



Solomon Islands: COVID-19 Rapid Response Program

Project Name	COVID-19 Rapid Response Program	
Project Number	54178-001	
Country	Solomon Islands	
Project Status	Proposed	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Loan	
Source of Funding / Amount	Grant: COVID-19 Rapid Response Program	
	concessional ordinary capital resources lending / Asian Development Fund	US\$ 10.00 million
	Loan: COVID-19 Rapid Response Program	
	concessional ordinary capital resources lending / Asian Development Fund	US\$ 10.00 million
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships	
Sector / Subsector	Health - Disease control of communicable disease - Health system development Public sector management - Public expenditure and fiscal management - Reforms of state owned enterprises - Social protection initiatives	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Effective gender mainstreaming	
Description	The program will help finance the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes the government's countercyclical policies which focus on preventing entry of the virus, supporting vulnerable groups, and economic stimulus. This budget support operation is using the COVID-19 Pandemic Response Option modality.	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	Solomon Islands, a small island developing state, is among those classified as experiencing fragile and conflict-affected situations. The government, the private sector, and the community are not well equipped to deal with the wide-ranging implications of COVID-19. The government's public health response to COVID-19, including closing the borders, has prevented entry of the disease into the country. However, it has come at a high economic cost. Income-generating opportunities are scarce and mostly based on natural resources. Exports have been hit hard because of COVID-19. As a small, open economy, the country is highly dependent on exports, which represent 42% of gross domestic product (GDP). The formal social protection system is limited in both programs and coverage, and therefore the government's ability to directly support the poorest and most vulnerable through existing programs is constrained. Solomon Islands is prone to disasters caused by natural hazards. When tropical cyclone Harold struck in early April 2020, the country's thin capacity was stretched even further by having to respond to two shocks simultaneously. The country is ranked 145th of 160 countries in the United Nations economic vulnerability index. These fragilities highlight the country's nonlinear development path and need for significant support from development partners.	
Impact	Resilient and environmentally sustainable development with effective disaster risk management, response, and recovery All Solomon Islanders have access to quality health care	
Outcome	Adverse effects of COVID-19 on businesses and the population reduced	
Outputs	Measures to combat the entry and spread of COVID-19 in Solomon Islands delivered Measures to provide social assistance to vulnerable groups enhanced Economic stimulus delivered	
Geographical Location	Nation-wide	
Safeguard Categories		
Environment	C	
Involuntary Resettlement	C	
Indigenous Peoples	C	
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects		
Environmental Aspects		
Involuntary Resettlement		
Indigenous Peoples		
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation		
During Project Design		
During Project Implementation		
Responsible ADB Officer	Hodge, Matthew W.	
Responsible ADB Department	Pacific Department	
Responsible ADB Division	Pacific Liaison and Coordination Office in Sydney, Australia	

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	19 Feb 2022
Fact Finding	11 May 2020 to 18 May 2020
MRM	28 May 2020
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	04 Jun 2020

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/54178-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=54178-001
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