

Environmental and Social Monitoring Report

Semi Annual Report
January 2019

SOL: Solar Power Development Project

Prepared by Solomon Power for the Government of the Solomon Islands and the Asian Development Bank.

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**SOLAR POWER DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT
SOLOMON ISLANDS**

SECOND SEMI ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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JAN 2019

1. Introduction

1.1. Background to the Project

The Solomon Islands Government (SIG) with assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB) provide support for development and operation of grid connected solar-diesel-battery power stations at five provincial centres in the Solomon Islands, which would largely substitute for existing diesel generation. These includes the provincial towns of Kirakira in Makira-Ulawa Province, Malu'u in Malaita Province, Munda in Western Province, Lata in Temotu Province and Tulagi in Central Province.

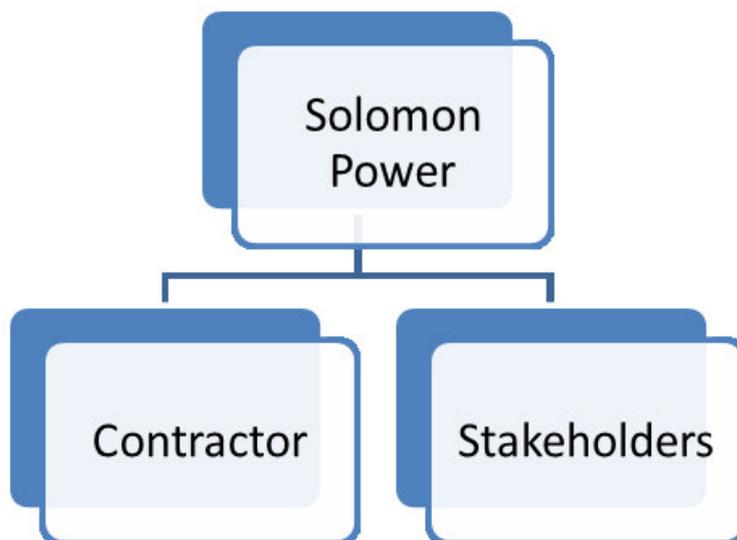
The Project was classified by ADB as Environmental Category B. An Initial Environment Examination (IEE) Report was completed in 2016 for the five project sites in accordance with ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS, 2009) and is equivalent to Public Environment Report (PER) under the SIG Environment Act 1998.

A resettlement plan (RP) was developed in consideration of the Solomon Islands Land and Titles Act, which govern rights and processes for land access. The RP was formulated to be consistent with ADB SPS, Safeguard Requirement 2 - Involuntary Resettlement in April 2016.

1.2. Institutional Arrangement

The overall organizational structure for environmental and social management for the project is shown below.

Figure 1 Solomon Power's Organisational Structure



1.2.1. Solomon Power (SP)

The overall management of all monitoring tasks comes under the SP. This covers all aspects of required activities including coordination with other agencies that have national responsibilities over some of the tasks. The company is responsible for general project execution and with day-to-day project management activities, as well as monitoring and reporting.

SP, through the capital works department is the key contact for the project. The department is responsible for the delivery of a capital program aimed at expanding and developing SP's position to meet future demands and challenges and is supported by all other departments in SP to ensure reliable, efficient and safe provision of energy. Consultancy firms were engaged by SP to support UXO, Geo-Tec, Topographic surveys and safeguards works for the project.

1.2.2. Civil/Electrical Contractor

The project is an Engineer, Procure and Construct (EPC) contract. Contract signing was completed in December 2018. The contractor is responsible for implementing all environmental, health and safety actions in the EMP. This include the production of site specific environment management plans (SEMP) s for each site as part of the Contractor Environment Management Plan (CEMP) for the project and recruitment of an environmental safety officer (ESO) and a deputy ESO whose responsibilities includes:

- Coordinating with Solomon Power for updating the EMP;
- Produce site specific EMPs for each site as part of the CEMP;
- Engage a suitable organization to undertake STIs/HIV/AIDS/Malaria/Dengue briefings and awareness raising amongst the contractor's employees.
- Contractor complies with the clauses in the contract and bidding documents in respect of environment, health and safety;
- Ensuring the contractor does not commence construction activities until requisite approvals have been received from ECD, provincial authorities, SP and Mine and Energy Division (MED);
- Participating in monitoring with Solomon Power to ensure environmental social management activities are reported as required;
- Produce monthly environment and social monitoring reports to SP and
- Facilitating consultation with the affected stakeholders and ensuring smooth implementation of the project.

1.2.3. Environment & Conservation Division (ECD)

As the national agency responsible for environment and conservation, the ECD was involved in the various aspects of the EMP. This include formal approval in 2016 for the project's IEE. Under the consent condition, ECD was tasked to assist in auditing the implementation and compliance to the EMP.

1.2.4. Provincial Government

The provincial government manages development occurring on provincial boundaries. Their roles include issuing approvals and permits. SP and contractor are responsible for liaising with provincial planning divisions to ensure relevant permits are issued for each project.

1.2.5. Royal Solomon Islands Police Force

Solomon Islands was a battle ground during World War 2 (WW2). It is important contractor immediately cordon off the area, arrange the evacuation of nearby residences and inform the RSIPF of a find.

1.2.6. Communities and Residents

According to the PPTA IEE, it was assumed to be less than 500 people or 90 household. Majority were those living near project sites or along hauling routes. The communication plan provides an overall strategy which sets out a mechanism with which the Solomon Power and other relevant agencies, primary beneficiaries, communities and other stakeholders (such as civil society organizations) can generate and receive project information in a timely fashion, exchange views, ideas and suggestions with regard to project policy, planning, project scoping, design and implementation including monitoring.

1.3. Purpose of report

This report provides project updates for the period of June to December. It is prepared in line with the project administration manual and ADB SPS.

2. ACTIVITIES IN THE PERIOD AND MONITORING RESULTS

The procurement arrangement is Engineer, Procure and Construct (EPC) contract. The bidding process a single stage two envelope bidding process. The contract was awarded to CBS Power Solution and official signing of contract occurred in December 2018. Detail design for four Solar Hybrid Projects were completed in December 2018 except for Lata.

2.1. Consultations

A site visit to Kirakira, Munda, Maluu and Tulaghi was undertaken together with the contractor in December 2018. A summary of the consultation outcomes are shown in the table below:

Table 1: Consultation visit to project sites

Date	Stakeholders	Comments
Dec 2018	Malaita Provincial Premier	Conduct initial site visit and consultation together with CBS
Dec 2018	Makira/Ulawa Permanent Secretary	Conduct initial site visit and consultation together with CBS
Dec 2018	Munda MHMS	Conduct initial site visit and consultation together with CBS Consultation with MHMS to support HIV/AIDS training/awareness
Dec 2018	Central Provincial Secretary	Conduct initial site visit and consultation together with CBS. Province willing to support the project identifying quarry sites when the need arises.

Oct 2018	Lata	Delay in settling land matters. Lata is currently being negotiated with Commissioner of Lands (COL) however an agreement is yet to be reached. Submission were made as a follow up to previous dialogues.
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2.2. UXO Surveys

Initial UXO surveys were completed for Munda and Tulagi Project sites. Additional sites have been identified in Tulagi. Perhaps another spot check at Munda on an old stockpile area following 2m cut required on the stockpile. A rescan is presumed necessary when 2m of the soil is removed. These two sites were subject to intense battles and it is still possible that UXO may occur. Tulagi, in particular, was an area of major conflict, and the airfield at Munda and its surrounds were also heavily bombed. No UXO clearances were required for Malu'u, Kirakira and Lata. These sites are further away from WW2 conflict zones or battle grounds.

2.3. Geo-Tec studies

Geo-Tec studies were completed for all sites except for Lata in Temotu Province by Astro Surveyors and Engineering Consultants. Negotiations are currently being pursued for Lata site.

2.4. Fencing and Topographic-surveys

Fencing completed for Munda project site while other sites planned for February 2019. Topo and cadastral survey have now completed for all sites. Three contractors were engaged, Lashee Land surveyors for Lata, Astro Surveyors for Maluu, Mosese and Associates Munda. Makira/Ulawa Province has engaged its own surveyor.

2.5. Contract award

Contract awarded to CBS Power Solution in August 2018 and signing in December 2018. Pre-site visit to project sites commence shortly after the signing together with SP.

3. Implementation of Environment Safeguards

3.1. Development Consent

ECD issued development consent for the project following submission of the initial environment examination in 2016. Consent granted in February 2017 (See annex 2).

3.2. Safeguards Specialist

A consultant was engaged by SP recently in mid-December 2018 to manage safeguards work pursued under the capital works department. The TOR includes:

- Preparation of screening reports, proposal applications, Environment Social Management Plans and Public Environmental Reports for subprojects as required to meet requirements of the Environment Act 1998 and ADB SPS;

- Arrange public consultation to advise affected communities of the scope and scheduling of the subprojects;
- Arrange for EMP to be attach to Bid Document;
- Arrange for reports to be sent to the MECDM and ADB for evaluation. Following approval by the MECDM and the issuing of permits/approvals advise the SP and ADB of the approval;
- Evaluate and approve the SEMP and CEMP prepared by the contractors as a condition of the contract;
- Undertake regular site visits to independently monitor the contractor's compliance with the SEMP and CEMP.

3.3. Site Specific EMPs and CEMP

Following the signing of contract, CBS Power Solution the contractor conduct site visits and commence drafting of SEMP for each site as part of the CEMP. Contractor plans to submit CEMP draft to SP for review and approval in Jan 2019.

4. Implementation of Social Safeguards

4.1. Land Specialist

Terms of Reference (TOR) for a Land Specialist is in draft. The specialist TOR include inventory of land assets and non-land assets, census on affected people, valuation of assets, prepare and update resettlement plans, manage SP land acquisition process, provide advice and progress report to the capital works team.

4.2. Land Acquisition

There was slight progress on land acquisition. Follow ups were made with the MLHS but response had been slower. Now that a new Commissioner of Lands was appointed, SP had to resubmit letters and applications. On record, approximately 4.64 ha of land were acquired by SP. These include sites for Munda, Tulagi, Maluu and Kirakira projects. In Kirakira Lot 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 title transfer occurred in Feb 2018. Negotiations are in progress for 3 additional lots. Similarly, in Tulagi lot 0021 acquired, Lot 0240 and 0239 in progress. The table below provides updates of SP land tenure status. Recently, SP received development consent from the Makira/Ulawa Provincial Government.

Table 2: Land Tenure Status

Project site with land acquisition requirement	Area Acquired	Land Ownership	Status	Premium	Rent per year	Actions	Due Date
Munda (New Georgia Is. Western Province)	2.4998 ha	Commissioner of Lands 120-001-5	Fencing	SBD221,860.00	SBD 21, 186	SP to follow up development consent/permit from western provincial government. UXO on an old stockpile area	Feb 2019
Malu'u (Northern Malaita, Malaita Province)	0.2999 ha	Commissioner of Lands Lot 83 of LR 462 Parcel: 134-002-0075 and Lot 70 of LR 409 Parcel 134-002-0089	Transfer of title occurred in Feb 2018 for Parcel 134-002-0089 No need to acquire Lot 83 of LR 462 Parcel: 134-002-0075	SBD4,022.45	SBD 402	Site ready for handover to contractor	June 2019

Tulagi (Central Province)	0.7097 ha	Commissioner of land plots: Lot No: 181-003-0021 (0.4670 ha) Lot No: 181-003-0240 (0.1002 ha) Lot No: 181-003-0239 (0.1425 ha)	Lot 0021 transferred. No need to acquire Lot No: 181-003-0240 (0.1002 ha) Lot No: 181-003-0239 (0.1425 ha)	SBD81,021.00 for 181-003-0021	SBD 8102 for 181-003-0021	UXO survey for additional sites.	June 2019
Kirakira (Makira-Ulawa Province)	1.6199 ha acquired and land transfer occurred lot 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12	Located w/in land acquired by Solomon Power: Lot No 8: 252-001- 9 (0.3184 ha); Lot 9 252-001-10 (0.5299 ha); Lot 10: 252-001- 11 (0.4898 ha); Lot 11: 252-001- 12 (0.1489 ha); Lot 12: 252-001-13 (0.1331ha)	Five transferred lot 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 Lot 13, 14 and 15 in progress Follow up Development Consent for the project.	Total for lot 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12: SBD108,514	Total for lot 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12: SBD8680.96	SP to follow up land title for Lot 13, 14 and 15. Follow up in progress	March 2019 (

<p>Lata (Santa Cruz island, Temotu Province)</p>	<p>7890 m²</p>	<p>SIG - Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation (SIBC) Lot No: 268-002-0012-008</p>	<p>Negotiation in progress Delay expected</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>SP resubmit letter to new COL. SP lands team to continue consultation COL. (Land specialist). Alternative site identified but SP priority is to secure initial land site.</p>	<p>Feb 2019</p>
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4.3. MOU

Lata MOA does not eventuate and is subject to further negotiation with COL. No MOUs signed in this period.

4.4. Gender initiatives

Discussion and TOR for a gender specialist in progress. The gender specialist's role include preparation of gender action plans, provide awareness on gender issues and sensitization of project designs. The TOR was prepared by capital works department however the position formally be under human resource department. Gender awareness for Solomon Power previously planned rescheduled to April 2019 awaiting the specialist.

Solomon Power recruitment policy is equal opportunities for all people. Current disintegration of workers by gender in Solomon Power is eighty one (81) percent men and nineteen (19) percent women.

4.5. Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

SP understands the need to update the GRM to suit the context in each project site. SP GRM is summarized below.

- Affected People (AP) are in the first place to discuss their complaint directly with the Contractor's Project Engineer (PE) and entered in a registry. For straightforward complaints, the PE can make an on-the-spot determination to resolve the issue.
- For more complicated complaints, the PE forward the complaint to the SP Management. The Management has a maximum of seven days to resolve the complaint and convey a decision to the AP. The AP may if so desired, discuss the complaint directly with the SP Management. If the complaint of the AP is dismissed, the AP would be informed of their rights in taking it to the next step.
- AP may take the complaint to the Permanent Secretary (PS) in the MECDM who would appoint the Director of the ECD to review the complaint. The PS and Director have 15 days to make a determination.
- Once it is dismissed, the AP has the option to resort to national judicial system if they are not satisfied with the resolution at his/her own cost.

There are no formal complaints to SP regarding the project at this stage.

5. Summary of Safeguards Planned Activities

Activities	Date
Social Safeguards	
All title transfer completed	June 2019

Cutoff date (Issue notice)	February 2019
Inventory and costing of Assets (land specialist)	March 2019
Consultation and Census on Affected Person (land specialist)	March 2019
Update of RP report (land specialist)	March/April 2019
Gender and HIV/AIDS awareness (contractor to implement)	April 2019
Gender Actions etc. (gender specialist)	
Environment Safeguards	
SEMPs and CEMP submission	Jan 2019
SEMPs and CEMP SP review and approval	Jan 2019
Semi Annual Report Jan and June 2019	July 2019

Annex 1: Makira/Ulawa Province Endorsement Letter



MAKIRA ULAWA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

Islands of: BIO, SAN CRISTOBAL, SANTA ANA, SANTA CATALINA, THREE SISTERS, UGL, ULAWA
Our ref: F.
Phone: 50075

Fax:

KIRAKIRA

SAN CRISTOBAL

Date: 14/01/2019

Our Ref:

Chief Engineer

Solomon Power

P.O Box 6

Honiara

Attention: Martin Sam

Dear Sir,

Subject: APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF SOLAR ARRAY UNITS AT HURO LAND, KIRAKIRA, MAKIRA ULAWA PROVINCE.

This letter is to formally inform you officially that I on behalf of the Makira Ulawa Provincial Government do hereby give permission for Solomon Power to do construction and solar array installation at the said land.

I without hesitation do see this project important for the Makira Ulawa and its people. Therefore, I fully render support particularly to ensure this project is successfully implemented.

Lastly, my sincere apology for the long delay to response as our office is under capacity and thank you for your understanding.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Wilson Billy Rafiau

Provincial Secretary (Supervising)

Makira Ulawa Province

Annex 2: Development Consent

Form 5

SECTIONS 22(3)(a) and 24(3)(a) DEVELOPMENT CONSENT

Pursuant to an application for development dated 3 February, 2017 this DEVELOPMENT CONSENT is issued to SOLOMON ISLANDS ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY to undertake the approved prescribed development in terms of section 22 of the Environment Act.

The approved prescribed development is SOLAR FARM and is located at MALUTU (Malaita), MUNDA (Western), KIRAKIRA (Makira), LATA (Temotu) & TULAGU (Central).

The following conditions shall **APPLY** in addition to the conditions prescribed in these Regulations and in the Act.

1. This Development Consent is valid until such time as the abovementioned approved prescribed development is completed.
2. The holder of this Development Consent shall not undertake or cause to be undertaken any other development other than that.
3. This Development Consent is non-transferable.
4. The holder of this Development Consent, its agent, servants or officers shall permit the Director or Inspectors unhindered entry to any premises or location in which the prescribed development is situated and shall provide any assistance as the Director or Inspector may require.
5. The Director may at any time, vary or remove any conditions or restriction to this consent by notice in writing served on the holder of this consent.
6. The development proponent shall pay the prescribed consent fee on being granted the development consent.
7. The holder shall conduct the approved operations under the development consent only within the area of land specified herein.
8. The holder shall conduct the approved operations under the consent in a manner that complies with the conditions of this consent, the Environmental Management Plan, the Act and subsidiary legislation made under the Act and any safeguards defined herein.
9. The holder of consent must not directly or indirectly release wastewater or hazardous contaminants including hydrocarbons, fuel and oil to any watercourse, waterway or marine environment.
10. When establishing campsites, the holder of the consent must ensure that area and duration of disturbance to land, vegetation and watercourse is minimized.
11. The holder of consent must ensure areas of ecological, cultural or scientific importance such as rivers, streams, lagoons and wetlands on which local communities are dependant for their livelihood and socioeconomic wellbeing are protected unless no other feasible alternative options exist.
12. The holder of consent must ensure barriers of appropriate specifications are in place around areas of cultural and ecological importance or environmentally sensitive areas, to local communities including rivers, streams, gardens and tambu sites.

