

Semi-Annual Safeguards Monitoring Report
July – December 2023

Solomon Islands: Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project

Semi-Annual Safeguards Monitoring Report July – December 2023

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Solomon Islands**

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ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-------|--|
| ADB | Asian Development Bank |
| AP | Affected persons |
| CAR | Corrective action request |
| CCP | Communication and consultation plan (for the project) |
| CCS | Country Safeguards System |
| CESMP | Construction environmental and social management plan (prepared by the contractor) |
| DBO | Design Build Operate |
| DCA | Development Consent Agreement |
| DDR | Due Diligence Report |
| DFAT | Australian Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade |
| EARF | Environmental and Review Framework |
| ECD | Environment Conservation Department (within MECDM) |
| EHSG | Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines (of the World Bank Group) |
| EIS | Environmental Impact Statement |
| EMP | Environmental management plan |
| ESMP | Environmental and Social Management Plan |
| EUB | European Union Bank |
| FGD | Focus group discussion |
| GRM | Grievance redress mechanism |
| HAEP | Hygiene awareness and education program |
| HNWS | Honiara Network Water Supply project |
| HWMP | Honiara Watershed Management Project (GEF financed component of UWSSSP) |
| IEE | Initial Environmental Examination |
| IES | International environment specialist (of the DSC) |
| LARP | Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan |
| MECDM | Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology |
| MMERE | Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification |
| MID | Ministry of Infrastructure Development |
| MOFT | Ministry of Finance and Treasury |
| NRH | National Referral Hospital |
| PER | Public environment report |
| PMU | Project Management Unit (in SW) |
| PSC | Project Steering Committee |
| PPA | Project Preparation Assistance |
| PRF | Project Readiness Financing |
| ROW | Right of Way |
| RF | Resettlement Framework |
| RSA | World Bank Regional Safeguard Advisor |
| SBD | Solomon Islands Dollar |
| SEAH | Sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment |
| SIG | Solomon Island Government |
| SMR | Semi-annual safeguards monitoring report |

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|--------|--|
| SPS | Safeguard Policy Statement 2009 (of ADB) |
| SW | Solomon Islands Water Authority trading as Solomon Water |
| ToR | Terms of Reference |
| USD | United States Dollar |
| WB | World Bank |
| WASH | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene |
| WinS | WASH in Schools |
| WS | Water Supply |
| UWSSSP | Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project |
| WTP | Water Treatment Plant |
| WBSP | World Bank Safeguard Policies |

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the semi-annual Social and Environmental Safeguards Monitoring Report (SMR) for the period July to December 2023, compiled by the Solomon Islands Water Authority for the Solomon Islands Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project (UWSSSP).

The aim of the project is to improve access to safe water and improved sanitation across the Solomon Islands focusing on five components: (i) Output 1: secure and safe urban water supplies; (ii) Output 2: effective, efficient and safe urban sanitation services; (iii) Output 3: enhanced awareness of good hygiene and water issues and sustained improved hygiene behaviour; (iv) Output 4: ensure SW is financially and technically sustainable, and (v) Output 5: Watershed protection – management of Honiara’s watershed areas strengthened to build resilience to climate change.

This report describes the social and environmental safeguard activities undertaken during the period, with a focus on planning, pre-construction approvals, and construction/implementation. Whilst project outcomes have been delayed, implementation of environmental and social safeguards for UWSSSP projects continues to comply with both the country safeguards system and ADB/WB policies and instruments as set out in the Project’s environmental assessment and review framework (EARF) and resettlement framework (RF).

The Honiara Network Wastewater Project, Noro Water Supply PER and Munda Water Supply PER have been approved by MECDM. It is important to note that there were no objections received from any individual or organization during the 30 days’ appeal period.

For the Honiara Wastewater Project, land acquisition and resettlement plans (LARPs) are being prepared in sections covering western (National Referral Hospital (NRH)), eastern (Ranadi), and Ranadi Rd to Goodwood Outfall (a component of the eastern Ranadi section). For the western (NRH) section, currently the main concern is regarding a section of pipe which needs to be installed under land owned by the South Seas Evangelical Church (SSEC) who initially would not agree to the installation. However, they have now agreed, and SW is awaiting the signing of agreements.

CESMPs for the following projects were approved in this reporting period:

- Kongulai WTP
- Honiara Water Supply Service Reservoir (Panatina, Tasahe, and Titige reservoirs) and
- Honiara Water Supply-Trunk Mains

There have been no grievances registered during this reporting period, and all past grievances were resolved in the last reporting period. Community Advisory Committees (CACs) have been established for Tasahe to Kongulai area, and the PMU is assisting contractors to establish a CAC for Titige and other sites. While SW is aware that it is important that the CAC are established before construction starts, this is proving a challenge, because in some commercial areas, where the majority of the properties are businesses and working people, there is no socially cohesive “community”, and people do not want to join any committees. In the absence of an effective community structure, the CLO for SW is experiencing difficulties in establishing the CACs in the trunk mains sites of Panatina – Burns Creek, East Kola – Kukum, and White River – Town Ground.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

1. Solomon Islands has around 19.8% (or 102,030) of its estimated present total population of 669,823 (World Bank 2019)¹ living in urban and peri-urban areas. The country is divided into nine provinces: Central, Choiseul, Guadalcanal, Isabel, Makira-Ulawa, Malaita, Rennell and Bellona, Temotu, and Western. The country's capital, Honiara City, is situated on the north-western coast of Guadalcanal. Malaita has the largest population of 160,583 people, followed by Guadalcanal (155,605), Western (98,820), Honiara city (90,441) and Central (32,603) based on the Solomon Islands National Statistics Office projected population by province.² The population growth rate is the highest in Guadalcanal (4.4%) followed by Honiara (2.7%), Western (2%), Central (1.9%) and Malaita (1.2%).³ According to the last available Household Income and Expenditure Survey, 12.7% of the population lived under the national basic needs poverty line in 2013 (9.1% in urban areas).

2. It is known that temporary and informal settlers are often not captured in the Census and at any one time the population of Guadalcanal can be closer to 200,000. Informal residential areas are characterized by uncertain or illegal land tenure, minimal or no access to public services (such as water supply, sanitation, electricity and roads) and a high presence of informal employment in the low income population. This presents challenges in providing potable water supply and sanitation services to the urban and peri-urban areas. To address the challenges, the Solomon Islands Water Authority Act of 1992 created the Solomon Islands Water Authority, trading as Solomon Water (SW), a state-owned enterprise, and mandated to provide for the proper management and development of urban water resources and wastewater services in Solomon Islands. SW has been guided by its Five-year Action Plan and 30-Year Strategic Plan since 2017. These plans outline the strategy to meet the demand for water and wastewater services up to 2047 for Honiara, including peri-urban areas, as well as meeting the needs of the provincial capitals and other major urban centres in Solomon Islands.

1.2. Project Description

3. The Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project (UWSSSP), in line with SW's plans, with funding from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Bank (WB), European Development Fund and the Solomon Islands Government (SIG), is implementing the Project to help improve access to safe water and improved sanitation. The UWSSSP outputs include: (i) Output 1: secure and safe urban water supplies; (ii) Output 2: effective, efficient and safe urban sanitation services; (iii) Output 3: enhanced awareness of hygiene and water issues and sustained improved hygiene behaviour; (iv) Output 4: ensure SW is financially and technically sustainable, and (v) Output 5: management of Honiara's watershed area strengthened to build resilience to climate change.

4. The UWSSSP has adopted a sector approach for developing sustainable, inclusive and climate resilient water supplies and improved sanitation, and for enhancing hygiene awareness, water conservation, and faecal sludge management. However, during early implementation it became apparent that some problems with the water supply system are caused by lack of catchment protection, and in the context of the climate crisis, without watershed protection, the existing and future sources of water will not be reliable and will remain highly vulnerable to climate change. To be sustainable, output 5, the Honiara

¹ World Bank, <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=SB>

² <https://www.statistics.gov.sb/statistics/social-statistics/population>

³ National Statistics Office, 2009 census

Watershed Management Project (HWMP) will focus on improving the management of watershed areas that are vital to a climate resilient water supply. The participatory-driven initiatives will include erosion and sedimentation control to reduce risks from flooding and landslides, and improvement of the ecosystem services provided by Honiara's catchment areas, including enhancement of water quality and regulation of water flow.

5. **Output 1** is intended to secure reliable and safe freshwater supplies by (i) increasing the number of urban households in Honiara with access to climate and disaster resilient water supplies; (ii) reducing non-revenue water from its 2017 level of 62% to 30% or less by 2027; and (iii) increasing SW water production capacity in Honiara by up to 5 million litres per day (ML/d) and improving SW water treatment capacity through the rehabilitation, replacement, or expansion of current sources and water treatment facilities, to meet water demand and ensure full compliance with drinking guidelines across the city by 2027. Investments will include: (a) in Honiara, (i) rehabilitation of existing water supply sources, and expansion of production and treatment systems, (ii) installation of water supply mains to expand and rehabilitate the water supply system, (iv) additional water storage capacity, (v) leak detection and pipeline repairs, (vi) installing bulk supply metering and expansion of SW's customer meter replacement program to install pre-payment meters, and (vii) expanding SW's water supply networks to an additional 5,700 connections in unserved areas, including in informal settlements; (b) in Auki, Gizo, Noro and Tulagi, rehabilitation and expansion of the existing water supply systems; and (c) in Munda, development of a new water supply system.

6. **Output 2** is intended for effective and efficient sewerage services by: (i) preparing septage management regulations, (ii) constructing a septage treatment facility under a five-year design-build-operate (DBO) contract to service the greater Honiara area, (iii) replacing existing wastewater outfalls in a state of disrepair with new ones, (iv) installing sewer mains to expand and rehabilitate the Honiara trunk sewer system, and (v) construction of new sewage pumping stations and rehabilitation of existing ones.

7. **Output 3** is intended to develop enhanced awareness of hygiene and water issues and sustained improved hygiene behaviour. This includes a hygiene awareness and promotion program to complement other ongoing hygiene awareness and promotion activities in urban areas.

8. **Output 4** involves implementing a program to assist SW strengthen its financial, technical, and operational sustainability. This includes developing policies, asset planning, data management, financial and technical systems monitoring, and reporting.

9. **Output 5**, the HWMP, involves: (i) strengthening capacity for planning (watershed data, mapping, hydrological modelling, and information sharing); (ii) empowering communities to implement solutions for effective management protection, and restoration of the forest and riparian habitats - through partnerships; and (iii) facilitating interagency and inter-sectoral coordination and governance to develop long-term integrated catchment plans.

1.3. Purpose of this Report

10. The SMR is a requirement under the ADB Safeguard Policy Statement 2009 (SPS), WB policies and instruments (formerly Operational Policies and Bank Policies OP/BP 4.01, 4.04, 4.0, and 4.12 but since 2018, replaced by WB Environmental and Social Framework), and the project/loan agreements. The safeguards categories for this project are B for environment and B for involuntary resettlement.

11. This SMR covering the period from July to December 2023 and presents the undertakings during the reporting period, of both the social and environmental safeguards supporting the UWSSSP outputs as outlined above.

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2. PROJECT PROGRESS

2.1. Project Overview

12. The effects of delays in progress caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, outlined in the last SMR, are still being felt, even though the situation has improved and the restrictions were largely lifted in July 2022. While there are now few constraints, not all activities have managed to catch up the time lost.

13. Implementation of environmental and social safeguards for UWSSSP projects continues to comply with both the country safeguards system and ADB/WB policies and instruments as set out in the Project's environmental assessment and review framework (EARF) and resettlement framework (RF).

14. Uncertainties over land ownership as well as delays on the final selection of engineering design alternatives, (which are essential to ascertain the affected persons) initially meant that safeguards staff often could not initiate community consultations over land tenure until designs were finalised. Once designs were finalised, delays still continued in sites where landowners were reluctant to agree to some plans affecting their lands. Delays in producing Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plans (LARPs) have been particularly pronounced in Honiara, where many people are reluctant to sell or lease land at current valuations.

15. Suez Consulting (SAFEGE) was contracted to carry out the due diligence and detailed engineering design for Phase 1 of UWSSSP. The Suez contract finished on 31st December 2022, with some engineering and safeguards deliverables for Noro and Munda still pending.

2.2. Safeguards Implementation Arrangements

16. SW has a Project Management Unit (PMU) delivering the Project. Recently SW received confirmation from World Bank that the oversight of World Bank safeguard policies for UWSSSP has been transferred to the task team safeguards specialists. SW will no longer need to seek Regional Safeguard Advisor approval for safeguards instruments. This change made as a result PMU safeguard team's strong commitment to manage safeguard risk and to pro-actively organise training for contractors to improve the quality of their documentation.

17. At the beginning of the Project, the PMU recruited specialists to provide intermittent inputs to ensure compliance with development partner safeguards requirements including provision of support to the PMU and conduct of due diligence. **Table 1** provides an overview on the engagement of the international specialists and the proportion of their time used to 31st December 2023.

Table 1: Engagement of International Specialists

| Role | Contract Started | % of Time Used to 31 st December 2023 |
|---|------------------|--|
| International Environmental Specialist | Q4 2019 | ~75 % |
| International Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) | Q4 2019 | ~85% |
| International Communication Specialist | Q4 2019 | ~100% |
| International Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist | Q2 2020 | ~75% |
| International Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist | Q2 2020 | ~75% |
| National Social Safeguards Consultant | Q3 2022 | ~100% (being extended) |

18. The project's RF, approved in 2018, lays out the approach to complying with objectives of involuntary resettlement safeguards. Land acquisition is to be avoided where possible and involuntary settlement impacts minimised, or at least restored for the livelihoods of affected persons (APs). The RF in this context provides guidance on the assessment and mitigation of resettlement impacts, the preparation of land acquisition and resettlement plans (LARP) and/or due diligence reports (DDR), and the implementation and monitoring of compensation and income restoration measures for APs.

19. Based on the project RF, an initial LARP was finalised on 8th March 2019 for the six subprojects based in Honiara including:

- Water reservoirs at (a) Tasahe, (b) Titinge Ridge, and (c) Panatina
- Rehabilitation and building the new water treatment plant at Kongulai
- Augmenting the trunk mains from (a) Kongulai to White River and Rove Trunk Main; (b) East Kola to Naha Trunk Main, and (c) Panatina SR to Burns Creek Trunk Main - to expand the existing network
- Upgrades of sewer outfalls
- Construction of additional sewage pump stations and refurbishment of King George VI and Point Cruz wastewater pump stations
- Construction of a septage treatment facility to service the Greater Honiara area.

20. It was estimated that a total of 20,648m² of land would be impacted by the project. Of this land, 15,706m² would require negotiation of agreements with private landowners. SW's priority in all land negotiations is to pursue outright purchase of land, and only resort to lease arrangements when outright purchase negotiations are unsuccessful. The Kongulai WTP subproject required purchase of land for resettlement of 41 APs (eight families), as did Titinge Ridge reservoir site which has six APs (one family). The overall LARP has now been superseded by a number of LARPs prepared for each subproject.

21. A summary of the status of the various LARP and DDR can be found in **Table 5** under the Social Safeguards Monitoring Section 4.

22. The Honiara Watershed Management Project (HWMP) began last year. It will develop effective partnerships and build institutional, financial and technical capacity. An EARF and LARF, based on the documents prepared for the main project, have been separately prepared for the HWMP.

23. There has been ongoing review and updating of the Initial Environmental Examination (IEE)/Public Environmental Reports (PERs) and Construction Environmental and Social Management Plans (CESMPs) required for the UWSSSP projects within this reporting period. Details are provided in the next section.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

3.1. Environmental Safeguard Documentation and Instruments

24. Progress has been made on the various IEE/PER and Development Consents (DCs) during this reporting period. The HNWW DC application was reviewed and approved by MECDM after the successful completion of the public consultation. It is important to note that there were no objections received from any individual or organization during the EIS 30 days' appeal period.

25. The Noro Water Supply Project and Munda Water Supply Project DC applications were also approved by MECDM. There were no written objections received from any individual or organisation during the 30 days' appeal period in this reporting period.

26. The Gizo water supply project IEE/PER revision and finalization is further delayed awaiting approval for more hydrogeological investigations at Mile 6 lake and surface water sources. The preparation, review and approval status of IEE/PERs is summarised in **Table 2** below.

Table 2: Status of IEE/PER for UWSSSP subprojects as of end of 31st December 2023

| Sub-Project | | ENV Category | IEE/PER Prepared | Development consent application | CESMP Approved by SW | Status of subproject implementation |
|-------------|--|--------------|------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| No | Name | | | | | |
| 1 | Kongulai WTP | B | Yes | Yes (12/03/20). Development consent received 01/05/20. | Yes (cleared on 11/7/23) | Site clearance completed. Earthworks halted due to contract termination by SW. |
| 2 | Honiara Water Supply Service Reservoir (Panatina, Tasahe, and Titige reservoirs) | B | Yes | Yes (21/01/21). Development consent received on 17/03/21. | Yes (cleared on 24/04/23) | Construction of new reservoir Tasahe and Titige is underway. |
| 3 | Honiara Water Supply-Trunk Mains | B | Yes | Yes (21/01/21). Development consent received on 17/03/21. | Yes (cleared on 25/5/23) | Construction works underway. |
| 4 | Auki Water Supply Improvement | B | Yes | Yes (10/08/18). Development consent received on 24/09/18. | Yes (25/06/2019) | Subproject completed and now in operational phase. |
| 5 | Tulagi Water Supply Project | B | Yes | Yes (25/01/21). Development | Not yet due (no construction) | Preconstruction phase. |

| | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------|--|
| | | | | consent received on 7/03/21. | | |
| 6 | Gizo Water Supply | B | Draft completed (awaiting additional hydrogeological investigations). | No | Not yet due (no construction) | Awaiting additional hydrogeological studies. |
| 7 | Noro Water Supply Improvement | B | Yes | Yes (6/12/22) Development consent received on 29/03/23. | Not yet due (no construction) | Preconstruction phase |
| 8 | Munda Water Supply | B | Yes | Yes (6/12/22) Development consent received on 10/04/23. | Not yet due (no construction) | Preconstruction phase |
| 9 | Honiara Network Wastewater-Outfalls | B | Yes | Yes(03/02/23) Development consent application received on 3/05/23. | Not yet due (no construction) | Preconstruction phase |
| 10 | Honiara Network Wastewater-(Pump station and collector mains) | B | Yes | Yes(03/02/23) Development consent application received on 3/05/23. | Not yet due (no construction) | Preconstruction phase |
| 11 | Honiara Wastewater: Goodwood Section | | Subproject exempted by MECDM. No IEE/PER required. | Subproject exempted by MECDM. Exemption | Yes | Construction works underway |

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|--|--|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| | | | | received on 7/06/22. | | |
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3.2. Construction environmental and social management plans (CESMPs)

27. Review and updating of CESMPs was ongoing throughout this reporting period. The CESMPs for the Honiara Network Water Supply (Trunk Mains), Honiara Water Supply Service Reservoir (Panatina, Tasahe, and Titige reservoirs) and Kongulai WTP were finalized and approved in this reporting period.

28. During this reporting period, site-specific erosion and sediment control management plan for Titige reservoir site was reviewed and approved by the relevant PMU Project Manager.

3.3. Environmental Monitoring and Inspections

29. There were routine weekly site visits to Kongulai WTP, Panatina and Tasahe reservoir sites, and the Ranadi-Goodwood sewer and outfall construction site during this reporting period. Works undertaken by the contractors were mainly associated with site preparation, trenching and excavations works, and pipe laying. In situ reinforced concrete (RC) works have started at Tasahe reservoirs and Titige reservoirs in this reporting period. An environmental audit was conducted during this reporting period at the HNWS trunk main Panatina to Burns Creek section. Refer to Appendix 1 for a summary of the environmental audit findings and corrective actions/recommendations for trunk mains Panatina to Burns Creek section.

30. A number of non-conformances were identified during the audit. Issues identified were communicated to the contractor via NTCs and email for rectification. Key priority issues identified from the audit were mainly associated with workers' health and safety. A stop work notice was issued to PEP by the responsible SW Project Manager requesting rectification of the identified issues before they can resume with construction works.

31. Monitoring of the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan(ESCP) for Kongulai WTP was undertaken in this reporting period. Diversion drains were constructed on site to divert runoffs and minimize soil loss. Exposed ground surfaces were covered with mulch, and a sediment control basin/pond was constructed at the final discharge point.

3.4. Due Diligence for UWSSSP Phase 2

32. SMEC was appointed to undertake the detailed engineering design for UWSSSP Phase 2 subprojects. The following subprojects are financed under the UWSSSP (Phase 2):

- Auki Water Network Expansion
- Honiara Water Pipeline Rehabilitation and Expansion, and
- Honiara Water Network Expansion

33. The draft IEE/PERs for the Honiara components were completed by SMEC during this reporting period. SW PMU safeguard team have reviewed the reports and provided comments to SMEC. Review and updating of the document by SMEC is ongoing in this reporting period. Updating of the IEE/PERs are expected to be completed in Q2 2024.

34. The following Phase 2 projects require development consents from MECDM (see **Table 3** below).

Table 3: Status of IEE/PERs for UWSSSP subprojects to be delivered by SMEC

| Sub-Project | | ENV Category | IEE/PER Prepared | Development consent application | CESMP cleared | Status of subproject implementation |
|-------------|--|--------------|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| No | Name | | | | | |
| 1 | Auki Water Network Expansion | B | No | No | No | Approval phase |
| 2 | Honiara Water Pipeline Rehabilitation | B | Draft completed | No | No | Approval phase |
| 3 | Honiara Water Network Expansion | B | Draft completed | No | No | Approval phase |
| 4 | Honiara Wastewater Pipeline Rehabilitation | B | No | No | No | Approval phase |

3.5 Workers' Health and safety

35. There were several health and safety issues recorded in this reporting period. The key H&S issues observed were:

- Workers not complying with PPE requirements. No PPEs issued to subcontracting staff by PEP.
- Workers on site were unaware of their responsibilities with regards to Health and Safety.
- Lack of documentation to prove casual workers have been briefed on the JSA and had a prestart toolbox meeting about the excavation and trenching works they are doing.
- Portable toilets and resting space (tent) for workers not available on site.

36. The aforementioned issues were communicated to PEP via an NTC and all issues were rectified before approval to resume construction works was given by the relevant SW project manager.

37. The importance of complying with PPE and TMP requirements in the approved CESMPs was highlighted to the contractor when doing the routine weekly site visits.

3.6 Training

38. In September, SW PMU safeguard team organised a workshop which was held on 4th October 2023, with current SW UWSSSP contractors, project managers, supervisors and their safeguard oversight team in this reporting period. The objective of the half day workshop was to go through a quick refresher on expectations on safeguard roles and responsibilities during construction stages of their various projects. This is to ensure their activities comply with the safeguard requirements indicated in their CESMPs.

4. SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS MONITORING

4.1. Status of Implementation of LARPs

38. A summary of the status of the various LARPs and DDRs is in **Table 5**. Some of the activities that appeared in the last reporting period reappear in this SMR due to the fact that the activities continued into the current reporting period. During the last two quarters the social safeguards time was divided between ongoing negotiations with land owners to complete the subproject LARPs for subprojects that are still undergoing final detailed designs, and providing oversight on the implementation of four CESMPs of subprojects that are being constructed simultaneously in Honiara. This included conducting visits to construction sites, reviewing the contractor's monthly monitoring reports, supporting contractor's in their consultation requirements and assisting in resolution of grievances. The only subproject which has been completed and is now in operation is the Auki Water Supply Improvement project.

39. The summary of the status of the different subproject LARPs for both Phase 1 and Phase 2 is shown below in **Table 5**. Under Phase 1 of UWSSSP, 13 LARPs are required. Six LARPs have been completed and received a No Objection (NO) from ADB/WB, while five of them are still being worked on. For the second phase of the project, it is likely that due diligence reports will be required for the water and wastewater pipeline rehabilitation projects, since construction works will be within existing easements. The water supply expansion projects, on the other hand, are likely to trigger the involuntary resettlement policy of ADB/WB, as new land may need to be acquired if trunk mains are installed within private land, and/or if works will cause economic displacement. These determinations will be made after the detailed designs are completed showing the pipeline alignment.

Table 4: Status of LARPs / DDRs for UWSSSP subprojects

| | UWSSSP Subprojects | Safeguard Documents – IR Category | Status as of 31st December 2023 | Remarks |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| <i>Honiara Water Supply</i> | | | | |
| 1 | Kongulai Water Treatment Plant | LARP B | Completed, approved (9 th April 2021) and implemented. | No further outstanding resettlement to resolved except for monitoring works. Early construction works started with site clearance, but the subproject was much delayed. The contract awarded to REAN-PCS Joint Venture started on 5 th May 2022, and was supposed to be completed by 29 th June 2023. SW has given contract notice of termination because of repeated breaches of contract, poor quality of work, and little progress made. |
| 2 | Honiara Water Supply - Service Reservoirs (Panatina, Tasahe, and Titinge) | LARP B | Final LARP approved by WB/ADB 31/12/21. Implementation of it is completed. | All the APs have been compensated. Works started at Panatina and Tasahe reservoirs, with demolition of old reservoirs. Construction of new reservoirs are underway. |
| 3 | Honiara Water Supply - Trunk Mains | LARP B | LARP approved by WB/ADB 31/12/21 | All agreements were signed and compensation of APs paid and completed. SDA church (East Kola Ridge to Kukum section) is pending final 20 % payment after easement instrument has been executed. Mr. Kaitei (at White River) is awaiting the process executing the easement instrument after pipelines have been |

| | UWSSSP Subprojects | Safeguard Documents – IR Category | Status as of 31 st December 2023 | Remarks |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| | | | | installed as agreed in the MoU signed with him. Construction works underway. |
| <i>Provincial Water Supply Schemes</i> | | | | |
| 4 | Auki | LARP B | Completed, approved by ADB/WB and fully implemented. | All affected parties resettled and compensated. Project now in operational phase. |
| 5 | Tulagi | LARP B | LARP approved by ADB/WB on 1 Oct 2021. | Agreements with APs were signed, and most payments were done around mid-April 2022, and a final two early in 2023 - based on the inventory of losses of crops and structures. |
| 6 | Noro | LARP B | Ongoing. LARP is still in the draft form pending resolution of land case by MOL. | On 4 th December 2023 the Acquisition Officer of CoL made his determination of rightful land owners, However, SW has not been able to sign an MOU with trustees, because there has been an appeal to SW, received from Biku representatives, who demanded that no MoU be signed and no money paid, until a formal appeal is heard in January 2024. SW cannot therefore, survey or register the area of interest in the names of the landowners' representatives (as determined by the AO). The Safeguards team will be meeting with local ADB/WB staff to discuss the case in January 2024. The LARP has been drafted and submitted to the donor for review. Comments from |

| | UWSSSP Subprojects | Safeguard Documents – IR Category | Status as of 31st December 2023 | Remarks |
|---|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| | | | | the donor were received through a matrix in June 2022 mostly requiring clarification. These comments have been responded to by SW and SUEZ. SW is hopeful that the revised LARP will be submitted to DP early in the next reporting period, following the finalisation of the land case. |
| 7 | Munda | LARP B | The draft is currently in review by SW and is yet to be submitted to the donor. | SW is reviewing the LARP again coupled with the detailed designs to see if there are other APs that Suez did not pick up. Pending investigation works by technical groups and signing of MOU with land title holders. Since SW intends to install the pipelines within the road right of way, it has yet to be determined if MID or the provincial government own the roads especially within the Lambete area. The roads within Dunde and up to Polovesu where the proposed tank site is, are custom owned by the landowning clans. Polovesu, the proposed tank site, is customary owned and therefore needing MOL to initiate the land acquisition process. About 4 generations of the Kere family (part of the Kazakuru clan) has rights to that piece of land. However, to ensure that legal instruments are established to allow SW to have a proper lease agreement with the owners for the area of interest, the COL will have to initiate the land acquisition process according to the Land and Titles Act. In this |

| | UWSSSP Subprojects | Safeguard Documents – IR Category | Status as of 31 st December 2023 | Remarks |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| | | | | process, wider consultations will be held to identify/verify the rightful ownerships of the land. This is a lengthy process which can take from 6 months to more than a year depending on any pending court cases or other internal tribal issues. The COL will be asked to initiate the process as soon as SW has access to the final valuation report of the land in question which will be necessary during the acquisition process. |
| 8 | Gizo | LARP B | Ongoing. LARP is being drafted. | Investigations of borehole feasibility in November and December 2022 at 3 sites owned by the western provincial government revealed that the yield was not sufficient. SW is opting for another bore investigation. SW therefore is not pursuing any negotiation with APs until after the next borehole investigation work to prove if the bores are viable. Pending negotiation and signing of MOU with land title holders and awaiting advice from subproject management team. |
| <i>Honiara sewer rehabilitation and expansion program</i> | | | | |
| 9 | Honiara Wastewater - Pump Stations and Collector Mains | LARP B | Ongoing. The draft is pending appropriate MOUs with affected parties | The LARP draft is pending some land title holders giving consent through signing of MOU with SW for easement access. |

| | UWSSSP Subprojects | Safeguard Documents – IR Category | Status as of 31st December 2023 | Remarks |
|----|--|--|--|---|
| | Western system. | | | Phase 1b is ongoing. This LARP had initially targeted April 2022 for completion and later moved to Q4 but again this was not achieved. New target will be in Q1 2024 incorporating the relevant agreements with land title holders for easement access. |
| 10 | Honiara Wastewater - Pump Stations and Collector Mains Eastern System | LARP B | Draft LARP | The LARP is still pending negotiations and signing of MOUs and compensation agreements between SW and 4 landowners. |
| 11 | Honiara Wastewater - Outfalls | LARP B | Draft. | The outfalls do not have a separate LARP but come under the eastern and western section LARPs which are still in progress. |
| 12 | Ela Motors - Goodwood pump station and associated lines | LARP B | LARP approved by DP on 6 September 2022 and fully implemented. | The Goodwood section has a separate LARP developed specifically ahead of the rest of the eastern wastewater system due to the urgency to construct that section in time for the South Pacific Games in 2023. The LARP has been implemented. Construction works commenced, but were not completed in time for the Games. |
| 13 | Sewer works: King George VI - Ranadi Rd intersection | LARP not required. | Due diligence completed | Construction completed under 12 months. Defect Liability Period lapses on 30 November 2023. |

| | UWSSSP Subprojects | Safeguard Documents – IR Category | Status as of 31st December 2023 | Remarks |
|----|--|---|---|--|
| 14 | Ministry of Fisheries - Kukum Road | DDR (LARP not required) | DDR completed | Construction underway by McConnell Dowell. |
| 15 | Honiara Watershed Management Project | DDR | DDR approved. | |
| | | UWSSSP (Phase 2) Subprojects delivered by SMEC | | |
| 16 | Auki Water Network Expansion | LARP B | Not developed | Not yet developed |
| 17 | Honiara Water Pipeline Rehabilitation | LARP B | Not developed | Not yet developed |
| 18 | Honiara Wastewater Pipeline Rehabilitation | LARP B | Not developed | Not yet developed |
| 19 | Honiara Water Network | LARP B | Not developed | Not yet developed |

4.2 Honiara Water Supply (HNWS)

40. The three LARPs for the Honiara Water Supply Project which have already been approved by ADB/WB are: (i) Kongulai WTP; (ii) Water Mains Upgrading; and (iii) Augmenting Reservoir Capacity (Panatina, Tasahe, and Titinge reservoirs). All land required for the project, both government and privately owned, has been acquired.

41. **HNWS Trunk Mains LARP:** There are only two resettlement payments that are yet to be completed under the HNWS Trunk Mains LARP as follows;

- **SDA Church:** There is one outstanding payment for SDA Church to complete the total payment for the easement access (area of 84.4 m²). Eighty percent (SBD 81,024) of the payment has been paid with the remaining 20% to be paid after the survey and easement instruments have been executed, which are still progressing. This is for water supply trunk main East Kolaridge to Kukum section. Works on this section have commenced.
- **Mr. K:** During the development of the HNWS Trunk Mains LARP, the alignment of the pipeline within Mr K's land at White River area, had not been finalised. At that time, an agreement was made with, Mr. K in December 2020 that after construction of the new pipeline, a survey for the subdivision for easement of approximately 2.5 m from the pipe centreline within his land will be performed and associated payments made to him immediately after. The cost will be calculated based on the rates used in the Sales Agreement in January 2020 which was \$217.00 per SQM..

42. **Kongulai WTP LARP:** The Kongulai WTP LARP has been fully implemented. On 3rd February SW held a ground breaking ceremony at the Kongulai WTP site to mark the opening of the site for construction works to take place. Works started on site including the setting up of a site office, workers' rest bays and sanitation facilities. Excavation works also commenced after a stop work notice was lifted by SW following the implementation of sedimentation control works on site by the contractor. However, progress was very slow, and there were so many Notices to the Contractor (NTCs), the contractor was eventually offered an extension of time (with conditions), but refused the conditions: so the contract is effectively terminated. Discussions around this are on-going.

43. **Community Advisory Committee (CAC) (Kongulai and Tasahe):** On 1 February 2023, a kick-off meeting was held for the CAC set up for Tasahe-Kongulai-White River area. In the meeting, the CAC executive body was set up identifying the chairman and secretary. CACs for other Honiara subprojects (including trunk mains, reservoirs and wastewater) are yet to be established, and are posing some difficulties, because they are commercial areas, and the businesses and working people living there are not a cohesive community. However, SW has provided offer letters to the contractor to issue to potential CAC members along the construction route. This is still progressing.

44. **HNWS Reservoirs:** The LARP for HNWS reservoirs (Panatina, Titinge and Tasahe Reservoirs) has been completed and fully implemented. There are no resettlement issues relating to the site experienced during the reporting period. Consultations with communities were held before construction began and works are underway.

4.3 Honiara Wastewater Project (HNWW) LARP

45. The Honiara wastewater subproject is separated into 2 sections: The Eastern Section which is defined by the proposed network starting at Point Cruz and ending at NRH (also referred to as NRH section) and the Western Section which runs from the Bahai Area up to Ranadi/King George area. The LARPs for the two sections were drafted by SUEZ and

reviewed by SW, while the detailed designs were being finalised in 2022. Negotiations with land title holders for easement access and land acquisition continued during the reporting period, though no new MOU was signed during this period. The SW PMU safeguards team have been working to properly complete the two LARPs, furnishing them with the relevant signed MOUs with the respective land title holders/APs as identified in those LARPs. The status of the MoUs with the identified APs for both the Western and the Eastern HNWW are discussed in **Table 6**. To achieve consistencies across the LARPs, all negotiations and agreements have been or will be, captured in MOUs between SW and the respective APs or land title holders.

46. In the Eastern wastewater system, the Ranadi to Goodwood Outfall section had a separate LARP developed specifically ahead of the rest of the eastern wastewater system, due to the urgency to construct that section in time for the Pacific Games in November 2023. The Goodwood LARP received an all clear from the development partners on 6th September 2022. However, Pacific Engineering Project Limited (PEP) who was awarded the contract to construct this section of the infrastructure was so late starting, the system was not finished in time for the Pacific Games. Works are continuing.

47. **HNWW Eastern:** On 6th September 2022, the LARP was cleared by ADB/WB. Pacific Engineering Project Ltd (PEP) was awarded a contract and construction started (though late) in Q2 of 2023.

48. There are two main concerns for the HNWW Eastern LARP:

- **KCM Limited:** Although the owner of the proposed site for the Naha wastewater pumping station located along the Kukum Highway, did not object to SW constructing the pump station within his land (320m²), he could not agree to any of the numerous offers that SW has proposed. SW therefore asked the Ministry of Lands (MOL) for resumption of the land and is awaiting progress from MOL.
- **Tropical Helicopters (TH):** According to the designs done by Suez, the best option for the proposed siting of the Ranadi PS is within the road reserve in front of the Silent World Compound with an overflow pipe (for emergency purposes only) designed to go through the western boundary fence of the compound owned by Tropical Helicopter Company. Despite constant follow-up, TH has remained unresponsive to all communications. SW therefore decided to liaise with Douglas Logistics (DL), who share boundary the same boundary with TH hoping they would be happy to cooperate with SW. A letter was sent to DL towards the end of Q3 regarding the SW proposal. SW has yet to receive any feedback from DL though in a brief meeting held with them in Q2, they sounded eager to have further discussions with SW. This will be followed up in Q1 2024.

49. **HNWW Western:** In the LARP for HNWW Western section, there are no concerns in relation to acquiring land for easement access or sublease arrangements. The status of negotiations with the respective land title owners are presented in Table 6.

- SW is currently in negotiation with South Sea Evangelical Church on easement access payment, and is expecting to finally sign an MOU with them in Q1 2024, after what has been a protracted and difficult process.
- **Solomon Islands Ports Authority (SIPA):** SW will require pipelines and a PS to be installed within the land owned by SIPA. SW engaged the services of a valuer to value all the lands required by SW for pipe installation and the PS. SW has put together a draft MOU with offers inserted based on the valuation, but has yet to receive a response from SIPA. SW will follow this up in Q1 2024.

- **United Church of Solomon Islands (UCSI):** A draft MoU containing an offer for easement payment based on the value that UCSI have requested, was submitted to UCSI who say that they are satisfied with the content of the MOU. It is expected to be signed in Q1 2024.
- **Seafront Trustees:** SW has approved an increased offer as requested by the seafront trustees for the outfall sections (both eastern and western). However, the legality of ownership of the seafront is currently still being contested in court by the Commissioner of Land (COL). Therefore, SW is awaiting the determination of the court before proceeding further. There has been no news from COL during the reporting period.

4.4 Provincial water supplies

50. **Tulagi Water Supply:** All resettlement activities have been completed. The APs have received their payments and there are no other outstanding payments or pending MoUs.

51. **Noro Water Supply:** The Noro LARP is still awaiting a signed MOU with the respective trustees for the lands where the Noro Water Supply Upgrade works will take place. The Commissioner of Lands (COL), appointed an acquisition officer (AO) to facilitate the proper processes to have the Ziata land legally registered under the rightful landowners. This will enable SW to formally establish a lease agreement with them. During the reporting period, the AO made his determination on 4th December 2024, writing a report based on the evidence that was heard. It was hoped SW could then sign an MOU with the landowners' trustees, in order to allow the proposed upgrade works to proceed. However, the Biku representatives objected to the decision, demanding that no MOU be signed and no money paid until an appeal is heard (within 3 months of the decision). So at the moment, SW cannot survey or register the area of interest in the names of the landowners' representatives (as determined by the AO). The safeguards team will meet with local WB and ADB safeguards staff to discuss the case, as the risks appear to have escalated.

52. **Munda Water Supply:** Suez developed a draft LARP for Munda after consultations were conducted with customary and registered land owners who all supported the project, citing the need for water in Munda. Owners of the customary lands also provided support/consent letters to SW, to allow SW access to the land to carry out pipeline works. The Munda water supply design includes a reservoir, as part of the Munda system. A site at Polovesu has been identified for this purpose 'owned' by the Kere family who are also residing there. Polovesu, though it is customary, has about four generations of the Kere family living on it: this family is part of the Kazakuru clan, but is recognised by them, as having primary rights in the land. The land has not yet been registered and is therefore considered customary land. The Kere family has been consulted on numerous occasions, and they have maintained their support for the project and for the siting of the reservoir within the family land. To ensure that legal instruments are established to allow SW to have a proper lease agreement with the owners for the proposed tank site, the COL will have to initiate the land acquisition process according to the Land and Titles Act similar to the one that is currently happening for Noro.

53. A valuation of the proposed tank site was undertaken in Q1 of 2023. SW, however, is waiting on the technical team to decide on other customary lands suitable for the siting of boreholes before it provides instruction to the COL to embark on the acquisition process.

54. SW developed a draft MOU with the Kere family whom they met in Honiara on 21st November 2022. There has not yet been any response to SW regarding the draft MOU. The

Kere family hinted during the meeting on November 2022 and again in February 2023 that they would like SW to consider another location also at Polovesu, for the siting of the reservoir. SW will need to first investigate the feasibility of that site but it is unlikely that SW will agree to that, as detailed design work has already been completed for the original site.

55. The maps of the proposed pipeline routes in Munda have been provided in the draft LARP but there is still the need to verify that the pipelines will not encroach into private properties. Suez stated that the proposed pipelines will follow the roads and had intended to follow up with MID to ascertain whether the roads in Munda have been gazetted. It has yet to be determined if MID or the provincial government own the roads, particularly within the Lambete area. The roads within Dunde area are customary, and there has already been a letter of support and consent from the community's chiefs to have the pipeline installed along the road. The proposed airport bore, north of the runway is within the land owned by the commissioner and therefore SW is going to prepare an MOU with the COL to allow access to rehabilitate and operate the borehole. At this stage no tests have been performed on the borehole to determine its state and yield. In case it is discovered to not be adequate, SW will have to look for an alternative bore site, likely to be in the Dunde area and situated on customary land. With SW priorities focused on Honiara infrastructure and other areas, progress on the Munda LARP has been slow.

56. **Gizo Water Supply:** Detailed design works on the pipelines have been completed. The hydrogeological survey of three boreholes owned by the Western Provincial Government, was completed at the end of 2022 with results that show the yield is insufficient and that boreholes need to be re-tested and additional sources found. SW is opting for another bore investigation. The preparation of the LARP and identification of APs for the complete network was undertaken by Suez in 2022 but not completed. However, it was established with Suez during the designing of the system, that all pipe routes must follow the road reserves. During the reporting period, the progress of the Gizo LARP remained unchanged as noted in Table 6. This LARP is pending the re-testing of the boreholes to verify whether the investment for Gizo will proceed or not. SW does not want to pursue any negotiations with APs until after the next borehole investigation work is done, to prove if the bores are viable.

57. Table 6 below, describes the progress of negotiations with land owners:

Table 5: Status of negotiations with land title holders (for easement access or purchase)

| Names of Affected Parties | Type | Requirement for LARP | Status as of 31st December 2023 | Comments |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------|--|
| HNWW – Western Section LARP (Point Cruz to NRH) | | | | |
| Solomon Islands Ports Authority (SIPA) | Pump station (PS) and pipelines | MOU for easement access for pipeline and PS. | Ongoing | SW made compensation offers to SIPA for proposed easements in Q4 2023, including in a draft MOU. Once the compensation rates are agreed upon by SIPA, SW anticipates that SIPA will sign the MOU. This was expected to happen in Q4 2023, but SIPA is yet to respond to SW on the offers made to them. |
| SSEC | Pipelines | MOU for easement access. | Ongoing | SW and SSEC have agreed on a compensation figure. SW has also issued a draft MOU to SSEC with clauses agreed with by both parties. Anticipating MOU signing in Q1 2024. |
| Uniting Church | Pipelines | MOU for easement access | Ongoing | Anticipated MOU signing in Q1 of 2024. All clauses within the MOU, including compensation figures have been agreed with by both parties. |
| MID | Pipelines | MOU for easement access | Not yet | For works on roadway between Point Cruz – NRH & Tuvaruhu-NRH. This section is not amongst the priority areas. However, an MOU with MID should be established in early 2024. |
| MHMS & COL | Pipelines within NRH and 2 x Pump Stations | MOU for easement access | Signed (18 Aug 2022) | Completed |
| Lord Howe Settlement (Ontong Java community) | Pipelines | MOU for easement access | Signed (6 June 23) | MOU signed with first 80% payment already made on 8 June 2023. 20% payment will be done after execution of easement instrument. |
| Seafront Trustees | Outfall | MOU for easement access | Ongoing | Trustees wants escrow account clause removed from MOU. However, SW cannot agree to that since |

| Names of Affected Parties | Type | Requirement for LARP | Status as of 31st December 2023 | Comments |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------|--|
| | | | | the land in question (after the shoreline) is being contested in court – to confirm whether it is legally owned by COL. Court decision still pending. No news from COL |
| HNWW – Eastern Section LARP (Bahai to Ranadi) | | | | |
| MID | Pipelines (Bahai-Ministry of Fisheries area) | MOU for easement access | Not yet | Anticipated MOU draft by SW in Q1 2024. |
| KCM | NAHA PS | FTE Payment for required land size (land acquisition) | Ongoing | SW has been following MOL progress on resumption of the land. Anticipated resumption to be completed by MOL in early 2024. |
| MID | Pipelines (Fisheries to Ranadi Round – about) | MOU for easement access | Signed | This project has been taken over by SIG |
| MID | Ranadi PS and Pipelines | MOU for easement access and consent | Signed | 30 November 2022 |
| Tropical Helicopter | Overflow | MOU for easement access | Ongoing | Attempts to communicate with TH have not been successful. SW will hand over the issue to MOL for their assistance. SW in the meantime have liaised with Douglas Logistics which is the neighbouring property to see if they would accept SW's proposal to put pipes along their boundary. No response yet. |
| MID | Goodwood PS and Pipelines | MOU for easement access and consent | Signed | PS (18 August 2022) Pipeline (2 September 2022) |
| COL &HCC | Ranadi Landfill PS | MOU for Consent | Signed | October 2022 |
| GPPOL | Pipeline | MOU for easement access | Ongoing | GPPOL has not yet signed the MOU because they would like to see the new detailed design drawing, including pipeline alignment, along the eastern boundary of GPPOL property. SW will engage SMEC |

| Names of Affected Parties | Type | Requirement for LARP | Status as of 31st December 2023 | Comments |
|---|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| | | | | to carry out the design work. Anticipating signing of the MOU in Q1 in 2024. |
| Provincial Water Supply – Munda LARP | | | | |
| Frank Kere, land occupant | Pipeline and Reservoir | MOU for consent and clearance of trees and crops | Ongoing | Draft MOU already shared with the Kere family on 21 November. A response of support was provided by the Kere family in December but they requested to meet with SW to discuss compensation rates. Meeting in 2023 did not eventuate. SW is anticipating a meeting with the family in Q1 of 2024 |
| COL | Borehole and pipeline | MOU for consent | Not Yet | Consultation has been done with MCA. SW need to draft an MOU with the COL in Q3 but after the bore has been tested for viability. |
| Provincial Water Supply - Noro LARP | | | | |
| Ziata Tribal Owners (Kazakuru) | Upgrade of existing Infrastructure | Supporting letter from newly appointed trustees for the project to proceed | Ongoing | The MO initiated an acquisition process within the reporting period, for the 3 plots of land where the proposed upgrade works will be undertaken. A determination of the rightful landowners was released in early December 2023 and an MOU signed. It was hoped this would allow for a conditional No Objection from DPs. However, SW must wait until the 3 months Appeals process is completed before going further. One appeal has been received from Biku representatives. Although, SW has signed an MOU with the LOs, it seems that no construction works can proceed during the appeal period of the acquisition process. |
| Provincial Water Supply - GIZO LARP | | | | |
| Western Provincial Government (WPG) | Pipelines | MOU for easement access | Not yet | Pipeline routes will only follow road right of way. The Western Provincial Government gave consent in November 2022, for works to proceed in Gizo. |

| Names of Affected Parties | Type | Requirement for LARP | Status as of 31st December 2023 | Comments |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| | | | | The Safeguards Team need reinvestigation works on the borehole to be completed as the initial one done in 2022 suggested that the existing bore fields are not viable. |
| Dr. Lester Ross & WPG | Reservoir | MOU for land acquisition | Complete | MOU executed in Q2 2023 |

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4.5 Outstanding Resettlement Activities

58. The Safeguards Team continues to monitor the construction works, but all current resettlement provisions have been completed for Honiara subprojects. Monitoring of site works is normally done in coordination with the National Environmental Safeguards Specialist. The contractors also submit monthly safeguards monitoring reports, which are reviewed by the PMU staff, who provide feedback through a 'Notice to Contractor' (NTC) system. There are currently three CESMPs being monitored, the Honiara Water Supply Trunk Main, the Honiara Water Supply Reservoir subproject, and until the recent termination of contract, the Kongulai Water Treatment Plant subproject.

59. There will be future resettlement and compensation requirements for the Eastern and Western HNWW subprojects and the provincial water supply projects including Munda, Gizo and Noro for which LARPs are still progressing. During the reporting period, efforts have been made on consultations and negotiations with APs relating to the ongoing LARPs.

60. **Matters of significant importance:** There are no matters of significant importance raised in the last six months, apart from the construction delays outlined facing the project. The PMU's legal officer has been providing legal advice to the safeguards team on issues relating to pending easement access and land acquisitions and also ensuring that terms of MOUs with the land title holders meet the legal requirements of SI. All necessary actions are now discussed internally within the PMU safeguards and lands team (in consultation with international environmental and social safeguards consultants) to ensure that the LARPs satisfy both the development partners and the national requirements. Although the SUEZ contract has ended, the safeguards team will continue to meet regularly to track progress and find solutions to obstacles. The resignation of the national Social Safeguards consultant, Marista Kapini has left a gap in the team, for which the PMU is currently recruiting.

5. COMPLIANCE WITH PROJECT SAFEGUARDS COVENANTS

61. The project is addressing project related covenants of ADB. Appendix 2: Compliance with safeguard-related project covenants provides a summary of the compliance with the covenants included in the ADB and SIG project agreement.

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6. PUBLIC CONSULTATION, DISCLOSURE, CAPACITY BUILDING

62. Public consultations have been held to comply with plans in the IEE, the LARP and the Project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The consultations are guided by WB and ADB best practice as outlined in their manuals and guidance notes.⁴

6.1. Public Consultation Activities

63. Consultations, information disclosure and awareness raising activities have been ongoing during the reporting period. A summary of the consultations conducted within the reporting period are in Table 7. With construction works now proceeding, the SW PMU continues to provide support and oversight of the contractors' consultation requirements to ensure that the APs and the public are properly informed in adequate time before work proceeds and in the event that work completion is delayed. All consultation materials drafted by the contractor go through SW management for clearance before they are used to ensure messaging is correct. The PMU CLO has been instrumental in facilitating this requirement.

⁴ World Bank, 2012, *Stakeholder Consultations in Investment Operations: Guidance Note*.
ADB, 2012, *Strengthening Participation for Development Results: An ADB Guide to Participation*

Table 6: Consultations held within the reporting period

| Date | Project | Community | SW Action | Key Contacts | Facilitator | Participants | Objective / Key message |
|------------|---|--|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1 July 23 | Honiara Reservoir Upgrade - Tasahe | Tasahe B Community | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected Community | PEP Staff | Male: 8 Female: 7 | Inform community and to get community's view at Tasahe about PEP's intention to also do construction works on Sundays. |
| 9 Jul 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Provide oversight of Rean | Affected Persons | Rean Staff | Female: 2 Male: 1 | Discuss with community about the possible dates for commencement of works after casual works at the WTP site stopped due to a death of a significant member of the community. Also discuss with communities regarding the possibility to resume minor works on the 14 th July 2023. |
| 21 July 23 | Honiara Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrade Project | Panatina – SINIS Junction (East Honiara) | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected Community | PEP staff | Male: 10 Female: 2 | To inform affected residences about the commencement of pipe laying works along Tanakake road. |
| 24 Jul 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Facilitate meeting | Late Logino's Family | SW Staff | Female: 2 | To formally establish with the immediate family of the deceased that the 15 days (7-22 July) stop work notice requested by them has been served and works can now resume. |
| 25 Jul 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Provide oversight of Rean | Affected Community | Rean & SW Staff | Female: 3 Male: 3 | Follow up meeting concerning 2 nd stop work notice issued on 23 July to seek clarification from the landowners as to what the reasons were. |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---------------------|---------------------------|--|------------|------------------------|---|
| 26 Jul 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Facilitate meeting | Late Logino's family | SW Staff | Female: 3 Male: 3 | Request for minor works to proceed without the use of heavy machinery. Assurances to family that the graves will not be disturbed by construction works and that the proposed works on the gravesite (i.e. proper fencing) will be done. |
| 25-27-Jul 23 | Honiara Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrade Project | WR to Town Ground | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected Community & Businesses | PEP Staff | Male: 35 Female: 15 | To inform community, schools and business owners regarding commencement of pipe works |
| 7 Aug 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Provide Oversight of Rean | Landowners | Rean Staff | Female: 1 Male: 1 | To identify landowners who are interested to receive excavated materials from the WTP construction sites. Based on the meeting two sites were identified. A signing of agreement will follow suit with the owners. |
| 11-12-Aug 23 | Honiara Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrade Project | Tanakake Residences | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected residences along Tanakake Road | PEP Staff | Male: 21 Female: 10 | To inform residences along the Tanakake road and Panatina regarding the proposed implementation of a partial road closure to complete pipe laying works. |
| 21 Aug | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Facilitate Meeting | Kongulai Gaena'alu Kakauroha Land Trust Board (Association) Executive and Kongulai Community | SW Staff | Female: 15 Male: 33 | To provide clarification on land title instruments and conditions of land use arrangements over the land that WTP is being constructed on and also the land where the relocation houses were built. Also to clarify that the land where the grave site is located is registered under the landowner's representatives and has a surveyed boundary. |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---------------------|---------------------------|--|------------|------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | | <p>To clarify that SW has no right to interfere in tribal's internal disputes.</p> <p>SW holds registered titles over the parcels and lease title for the parcel where the WTP is to be constructed.</p> <p>To assure family that the graves will not be disturbed and that proper fencing works will be performed</p> |
| 29-Aug 23 | Honiara Reservoir Upgrade - Titinge | Titinge | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected Community | PEP Staff | Male: 5 Female: 11 | To inform community about the construction of the temporary bypass pipelines. |
| 31 Aug 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Provide oversight of Rean | Affected Community | Rean Staff | Female: 2 Male: 1 | Social Awareness Information about project work and demarcation of project structures |
| 06 Sept 23 | Honiara Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrade Project | East Kola | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected community, Schools & Businesses | PEP Staff | Male: 15 Female: 17 | To inform community, schools, and Businesses that pipe laying works will start at East Kola |
| 20 Sept 23 | Honiara Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrade Project | Tanakake - SINIS | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected Community | PEP Staff | Male: 7 Female: 6 | To inform residences along Tanakake Road that pipe laying works will be extended by another 10 Days. |
| 21-Sept 23 | Honiara Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrade Project | Burns Creek - SINIS | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected Businesses | PEP Staff | Male: 2 Female: 5 | To inform business owners that pipe laying works will start at Burns Creek to SINIS |
| 25 Sept 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Provide oversight of Rean | Affected Community | Rean Staff | Female: 3 | <p>Progress updates of the minor works at the WTP construction site</p> <p>Benefits of community engagement</p> |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------|-----------------------|--|
| 26-30 Sept 23 | Honiara Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrade Project | WR to Iron Bottom Sound (IBS) | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected Businesses, Schools, Park, Police station, Residences & Bus Drivers | PEP Staff | Male:25 Female:18 | To inform affected residents that pipe laying work will start. |
| 28 Sept 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Provide oversight of Rean | Affected Parties | Rean Staff | Female: 2 Male: 1 | <p>Approved and signed the consent for reconstructing of the graveyard fence (5m)</p> <p>Performed cultural ritual as requested by APs.</p> <p>Inform APs that major excavation works would start at the site as of the week ahead.</p> <p>Health & safety at the WTP construction site.</p> <p>Environmental issues/impacts</p> <p>Grievance Redress Mechanism procedures</p> |
| 27- 29 Sept 23 | Honiara Water Supply Trunk Main Upgrade Project | Kongulai - WR | Provide oversight of PEP | Affected community and schools | PEP Staff | Male:24 Female: 15 | To inform affected community that pipe laying will start. |

| Date | Project | Community | SW Action | Key Contacts | Facilitator | Participants | Objective / Key Message |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| 18-Oct-23 | Trunk Mains Upgrade – KGV School | KGVI School | Provide oversight to PEP | Affected Staff and Students | PEP | Male:12 Female: 0 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform KGV school staffs about the construction works will soon start near the KGV school 2. Awareness of staffs and students' safety at construction site 3. Awareness on TMP |
| 18 Oct 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Provide Oversight to Rean | Kongulai Community | Rean | Male: 3 Female: 5 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update community on excavation works 2. Health & Safety at the WTP construction site 3. Environmental Issues/impacts 4. GRM Procedures |
| 31 Oct 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai - Tasahe | Provide oversight to Rean | Kongulai to Tasahe | Rean | Male: 10 Female: 9 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on current works at the Kongulai WTP construction site |
| 14 Nov 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Support Rean on consultation | Kongulai | Rean/SW | | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction of MSE wall at the gravesite |
| 15-Nov-23 | Honiara Reservoir Upgrade – Tasahe | Tasahe Community | Provide oversight to PEP | Affected community | PEP | Male: Female: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform the community that there will be a concrete pouring for the base of the new reservoir from 5pm till late. 2. Advise community to be cautious and keep children away from the construction site. |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------|------------------------|--|
| 16-Nov-23 | Trunk Mains Upgrade – Namoruka to Kongulai | Namoruka to Kongulai | Provide oversight to PEP | Affected community | PEP | Male: 13 Female: 8 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction of Water Trunk Mains (pipelines) to commence on Friday, 17th of November 2023 2. Awareness of public safety at construction site. |
| 25-Nov-23 | Trunk Mains Upgrade – Kongulai Valley | Kongulai Valley | Provide oversight to PEP | Affected Community | PEP | Male: 12 Female: 12 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To let the community know that construction works for trunk mains (pipelines) will commence on Monday, 27th of November 2023. 2. Advise community to be cautious and keep children away from construction site. |
| 28-Nov-23 | Trunk Mains Upgrade – Capital Park | Stakeholders in Honiara | Provide oversight to PEP | Affected Stakeholders | PEP | Male: 6 Female: 4 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To let the stakeholders know that construction of trunk mains (pipelines) will commence on Monday, 4th of December 2023. |
| 8 Dec 23 | Kongulai WTP | Kongulai | Provide oversight to Rean | Kongulai | Rean | | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on WTP work progress |

6.2. Planned Consultation Activities for January-June 2024

64. There will be on-going consultations with Honiara and provincial communities and particularly with landowners where land issues are likely to be obstacles to implementation of both Honiara and provincial water supply plans. As outlined in the updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Community Advisory Committees, (CACs) are planned for six areas in Honiara, and one in each province. Work will continue to assist contractors to establish the CACs for Honiara sites, in order to facilitate participation of community members during construction. With the Honiara Water Supply under construction and the Goodwood section of HNWW, SW will ensure that all the CACs for Honiara are established and effectively implemented. SW will also be providing oversight on consultations that the contractor will be doing. Given the construction delays and probable contract termination for the Kongulai WTP, it will remain critically important to involve the CAC and keep the community well informed about the issues and delays in implementation.

65. The detailed designs for the Phase 2 subprojects are for the most part, completed, and therefore consultations with Honiara and provincial communities will be reported in the January to June reporting period.

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6.3. Capacity Building and Training

66. The International Environmental and Social Safeguards specialists, and WASH advisor, have continued to provide specialist inputs, and to mentor and support SW staff in preparation of safeguards documents. There have been discussions around using and updating the GAP monitoring framework between consultants and the SW safeguards team.

67. Following workshops with contractors on their respective CESMPs, contractors followed this up with a series of trainings and awareness for their respective staff and subcontractors in fulfilling the requirements of their CESMPs. These trainings were mainly on Covid-19, HIV, Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Safety. The Covid-19 and HIV awareness were facilitated by the relevant departments of the Ministry of Health and Medical Services, including the Public Health Emergency and Surveillance and the National HIV/STI respectively. The GBV awareness was facilitated by the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs through the Women's Development Division. SW staff were also present in these trainings. The training held at Kongulai were also attended by the community.

7. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM (GRM)

68. SW has established a GRM to deal with grievances from the general public and affected persons in relation to all SW managed projects and covering all stages of SW's projects' cycle. The GRM covers both social and environmental grievances and care has been taken to ensure confidentiality for those making complaints. The focal point of contact for the GRM is the Social safeguards consultant and the Community Liaison Officer (CLO). This information is continuously be relayed to the customer service front should anyone with concerns and questions approach SW regarding the project: complaints and grievances are referred to the focal point appropriately. The existence of this GRM has been communicated to communities during project consultation with the names and contacts of the focal points also made available to the communities during consultations.

69. The GRM is a three-stage process which allows for appeals at each stage: complaints are forwarded to the Project Manager who tries to solve the complaint. If a solution cannot be reached the complaint is referred upwards first to the Chief Executive Officer of SW and then, if no resolution is found, to a Grievance Tribunal of three people: (i) a member of the Board of SW; (ii) the Permanent Secretary (or designate) of the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification; (iii) an independent member jointly selected by Chief Executive Officer of SW and Board Chairman. Within five working days of the Tribunal meeting a formal response is issued to the aggrieved party outlining the Tribunal's decision on the grievance.

70. The decision is final as far as the SW grievance process is concerned but if this is still not accepted the complainant has the option of taking the complaint to the Solomon Islands judicial system. Disclosure of the GRM process and awareness of how it works has been delivered through the many community consultations.

71. The Safeguards team has assisted contractors to ensure that their GRM is included training for staff on how the process works, that they included SEAH in their CESMP to show how they would respond to any incidents, and that they require all employment contracts to have a signed Code of Conduct for employees.

72. During this reporting period, there were two grievances raised, which were also completely resolved within the same reporting period. The first one was from communities at Kongulai. On 6th July, Logino Vatohi, a former SW staff member, who was also part of the tribal owners of Kongulai, died. SW agreed to a 'stop work' mourning period of ten days. However, that event turned into what is considered a grievance on 3rd August⁵. Some factions of the Kongulai landowners capitalised on the death to raise grievances relating to internal tribal disputes about land and the integrity of the gravesite next to the work site for the Water Treatment Plant. The main complainant was a new land association called Kongulai Gaena'alu Kakauroha. While SW agreed to a stop work for a period after the death, and observed local protocols for a mourning period, it did not agree to extra payments, as these were outside the agreements reached with the community, and nor did it agree to expansion of the grave yard as this would impinge on the Kongulai WTP site. SW with the support of its legal personnel held numerous consultations with the landowners to establish understanding and resolutions to their grievances. Appendix 3 records how SW went about resolving the grievance. With the grievance now resolved, SW and

⁵ As previously reported in Appendix 6 of Progress Report Q3 2023

its contractor (Rean) continued to be vigilant to ensure that it maintains a cordial relationship with the landowners through ongoing consultations.

73. The second grievance was reported to SW through its contractor PEP. PEP had made arrangements (an agreement) with a landowner, Mr. J.T at Titinge for the siting of a temporary laydown area on his land next to the Titinge Reservoir construction site. When PEP decided to mobilise its equipment on the laydown area, Mr. J.T prevented them from doing so until the government responds positively to the requests of factions of landowning groups around Honiara, which is an unrelated matter to SW. SW met with Mr. J.T on his land at Titinge, who explained his grievances and also admitted that the matter is unrelated to SW and the tank construction works. The contractor was then advised by SW to install their laydown site within part of the area that SW had already acquired for the siting of the Titinge reservoir tank, which the contractor did. The contractor and Mr. J.T continue to have a good relationship. This grievance has now been closed off.

7.1. Gender Action Plan (GAP) Implementation

74. The last semi-annual Gender Monitoring Report covering the period January-June 2023 was submitted to ADB/WB in September 2023, as part of the Semi-Annual Safeguards Monitoring Report. Basic monitoring of milestones and progress on gender related issues is ongoing with SW’s international social safeguards and gender consultant providing support remotely to the PMU communication team, which has overall responsibility for gender issues within SW, assisted by the safeguards team.

75. There is ongoing monitoring to ensure all consultations include women participants and that resettlement agreements are providing compensation to both men and women. All trainings on WASH and hygiene awareness aim to include at least 50 % women.

76. **Staff gender training:** In Q3/4 SW arranged gender training for all staff who had not completed the first round of training undertaken in 2021. The gender/GBV training took place between 7th September and 13th October, and was facilitated by Family Support Centre (FSC) who also previously delivered the gender training for SW staff in 2021. The SW staff were grouped into 8 groups of about 24 staff in each group. Six groups were males and two groups females. Each of the cohorts went through 2 days of training. The contents of the training were similar to the previous courses (basic gender equality training, and gender based violence) but now also include SEAH. The training schedule was provided in the last quarterly report and SW is awaiting a full report from the Family Support Centre. However, the training was observed to be of good quality, and was well received.

| TALLY ON THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS PER TRAINING SESSION | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| | Group 1 | | Group 2 | | Group 3 | | Group 4 | | Group 5 | | Group 6 | | Group 7 | | Group 8 | |
| | Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6 | Day 7 | Day 8 | Day 9 | Day 10 | Day 11 | Day 12 | Day 13 | Day 14 | Day 15 | Day 16 |
| Total Staff Scheduled | 23 | 23 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 24 | 24 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 27 | 27 |
| Staff Attended | 16 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 15 | 17 | 13 | 17 | 17 | 20 | 18 | 18 | 19 |
| Not Attended | 7 | 9 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 11 | 9 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 8 |
| Total Staff | 196 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Group 1-6 All Male 
 Group 7-8 All Female 

Another training meeting was also held with contractors to build their capacity in terms of social and environmental safeguards. Details of training are given below:

| Date | Training Type | Venue | Key Contacts | Facilitator | SW Team | Participants | Status |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------|
| 07-Sep to 13 Oct 23 | GBV/Gender Training | Mataniko Conference Room | Family Support Center - 26999 | Family Support Center - 26999 | Ngina Sale Relinta Manaka | Solomon Water Staff | Complete |
| 04 Oct 23 | Contractors Safeguards Meeting | BJS Conference Room | PEP & Rean Staff | SW | Marista Kapini Agnes Atkin Joshua Kera Henry Kuper | PEP and Rean Staff | Complete |

8. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

77. During the review period the following outcomes have been achieved and challenges faced:

78. Environmental safeguards:

- The Honiara Wastewater project EIS, Noro PER, and Munda PER have been approved by MECDM. It is important to note that there were no objections received from any individual or organization during the 30 days appeal period.
- The tender evaluation has been completed for the Noro PWS sub-project
- Munda and Gizo PWS subprojects are still awaiting resolution of design and water source issues, but also dependent on four party funding confirmation between SIG, DFAT, WB and ADB.
- Discussions and further review of the Kongulai WTP contract are on-going, to assess contractor performance and determine whether the contractor is able to complete the works within acceptable timeframe, and to acceptable and contractually specified quality and technical standards, including safeguards requirements.
- A half day workshop with current SW UWSSSP contractors, project managers, supervisors and their safeguard oversight team was completed successfully in this reporting period.
- Completion and approval granted by SW for the ESCP for the Titige reservoir site.
- An environmental audit was conducted at the HNWS trunk main Panatina to Burns Creek section.
- SMEC have completed the draft IEE/PERs for UWSSSP Phase 2 design services for Honiara components. The IEE/PERs are expected to be completed and submitted to ABD/WB for no objection in Q1/Q2 2024.

79. Social safeguards:

- Areas of concern remain the same as in previous reports. There has been progress relating to land acquisition, but it has been slow, and may delay submission of some LARP documentation. Much of the land needed for utilities is government owned, but there are tracts of privately held land, that are yet to be acquired, and where consultations and negotiations are on-going. Getting agreements with some parties has proved very time consuming and most of the HNWW and provincial water supply LARPS are awaiting the signing of MOUs to finalise agreements with landowners
- Completion of LARPs and submission/approval of development partners still outstanding for Noro, Munda, and Gizo provincial water supplies; and HNWW NRS and Ranadi Sewer Works sub-projects. These will be the priority for the next reporting period.
- The difficult grievances of the Kongulai community took a lot of time by the Safeguards team, but all were satisfactorily resolved, a major achievement.

8.1. Recommendations for Implementation and Corrective Actions

- Contractors need to improve in their implementation of their CESMPs.
- Implementation of some of the corrective actions is ongoing as construction works are still underway at Panatina, East Kola, Titige and Tasahe reservoir sites. The termination of the Kongulai WTP contract is still being discussed.
- Contractors and subcontractor staff compliance to PPE requirements needs to be improved. Non-compliance to PPE requirement was observed in all of the construction sites during weekly site visits.
- The resignation of the national Social Safeguards and Gender consultant leaves a hole in the team, and a priority is to finalise the ToR and schedule recruitment of a replacement for Marista Kapini, who left SW in November 2023.
- Work in establishing community advisory committees for HNWS needs to continue.
- During implementation of the WASH Hygiene Promotion Project, the WASH team needs to identify any existing Water User Groups or WASH Committees so progress can be tracked.
- Meet with relevant SW staff to review data which is collected at time of water connection to households. There is a need to include more information, in order to monitor progress and social impacts of the project, (such as: age, literacy level, disability, income bands, female headed households). A work plan is to be developed for implementation of surveys.

- Set up Dropbox system for storage of gender documents relating to targets and indicators. Ensure all training materials, consultation reports, presentations, and other materials are provided to ADB/WB.
- Develop long-term plan for three surveys to help monitor the project impacts on women. These should take place in 2024, 2025, and 2028. A working group consisting of the Gender specialist, WASH specialist, and M&E specialist to discuss with SW staff, the design of the proposed 2024 survey, in order to provide data to monitor the GAP and project indicators. A work plan to be developed for implementation of the survey(s).

APPENDICES



Appendix 1: Environmental Audit Findings and Corrective Actions/Recommendations

Environmental audit findings and corrective actions/recommendations for Kongulai WTP

| Environmental Issue/CESMP Requirements | Corrective Action/Recommendation | Responsibility | Time Frame | Status of Corrective Action. Implemented? Yes/No? |
|---|--|----------------|------------|--|
| Non-compliance to PPE requirements | Provide required PPE to casuals undertaking manual excavation and trenching works along Panatina-Burns Creek Section. Required PPEs for specialised tasks such as concrete cutting must be provided as well. | PEP | 1 week | Yes. Gloves, safety glasses and boots provided to workers. |
| Health and Safety | Need to provide records of environmental and social toolbox talks, staff inductions, trainings, and code of conduct for all subcontractor and staffs working on all trunk main work sites. JSA for manual excavation and trenching including concrete cutting must be completed as soon as possible. Copies of | PEP | 1 week | Yes. |

| | | | | |
|---|---|------------|----------------|--|
| | <p>this documents must be available at the site office and also at the work site. Ensure JSAs are completed before you start a new task.</p> <p>Need to do prestart checklist for heavy equipment's and vehicles. Daily prestart check of heavy machineries and vehicles is mandatory.</p> <p>Need to have a copy of the CESMP and other management plans available at the site office.</p> <p>Provide shelter/tent and drinking water for workers doing the excavation and trenching work along the Panatina – Burns Creek section and other work sites.</p> | | | |
| <p>Soil and Water Management</p> | <p>Undertake manual excavation and trenching works in sections so that all excavated soils can be used to backfill the trenches at the end of each day. This will ensure</p> | <p>PEP</p> | <p>2 weeks</p> | <p>Yes. Trenches backfilled after 2 weeks.</p> |

| | | | | |
|---|---|-----|---------|--|
| | spoils are not exposed to weather and also carried by run offs into the nearby drainage system. | | | |
| Dust and Onsite Air Pollution | Need to provide dust mask for all staffs and casuals. Monitor dust level and conduct regular water spraying of the roads close to where your staffs are working to reduce dust level. | PEP | 1 week | Yes. Dust mask provided to staffs and casuals. |
| Lack of garbage bins at Panatina- Burns Creek section. | <p>Need provide garbage bins for non-hazardous, hazardous and reusable wastes on site. Ensure that all personnel are aware of waste management requirements and practices on site.</p> <p>Need to ensure waste segregation is practised effectively on site. Construction wastes must be manage separately from general solid wastes.</p> <p>Need to do a toolbox talk on waste management for all hired workers to enable them to understand the waste management plan</p> | PEP | 2 weeks | Yes. Bins provided at Stadium-KGVI work site. Portable toilets provided for Stadium to KGVI work site and East Kola section. |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| | <p>requirements for trunk main construction sites.</p> <p>Need to provide portable toilets for all trunk main work sites. Ensure that the toilets are emptied on regular intervals by licensed wastewater service provider and discharged in accordance with Solomon Islands local regulations.</p> | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|

Appendix 2: Compliance with safeguard-related project covenants

| No | Covenant | Reference | Due Date | Compliance status at 30 th Dec 2022 |
|----|---|--------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | <u>Procurement</u> The Recipient shall not award any Works contract for a Subproject which involves environmental impacts until SW has: (a) obtained the final approval of the IEE from the relevant environment authority of the Borrower; and (b) incorporated the relevant provisions from the EMP into the Works contract. | Schedule 4.3 | During implementation | Complying with |
| 2 | The Borrower shall not award any Works contract involving involuntary resettlement impacts for a Subproject until the Borrower has prepared and submitted to ADB the final RP for such Subproject based on the Subproject's detailed design, and obtained ADB's clearance of such RP. | Schedule 4.4 | During implementation | Complying with |
| 4 | <u>Environment</u> The Recipient shall ensure and cause SPA to ensure that the preparation, design, construction, implementation, operation and decommissioning of each Subproject and all Project facilities comply with (a) all applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower relating to environment, health, and safety; (b) the Environmental Safeguards; (c) the EARF; and (d) all measures and requirements set forth in the respective IEE and EMP, and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in a Safeguards Monitoring Report. | Schedule 4.5 | During implementation | Complying with |
| 5 | <u>Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement</u> The Borrower shall ensure or cause SW to ensure that all land and all rights-or-way required for each Subproject and all Project facilities are made available to the Works contractor in accordance with the schedule agreed under the related Works contract and all land acquisition and resettlement activities are implemented in compliance with (a) all applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower relating to land acquisition and involuntary resettlement; (b) the Involuntary Resettlement Safeguards; (c) the RF; and (d) all measures | Schedule 4.6 | During implementation | Complying with |

| No | Covenant | Reference | Due Date | Compliance status at 30 th Dec 2022 |
|----|--|---------------|-----------------------|--|
| | and requirements set forth in the respective RP, and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in a Safeguards Monitoring Report | | | |
| 6 | Without limiting the application of the Involuntary Resettlement Safeguards, the RF or the RP, the Borrower shall ensure or cause SW to ensure that no physical or economic displacement takes place in connection with the Subprojects until: (a) compensation and other entitlements have been provided to affected people in accordance with the RP; and (b) a comprehensive income and livelihood restoration program have been established in accordance with the RP. | Schedule 4.7 | During implementation | Complying with |
| 7 | <u>Indigenous Peoples</u> The Borrower shall ensure and shall cause SW to ensure that the Project does not have any environmental, indigenous peoples or involuntary resettlement impacts, all within the meaning of ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). In the event that the Project does have any such impact, the Borrower shall take and shall cause SW to take all steps required to ensure that the Project complies with the applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower and with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement | Schedule 4.8 | During implementation | Complying with |
| 8 | <u>Human and Financial Resources to Implement Safeguards Requirements</u> The Borrower shall make available and cause SW to make available necessary budgetary and human resources to fully implement each EMP and RP. | Schedule 4.9 | During implementation | Complied with |
| 9 | <u>Safeguards-Related Provisions in Bidding Documents and Works Contracts</u> The Borrower shall ensure or cause SW to ensure that all bidding documents and contracts for Works contain provisions that require contractors to: (a) comply with the measures and requirements relevant to the contractor set forth in each IEE, EMP, and RP (to the extent they concern impacts on affected people during construction), and any corrective or preventative actions set out in a Safeguards Monitoring Report; (d) make available a budget for all such environmental and social measures; (c) provide the Borrower with a written notice of any unanticipated | Schedule 4.10 | During implementation | Complying with |

| No | Covenant | Reference | Due Date | Compliance status at 30 th Dec 2022 |
|----|---|---------------|-----------------------|--|
| | environmental, resettlement or indigenous peoples risks or impacts that arise during construction, implementation or operation of the Project that were not considered in any IEE, EMP, or RP; (d) adequately record the condition of roads, agricultural land and other infrastructure prior to starting to transport materials and construction; and € fully reinstate pathways, other local infrastructure, and agricultural land to at least their pre-project condition upon the completion of construction. | | | |
| 10 | <u>Safeguards Monitoring and Reporting</u> The Borrower shall do the following or shall cause SW to do the following: (a) submit semi-annual Safeguards Monitoring Reports to ADB and disclose relevant information from such reports to affected persons promptly upon submission; (b) if any unanticipated environmental and/or social risks and impacts arise during construction, implementation or operation of the Project that were not considered in any IEE, EMP or RP, promptly inform ADB of the occurrence of such risks or impacts, with detailed description of the event and proposed corrective action plan; and (c) report any actual or potential breach of compliance with the measure and requirements set forth in any EMP or RP promptly after becoming aware of the breach. | Schedule 4.11 | During implementation | Complying with |
| 11 | <u>Prohibited List of Investments</u> The Borrower shall ensure or cause SW to ensure that no proceeds of the Loan are used to finance any activity included in the list of prohibited investment activities provided in Appendix 5 of the SPS. | Schedule 4.12 | During implementation | Complying with |
| 12 | <u>Labor Standards, Health and Safety</u> The Borrower shall ensure or cause SW to ensure that the core labor standards and the Borrower's applicable laws and regulations are complied with during Project implementation. The Borrower shall include or shall cause SW to include specific provisions in the bidding documents and contracts financed by ADB under the Project requiring tha the contractors, among other things: (a) comply with the Borrower's applicable labour law and regulations and incorporate applicable | Schedule 4.13 | During implementation | Complying with |

| No | Covenant | Reference | Due Date | Compliance status at 30 th Dec 2022 |
|----|---|---------------|-----------------------|--|
| | workplace occupational safety norms; (b) do not use child labor; (c) do not discriminate workers in respect of employment and occupation; (d) do not use forced labor; (e) allow freedom of association and effectively recognize the right to collective bargaining; and (f) disseminate, or engage appropriate service providers to disseminate, information on the risks of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, to the employees of contractors engaged under the Project and to members of the local communities surrounding the Project area, particularly women. | | | |
| 13 | <u>Monitoring Labor Standards, Health & Safety</u> The Borrower shall strictly monitor compliance with the requirements set forth in paragraph 12 above and provide ADB with regular reports. | Schedule 4.14 | During implementation | Complying with |

Appendix 3: Kongulai Grievances and Resolution

Kongulai Issue and record of how it was resolved.

These are the events around the first stop work notice that SW and its contractor REAN had received from the late Logino Vatohi's relatives after the passing of late Logino on 6 July 2023. Initially, the situation was straight-forward but later turned to what is considered a grievance around 31 July.

| Date | Names | Means of Communication | Comments and Discussions |
|---------|---|------------------------|---|
| 6 July | | | The late Logino Vatohi died on in the evening of 6 July. |
| 8 July | | Face to Face | The SW staff including the Chief Operation Officer (COO) went to Kongulai to pay respect to the family of late Logino. They spoke to Jay who mentioned that the family would need a 10-day mourning period which should lapse on 16 July. |
| 10 July | Solomon Water: Ray Andresen, Agnes Atkin, Alan Gwao, Philip Luiramo Kongulai: Peter Kutu | Face to Face | SW staff again went to Kongulai to pay respect to the family of late Logino. At Kongulai, they met with Peter Kuku who said that the family would require about 5 days (7-12 July) to gather and wake at the grave site as customary. There was a common understanding that no works will happen on site during that period. SW is respectful of the situation and accepting of the fact that work should not happen during that time out of respect to the family. |
| 14 July | Family of Late Logino | Letter | SW received a letter of stop work notice from the families of late Logino. The notice was signed by Peter Kutu, Jay Godlyn and Anthony Tebolo. The notice was for 15 days from 7-22 July. Both SW and REAN accepted this notice and respected the family privacy at this stage. |
| 23 July | | Phone | Agnes Atkin communicated by phone with Jay (signatory to the earlier notice) to verify the lapse of the stop work notice on 22 July and that work should proceed as of 24 July. Jay confirmed during that phone conversation that the notice has ended, and work should now proceed. She further stated that all the family members are aware of the lapse of notice. |
| 24 July | Kongulai: Jay Godlyn Mary Louisa Solomon Water: Brian Fatai Joshua Kera Relinta Manaka | Face to Face | SW and REAN Staff went to the site to physically meet with the signatories of the letter to verify that work can proceed since the notice has lapsed. Jay and Mary both acknowledged that the notice have actually lapsed and work can proceed. Jay however mentioned that the family will be gathering on the gravesite in the evenings so works should stop around 5pm. Both SW and REAN agree to this. |

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| | Marista Kapini REAN: Rose Marshie | | |
| 24 July | | Letter from Kongulai | Another stop work notice for another 15 days (23 July -7 August) was sent to SW signed by the same 3 people on the night of 24 July. |
| 25 July | Solomon Water Kongulai REAN | Face to Face | Agnes and Philip from SW went to Kongulai to follow up on the 15-day extension notice issued by the family the night before. The aim of the meeting is to seek clarification on the reason for this extension of stop work as it was beyond the standard cultural practice of mourning which is only 10 days at the most. The community replied that they need time to meet as a family and talk about matters that they were not able to discuss during the first 2 weeks after Logino's death. |
| 26 July | Solomon Water (BF, JK, AA, MK, RM) Kongulai Mathew Simonina Jay Lilian REAN Rose Marshie | Face to Face | Solomon Water and REAN CLO went to the site following the discussion Agnes had with the landowners the previous day to establish if the community had met and what the outcomes of the meeting were. SW established that the meeting was planned for that evening (26 July) and the community promised to inform SW of the outcomes of that meeting. |
| 31 July | Solomon Water (Adam Searancke, Joshua Kera, Kongulai Community: Simonina (Landowners), Anthony Tebolo Vatohi (Landowners), Mathew (Landowners), Lillian Vatohi (Land Owners), Rean: Rose Wateha (REAN) | Face to Face | The concern on the safety of the grave site due to the WTP works were raised by the Kongulai community with Adam and requested that the existing fence line be extended. Adam agreed that the final fence will be installed approximately 5m from all sides of the grave (which will fall within SW leased areas) except the side facing the road which will remain open for the community to access the grave. In terms of the excavation works on the southern and western side of the grave, Adam confirmed that an earth or concrete retaining wall will be constructed to hold the soil in place including the grave site. The family wants the pegs of all the construction site to be marked showing the footprints. The family expressed that they were unaware of the final constructions design and also wish to see a site notice board erected that shows the plans for construction (pictures) and the sequence of and tasks of upcoming works. AS agreed and said that REAN can start on this task ASAP. |

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| | | | <p>SW also confirmed that a notice had already been issued to the contractor to provide a set out for the permanent works so that the community can access.</p> <p>SW land's team and safeguards team was also to initiate a walk together with the LO on the grave boundary site.</p> |
| <p>3 August</p> <p>(This marks the formal submission of what can be termed as a grievance)</p> | | Letter | <p>SW received a copy of a minute from meeting from Kongulai Garna'alu Kakauroha Land Trust Board Association (KGKLTBA) outlining 10 resolutions focusing on;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Safety of the grave in PN 191-073-5 and its proposed expansion by 35m on all sides. 2) Contesting the ownership PN 191-073-6 and all other lands requested that all lands at Kongulai be returned to the Association. |
| 17 August | | Letter | <p>A SW put together a response letter regarding the 10 resolutions noted in the letter above and issued the responses to the Association's representative. At the same time a notice of meeting was also submitted to the association so that the response letter can be further clarified to the community while providing opportunity for both parties to have proper discussions that can lead to the resolving of the matter.</p> <p>(3-17 August) This response letter was prepared based on collaborative inputs by SW management, legal team, Project team and safeguards team. The land title holders were also informed about the letter dated 3 August and the responses that SW will be issuing which they agreed to.</p> |
| 21 August | SW, REAN and Kongulai Community | Face to Face (Kongulai) | <p>SW met with the community/Association and explained the contents of the response letter dated 17 August. SW also emphasized its commitment to fence the grave site at its surveyed boundary ensuring there is unrestricted access to the grave for the Landowners.</p> <p>SW also clarified that it has no rights to return any land that it does not own to the Association. SW also made it clear how it attained the 50 years lease agreement for PN 191-073-6 which was through the legal trustees according to the appropriate processes set out in Lands and Title's Act.</p> <p>SW also explained that it is not proper for the landowners to prevent it conducting its works as it only works within the legal boundary it acquires to carry out the construction works. SW explained that it eventually will have to call the law</p> |

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| | | | <p>enforcement if works are continued to be disturbed by the communities for no valid reasons. SW explained that stop work notices to SW within its legal area can only come as an order from the courts. Despite this, SW continues to provide understanding and is sensitive to the community.</p> <p>As an outcome of the meeting, the community requested that a MOU is developed to show SW's commitment to put a fence along the proper boundary of the grave.</p> |
| 24 August | | | SW developed an MOU based on the agreed outcome of the meeting and shared with the LOs. |
| 29 August | | | SW received a response from the Kongulai community lawyer with additional clauses added to the MOU mostly relates to land title ownership, something totally unrelated to the issue of the grave. |
| 31 August | SW and Kongulai Community | Face to Face (at SW Office) | <p>The leaders of the Kongulai and members of the association met with SW to explain the reasoning behind the additional clauses while Solomon Water explained why it is impossible to make any changes to landownership titles which can only be done by the tribe and the courts.</p> <p>SW also explained that if land titles have changed, it has no choice but to deal with the legal title holders. SW also clarified with regards to the grave that in the event that its works cause damages to the graves, SW is held liable by its act SIWA Act and other Acts to compensate these damages accordingly.</p> <p>The community also reported that the contractor wanted to install their site office close to the grave and worried that runoffs from the site office roof may affect the grave. SW agreed and affirmed that the contractor had already been issued directives to place their site office in another location.</p> <p>All who attended the meeting agreed on the final outcomes of the MOU and what clauses to appear in it.</p> |
| 1 September | | | SW revised the MOU according to the outcomes agreed during the night before and shared with the appropriate signatories including Rean to sign. Rean refused to sign it citing that by contract it is not allowed to sign anything with third party. |
| 4 September | | From Kongulai Community | The community wanted minor changes to be made to the MOU particularly on the appropriate names to appear on it. The changes were made accordingly and returned to the community to sign. The Community suggest that they facilitate the signing with the land title holder Mr. Hanikouna. |

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| 31 September | | | <p>The signed MOU is yet to be collected but work at the site has proceeded without any more concerns raised by the community.</p> <p>The grave boundary affirmation survey work had taken place. SW agreed to place the fence line 5m from the graves as per SW's agreement on 31 July therefore part of the grave fence line is within 191-073-06, the land that is leased by SW.</p> |
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