kept in SINU herbarium for teaching purpose.	

	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
4	Inadequate funding for protected area management.	M	The financing strategy will assess all possible sources of funding and focus on those most easily secured. Trust fund for PA management will be established. Protected area management activities will also be prioritised in case funding is limited.	Discussion with relevant ministries on PATF has been started to establish a national PATF. International and National consultants identified and recruitment is underway. PATF establishment is expected to be completed by Q2 of 2022.	
5	Incentives are too low to persuade landowners to change their behavior.	H	The project will focus on PA management, CC, SLM and SFM activities that are both good for the environment and economically viable. The project will also devote time and resources to explain why and how improved forest and land management techniques can benefit the land owners economically. The project will minimise and try to avoid monetary incentives wherever possible, unless these can be sustained. Instead it will focus more on income generating activities. When these are proposed, they will be based on a detailed and realistic analysis of costs and benefits, learning from experiences on other similar projects. The project will also ensure that the benefits are distributed in a way that is reasonable, fair and equitable.	There has been some progress in one project site in Choiseul province where one PA declared as NAKAU site resulting in extra income for community member. That has generated interest among other members to go for PA establishment. PATF will also add value and generate interest in landowner groups and change their behaviour. Positive support from MECDM and MOFR about capitalizing PATF is also a welcoming move	

	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
6	Lack of experience in fund management	M	<p>The project will establish the PA Trust fund as per the provisions of the Protected Area Act with community involvement for sustainable management of PAs.</p> <p>The project will put a special emphasis on training the key stakeholders in fund management and operation, including those MECDM staff that will have an ongoing role in supporting the functions of the Fund.</p> <p>This is also a potential risk at local level. The project aims to ensure that local PA management committees have the capacity, and are aware of their obligations and responsibilities, to manage any funds received for management of individual protected areas.</p>	<p>Discussion with relevant ministries on PATF has been started to establish a national PATF.</p> <p>PATF establishment will laydown the foundation and provide training on fund management</p>	
7	Logging pressure	H	<p>In 2014, 2.1 million m3 of logs were harvested, against an estimated sustainable annual cut of about 300,000 m3. The project aims to set aside some of the last remaining intact lowland forest areas, which may come under pressure from logging interests. This risk will be mitigated through constant dialogue with the policy makers in relevant government ministries (MOFR, MECDM, Finance and Treasury) and through awareness-raising activities with the general public.</p>	<p>From June 2020, Government of Solomon Islands has passed Forest Resource and Timber Utilization (Felling Licences) (Amendment) Regulation 2020 which makes felling above 400 m above sea level illegal. This will boost our implementation efforts on ground.</p>	

	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
8	Limited support and implementation capacity in government.	H	<p>The capacity of government agencies in the Solomon Islands is weak. The project will emphasise working in collaboration across agencies and with local communities to reduce the demands placed on government staff. Capacity building will also target key weaknesses in government and develop strategies to overcome these for the long-term sustainability of project outcomes. Broader support for the project will be generated by awareness raising targeted at influential decision makers at local, provincial and national levels. These mitigation measures will also be supported by regular monitoring of project progress, so that corrective actions can be taken if necessary.</p>	<p>Government continues to face human and institutional capacity shortage. A capacity gap assessment workshop was organized in Q4 of 2019 which outlined various needs under the project objectives. IFM Project is working on broad institutional and human resource capacity development under the umbrella of GEF focal areas and IFMP.</p> <p>Institutional capacity building in SINU, MECDM, MOFR and MAL is in progress under various outcomes</p>	

	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
9	Dissatisfaction or disengagement of communities in project areas.	M	<p>Communication between local people and donor projects can be difficult and could lead to confusion and misunderstanding of the work of the project and its capacity to deliver on community expectations.</p> <p>Significant time will be spent during the early stages of the project in establishing a framework for ongoing community consultation, as well as ensuring a sound understanding of community and project objectives and the approach to delivering on these. To facilitate in this process, specific project personnel will be tasked to co-ordinate communications with communities in the individual project areas.</p>	No specific project personnel has yet been identified to deal with the issue. However, community engagements and consultations is proving to be on going and somewhat is in this direction to lower such risk.	

	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
10	Disagreement between different landowner groups on establishment of protected areas and other key project interventions.	M	<p>The presence of several landowner groups in or near a given project area, such as is the case near the proposed PA of Mount Maetambe, has the potential to lead to complexities during project implementation. Collaboration and involvement of landowning communities will be crucial for the long-term success of this project. Therefore, communities will be active participants from the very beginning in the design, implementation and management of project activities. The project design will also be guided and learn from the ongoing work on customary land reform and from the stakeholders involved in that process.</p> <p>The main strategy proposed to overcome reluctance will be the provision of incentives (i.e. development benefits) for communities to engage in conservation (see above). However, the project will also build upon the existing interest in conservation and explain how conservation and improved forest and land management techniques can benefit them in other ways.</p>	<p>IFMP has started discussion with tribal leader / land owner groups to discuss the alternate livelihood support activities for PA buffer areas.</p> <p>This risk has resulted changing the project implementation modalities for PA establishment</p> <p>landowner groups don't agree with each other and this has resulted in identification of 30 PAs against indicated 5 PAs in project document.</p> <p>This has resulted in increasing the cost of PA establishment</p>	

	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
11	Linkages with other institutions	M	<p>As per the situation assessment made during the project preparation phase field visits, the project will develop linkages with private and public institutions operating in the project sites for effective and unhindered implementation of project activities. However, in the case of the Tina River Hydro Project (TRHDP), while recognizing that these linkages are essential, the project should maintain its independence from TRHDP while engaging with landowners and other stakeholders. At the same time it is important that the project maintain ongoing communication and collaboration with the TRHDP office.</p> <p>This approach should ensure that the relationship between communities and the project is determined separately from relationships between these same communities and TRHDP.</p>	IFMP has established linkage with other ongoing projects like REDD+ and other forest department ongoing projects to build upon and deliver more effective measures for broader visibilities in capacity development.	

Project overall risk rating (Low, Moderate, Substantial or High):

FY2020 rating	FY2021 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Moderate	Moderate	Active stakeholder support, community engagement and government leadership are indicators good implementation environment but real situation and capacity of government institutions to handle above mentioned risks makes it Moderate risk situation.

7. Adjustments to Project Strategy – Only for projects that had the Mid-term review (or supervision mission)

If the project had a MTR review or a supervision mission, please report on how the MTR recommendations were implemented as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented
Recommendation 1:	
Recommendation 2:	
Recommendation 3:	
Recommendation 4:	

Adjustments to the project strategy.

Please note that changes to outputs, baselines, indicators or targets cannot be made without official approval from PSC and PTF members, including the FLO. These changes will follow the recommendations of the MTR or the supervision mission.

Change Made to	Yes/No	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
Project Outputs		
Project Indicators/Targets		

Adjustments to Project Time Frame

If the duration of the project, the project work schedule, or the timing of any key events such as project start up, mid-term review, final evaluation or closing date, have been adjusted since project approval, please explain the changes and the reasons for these changes. The Budget Holder may decide, in consultation with the PTF, to request the adjustment of the EOD-NTE in FPMIS to the actual start of operations providing a sound justification.

Change	Describe the Change and Reason for Change	
Project extension	Original NTE: 30 July 2021	Revised NTE: 30 July 2023
	Justification:	

8. Stakeholders Engagement

Please report on progress, challenges, and outcomes on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan included at CEO Endorsement/Approval (when applicable))

The project included stakeholders outlined as follows:

Local community, Civil Society and Non- Governmental Organizations, Educational Institutions and Research Organizations, International NGOs, Funding Agency, Bilateral, multilateral and regional organizations and Private Sector Organizations

In the reporting period, participating local communities became highly involved. This is largely those communities or tribal groups that have shown interest to participate in the PA process in those identified PA zones in 5 provinces.

Through LOA arrangements, the Natural Resource Development Foundation (NRDF) and Ecological Solutions Foundation (ESF) both enlisted as project partners became engaged with PA processes with the communities. The allocation was, NRDF would work with four tribes in Choiseul, while ESF will engage with three tribes in Choiseul. These are as shown in the table given below. The ESF will also work with two identified tribes on Makira, and one each on Guadalcanal and Malaita. Through dialogue further understanding was reached to have NRDF to also work with KFPL on the Fixed Term Estate reserve areas.

On Makira at least 9 tribal communities have been identified as showing interest for PA as described in the table. On Malaita, at least 7 tribes have been identified as in the table representing West and East Are'are regions. On Guadalcanal, there are 9 tribes which includes a family owned registered land. Two tribal groups have decided to integrate. The tribes are as shown in the table.

There was a separate understanding that on Kolombangara, the World Conservation Society (WCS) will work closely with the Kolombanagara Island Biodiversity Conservation Association (KIBCA) to establish PA areas on customary land under the various tribe.

Unfortunately, no tribes are being engaged on Kolombangara, in the Western Province as tribal areas are under WCS through an understanding. Nevertheless, in recent meeting with KFPL, KIBCA has indicated shortfalls and were considering handing around 3 tribal groups to IFMP and decisions will be taken shortly.

In all the PA processes, the Environment and Conversation Division officers were represented in each of the consultations.

	Choiseul	Western	Guadalcanal	Malaita	Makira
1.	Vuri		Kaipalipali	Mamaro'a	Henuaraha
2.	Garasa		ChavuChavu	Awasipo,	Hageta
3.	Siporae		Charana	Wa'annahata	Naoneone
4.	Padezaka		Uluna & Sutahuri	Waraihanua	Nangoni/Mamiripi
5.	Matakale		Halisia	Wa'aririasi	Tarigape
6.	Voba		Koenihao	Haupoto	Birobiro Inaginagi
7.	Kona		Michael and Rex Meki	Paua	Torao
8.					Anomera
9.					Mawawe

On further LOA fronts, the Live and Learn Environmental Education through its Pacific Network have been engaged to undertake task expected under Outcome 2.2 of the project and relating to improved land use practices.

Educational institution like the SINU had also signed an LOA with the project on the basis for establishing formal training programs, and production of awareness and educational materials and its dissemination. Recently two sessions were held by the Programs Advisory Committee members of the faculty (FAFF) for the development of degree programs on Forest Science, and Environmental Studies. There is further interest to produce a Masters' Degree in Agriculture, with degree program already running.

A number of capacity building trainings were conducted which include the recent NFMS and RS organized at the SINU computer lab through virtual mode. 40 participants from different stakeholders were involved including, government ministries, SINU staff, JICA project members, Winrock representative, and GIZ representative.

9. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable)

Was a gender analysis undertaken or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages? Please briefly indicate the gender differences here.

- Gender analysis through outcome 2.2 was conducted to understand the women's and men's role in agriculture and livelihood work. A draft report is under review. In PA management committee, tribes are encouraged to include more women members, which is showing positive signs.

Does the M&E system have gender-disaggregated data? How is the project tracking gender results and impacts?

- Not possible to report at this point of time due to cultural complexities of women participation but FAO is encouraging Tribes to include women in PA management committee. Total number of women in PA

management committee as well as participation in livelihood training will be reported once these activities are implemented (Planned in Q3 and Q4 of year 2021)

Does the project staff have gender expertise?

- Training on gender approaches were given to two project staffs.

If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

- closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;
- improving women’s participation and decision making; and or ✓
- generating socio-economic benefits or services for women ✓

10. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval

- Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.
 - Biodiversity report of five provinces (in 5 volumes)
 - A report on PA establishment process including all guidelines outlining difficulties, community concerns, technical requirements and challenges, etc.
 - Land use land cover change assessment report
 - A report on way forward for development of timber legality standard in Solomon Islands
 - Reports on sustainable land use practices in PA buffer areas
 - Two bachelor degree course curriculum of Forestry and Environmental Science
 - A report on selected activities of Sustainable Forest Management
- Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.
 - Two news articles published by national news papers on PA establishment and Rangers training.
- Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected global environmental benefits. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.
 - This story will come through implementation of outcome 2.2.
- Please provide links to publications, leaflets, video materials, related website, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.
 - https://redd.unfccc.int/files/2019_submission_frel_solomon_islands.pdf
 - [MAL establishes Integrated Land Management Committee \(ILMC\) – My SIG Services Portal \(solomons.gov.sb\)](http://MAL_establishes_Integrated_Land_Management_Committee_(ILMC)_-My_SIG_Services_Portal_(solomons.gov.sb))
 - <https://solomons.gov.sb/protected-area-pa-training-successfully-held-in-choiseul-province/>
- Does the project have a communication and/or knowledge management focal point? If yes, please provide their names and email addresses
 - At present CTA is taking care of this portfolio but FAOSAP has communication consultant.

11. Indigenous Peoples Involvement

Are Indigenous Peoples involved in the project? How? Please briefly explain.

The project strategy is to improve the management of forests in the SIs by integrating biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management (SFM), and sustainable land management (SLM) into policymaking at the national level and livelihood activities of local communities living in and around forests. Use of land and the natural resources in Solomon Islands whether by individuals, communities or tribal groups mostly conforms to customary rights and heritage and characterised by the type of cultural land tenure arrangements through the patrilineal or matrilineal lineage. In the Solomon Islands an estimated 83% of the land is held under customary tenure which effectively give rise to forest land at 90 % being owned also under customary rights.

The Land and Titles Act originally enacted in 1968 further acknowledge that customary land is governed by customary law. Land ownership patterns within the customary land area essentially start on the coast and follow geographic features (such as a ridge top or waterway) up to the centre of the island. In all these cases, customary ownership would already refer to indigenous people who have rights over the land. So, the sites concerned with this project already fall under this.

As per project descriptions indigenous people are the ones who are going to be involved in this project.

12. Innovative Approaches

Please provide a brief description of an innovative²³ approach in the project / programme, describe the type (e.g. technological, financial, institutional, policy, business model) and explain why it stands out as an innovation.

Terrestrial PA establishment is happening for the first time in Solomon Islands under this project which provides a testing ground for policy effectiveness. This is unique process as it is performed in a participatory manner in consultation with local communities who are IPs, as well as taking into consideration and respecting the full customary rights and tenures. The entire PA establishment process is being tested and scope for improvement is also being identified. This brings innovation in policy reforms and helps in reshaping policy directions.

PA Trust Fund is being established for the first time and bringing innovations to the process involving several stakeholders for conservation fund establishment.

Timber legality standard road map is bringing new dimensions to forestry business sectors.

²³ Innovation is defined as *doing something new or different in a specific context that adds value*

13. Possible impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the project

Please indicate any implication of the Covid-19 pandemic on the activities and progress of the project. Highlight the adaptative measures taken to continue with the project implementation.

- Are the outcomes/outputs still achievable within the project period.
 - Under the extended NTE of project (July 2023) all outcomes under components 2, 3 and 5 as well as outcome 1.3 will be achieved 100% whereas outcome 1.1 and 1.2 will have some implications due to restrictions and complex nature of land tenure system in Solomon Islands. Outcome 4.1 under component 4 will have severe impact.
- Will the timing of the project MTR or TE be affected/delayed?
 - No, MTR is being conducted and expected to produce report in Aug 2021.
- What is the impact of COVID-19 on project beneficiaries, personnel, etc.
 - Restricted travel and organizing workshops and consultations resulting in delayed implementation
 - Online mode of consultations is being followed but the effectiveness and impact of such consultation has limitations resulting in a greater number of training requirements leading to enhanced cost implications.
- Are there good practices and lessons learned to be shared?
 - Good practice guidance related to PA establishment is being prepared.
 - All reports mentioned in knowledge management section will be considered as lesson learnt and will be shared with stakeholders.

14. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ^[1]	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2021	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
Government	Ministry of Forestry and Research	In-kind	13,000,000	6,500,000		13,000,000
Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock	In-kind	8,000,000	4,000,000		8,000,000
Government	Ministry of Environment, Conservation, Disaster Management and Meteorology	In-kind	2,500,000	1,250,000		2,500,000
	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)	In-kind	2,030,000	0		0
	Kolombangara Forest Products Limited (KFPL)	In-kind	500,000	250,000		500,000
	Secretariat for Pacific Community (SPC)	In-kind	500,000	0		500,000
	Natural Resources Development Foundation (NRDF)	In-kind	750,000	375,000		750,000
	Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership (SICCP)	In-kind	15,500	0		15,500
	Live and Learn	In-kind	200,000	100,000		200,000

	Tina River Hydro Power Development Project (TRHDP)	In-kind	1,325,000	662,500		1,325,000
	American Museum of Natural History (AMNH)	In-kind	350,000	0		350,000
	FAO	Cash	1,000,000	200,000		1,000,000
	FAO	In-kind	500,000	250,000		500,000
		TOTAL	30,670,500	13,587,500		28,640,500

[u](#) Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

Please explain any significant changes in project co-financing since Project Document signature, or differences between the anticipated and actual rates of disbursement

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet. **DO Ratings definitions:** **Highly Satisfactory (HS)** - Project is expected to achieve or exceed **all** its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”); **Satisfactory (S)** - Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings); **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)** - Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve **some** of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits); **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)** - Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only **some** of its major global environmental objectives); **Unsatisfactory (U)** - Project is expected **not** to achieve **most** of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits); **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)** - The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, **any** of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.)

Implementation Progress Rating – Assess the progress of project implementation. **IP Ratings definitions:** **Highly Satisfactory (HS):** Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as “good practice”. **Satisfactory (S):** Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action. **Moderately Satisfactory (MS):** Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action. **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU):** Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action. **Unsatisfactory (U):** Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan. **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU):** Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.