Solomon Islands: Supporting Good Governance through Safeguards

Project Name	Supporting Good Governance through Safeguards
Project Number	48148-001
Country	Solomon Islands
Project Status	Closed
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 8737-SOL: Supporting Good Governance through Safeguards
	Technical Assistance Special Fund US\$ 300,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions
Sector / Subsector	Transport - Road transport (non-urban) - Urban roads and traffic management - Water transport (non-urban)
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements
Description	The context of the TA stems from ADB' transport sector work since the early 2000s and recognition that the government struggles with understanding and applying safeguards systems. With Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) assistance, ADB has been supporting the Solomon Islands government to strengthen its environment and social safeguards through TA 8217-SOL, which is an 18-month TA that commenced in April 2013. The core participants are: (i) the Environment and Conservation Departmen (ECD) within the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management, and Meteorology (MECDM); (ii) the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey (MLHS); and (iii) the Ministry of Infrastructure Development (MID). Using diagnostic tools that were developed under the RSES Technical Assistance for Strengthening and Use of Country Safeguard Systems (RETA 7566-REG) which includes legal inventory review and equivalence assessment and institutional capacity assessment, TA 8217 was able to delve in great detail into the legal and institutional framework. The government has requested additional technical assistance based on the findings and recommendations of TA 8127-SOL and has asked for support to implement some of the key priority actions identified during TA 8217-SOL. The new TA focuses on addressing (i) the existing flaws in the land acquisition and development consent (and environmental assessment process.
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	One of the major challenges and implementation of infrastructure projects in the Solomon Islands is to successfully address land and environmental issues, and to be able to effectively implement land acquisition. Projects that require land, most of the time, also require development consent and this requires working with the ministries of Lands and Environment, both of which, suffer from poor governance and a lack of systematic and formalized procedures. The results have identified a number of inconsistencies in the main laws i.e. Lands and Titles Act and Environment Act and also identified a number of constraints and blockages in the institutions.
Impact	Smoother and more timely implementation of infrastructure projects
Project Outcome	
Description of Outcome	Increased government capacity for applying strengthened land acquisition and development consent procedures in the transport sector.
Progress Toward Outcome	
Implementation Progress	
Description of Project Output	s Strengthened systems and fully constitutional safeguards framework developed Established institutional arrangements for land acquisition/ development consent process

Draft amendments to Land and Titles Act and Environment Act (and Environment Regulations) and a number of proposed enabling regulations are being discussed with stakeholders. A draft land aqcuisition policy for MID has been prepared and is under review and discussion. The projects to pilot the proposed modified procedures are under way.

Geographical Location

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communica	ation, Participation, and Consultation
During Project Design	MID will be the executing agency and MID, MLHS and MECDM will be the implementing agencies. Coordination is assisted through the Infratsructure Advisor and Development Coordination Officer. Workshops and formal sessions will supplement smaller consultations and discussions. The Pacific Department''s Transport, Energy and Natural Resources Division will manage the TA with support from Pacific Liaison and Coordination Office in Sydney, and the Development Coordination Office and ADB Infrastructure Advisor in Solomon Islands.
During Project Implementation	The TA will be implemented over 12 months from April 2015 to April 2016. A team of individual international (three) and national (two) consultants will be recruited for a total of 21 person-months (in accordance with ADB Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). Disbursements will conform to ADB Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook (2010, as amended from time to time). Procurement of equipment, if any, will follow ADB Procurement Guidelines (2010, as amended from time to time). The consultants will hand over any equipment purchased under the TA to the participating government agencies upon completion of the TA.

Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Williams, Jean
Responsible ADB Department	Pacific Department
Responsible ADB Division	Transport, Energy and Natural Resources Division, PARD
Executing Agencies	Ministry of Infrastructure Development PO Box 1213 Honiara, Solomon Islands

Timetable

Concept Clearance	04 Jul 2014
Fact Finding	24 Feb 2014 to 28 Feb 2014
MRM	-
Approval	08 Oct 2014
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	31 Mar 2016

TA 8737-SOL

Milestones						
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing			
		Effectivity Date	Original	Revised	Actual	
08 Oct 2014	26 Nov 2014	26 Nov 2014	31 Dec 2015	30 Apr 2016	-	

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						_	Cumulative Disbu	irsements	
ADB	Cofinancing	Count	Counterpart			Total	Date	Amount	
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor		Others			
300,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	300,000.00	08 Oct 2014	282,524.05

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/48148-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=48148-001
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