

**INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET  
ADDITIONAL FINANCING**

Date ISDS Updated: 12/19/2014

Report No.:

**93462**

Date Original ISDS Approved/Disclosed: 4/18/2013

**I. BASIC INFORMATION****1. Basic Project Data**

|  |  |                              |  |
|--|--|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Country:</b>  | Solomon Islands  | <b>Project ID:</b>           | P152709                                  |
|  |  | <b>Parent Project ID:</b>    | P114987                                  |
| <b>Project Name:</b>   | Additional Financing for Solomon Islands Rapid Employment Project (REP)  |                              |  |
| <b>Parent Project Name:</b>  | Rapid Employment Project (REP)   |                              |  |
| <b>Task Team Leader:</b>   | Sonya M. Sultan  |                              |  |
| <b>Estimated Appraisal Date:</b>   | December 10, 2014  | <b>Estimated Board Date:</b> | March 31, 2015                           |
| <b>Managing Unit:</b>  | EASNS  | <b>Lending Instrument:</b>   | Project Investment Financing (SPF Grant) |
| <b>Sector(s):</b>  | Other social services (90%); Public administration-Other social services (10%)   |                              |  |
| <b>Theme(s):</b>   | Social safety nets (50%); Conflict prevention and post conflict reconstruction (20%); Other social protection and risk management (20%); City-wide infrastructure and service delivery (10%) |                              |  |
| <b>Is this project processed under OP 8.50 (Emergency Recovery) or OP 8.00 (Rapid Response to Crises and Emergencies)?</b> |  |                              | Yes                                      |
| <b>Financing (In USD Million)</b>  |  |                              |  |
| <b>Total Project Cost:</b>   | 4.00   | <b>Total Bank Financing:</b> | 4.00                                     |
| <b>Financing Gap</b>   | 0.00   |                              |  |
| <b>Financing Source</b>  | <b>Amount</b>  |                              |  |
| Borrower   |  |                              |  |
| IDA CRW Credit   | 2.5 million  |                              |  |
| IDA CRW Grant  | 1.5 million  |                              |  |
| SPF Grant  |  |                              |  |
| Total  |  |                              |  |
| <b>Environmental Assessment Category:</b>  | B- Partial Assessment  |                              |  |
| <b>Is this a Repeater Project?</b>   | No   |                              |  |

**Background**

The Solomon Islands is a fragile state and is vulnerable to conflict. The country has been rebuilding its economy which was severely affected by the economic downturn in the late 1990s/early 2000s and the subsequent tension and ethnic conflicts which arose out of the crisis. The country continues to be fragile as evidenced by recent riots and tensions from the slow response to the recovery efforts during the recent flooding.

As a small Pacific island state, Solomon Islands is particularly vulnerable to natural disasters. Not only is it prone to earthquakes it is also at risk to cyclones. In April 2014, the Solomon Islands experienced severe flooding caused by an unprecedented tropical depression induced heavy rains which battered the country from April 1-5, 2014. The rainfall was deemed to be rarer than a one-in-100 year event. The flooding resulted in the loss of lives, homes and businesses and had a devastating impact on the capital city of Honiara and Guadalcanal Province which were declared disaster zones.

The Government of Solomon Islands (SIG) requested the World Bank to lead a Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) in coordination with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), European Union (EU) and UN partners. The assessment estimates that total damage and loss was equivalent to US\$107.8 million, which is about 9.2% of the country's GDP while priority recovery and reconstruction needs were estimated at US\$56 million. The needed reconstruction exceeds the capacity of the SIG and would place a significant strain on the country's economy. The SIG requested the World Bank and other donors for financial support.

**Crisis Response Window.** To cover the funding shortfall required for the identified priority recovery and rehabilitation needs, the SIG requested to tap into the Crisis Response Window (CRW) under IDA. On behalf of SIG, the Bank submitted a US\$10 million proposal to the Bank's Executive Directors, which has been approved, with the following allocations:

- a. US\$2.0 million towards Development Policy Operation 2 (\$4-6 million in total) to help the government cover the costs incurred in responding to the flooding;
- b. US\$4.0 million towards the Rural Development Program 2 (US\$9 million total budget), which would allow the operation to respond to the increased needs in the flood-hit rural areas; and
- c. US\$4.0 million towards the Rapid Employment Project Additional Financing (entirely financed from CRW) to rehabilitate tertiary roads in flood hit areas in Honiara.

The REP AF will scale up all the existing components of the project. In addition, it will finance a new subcomponent (Part 1A (iii)), namely the improvement and maintenance of urban and peri-urban roads in and around Honiara to reinstate critical access for small urban communities to the main roads and to basic socio-economic services. The bulk of the AF will go to this new sub-component. The rehabilitation of these roads is essential in enabling the city of Honiara to resume all commercial and social activities undertaken before the flooding and contribute to the overall recovery efforts in the country. In addition, the Closing Date of the project will be extended from June 30, 2015 to December 31, 2016.

Activities to be financed by the AF will slightly shift the focus and purpose of activities under MID Subcomponent 1A from short-term employment generation to improving the quality of secondary and tertiary roads to make them more resilient against future severe weather events. Activities under the AF will still generate an additional 120,000 labor days, and provide short-term employment for approximately 1,500 people.

The proposed changes to the PDO will also be incorporated into the existing grant agreements under the project: SPF TF095966 and PRIF TF096620.

Application of *Para. 12 of OP10.0*. The AF was processed applying para. 12 of OP10.0 which allows for condensed processing procedures. The AF meets the eligibility criteria for applying condensed procedures: (i) Solomon Islands is a fragile state and (ii) is in urgent need of assistance due to a natural disaster (flooding in April 2014). This approach was endorsed by the Country Director.

## 2. Project Objectives

Parent Project Development Objective (PAD): The project development objective is "to assist targeted vulnerable urban populations in the Recipient's territory to: (i) increase their incomes through the provision of short term employment; and (ii) improve their knowledge, experience and basic employment skills that are valued in the workplace and society."

**Change in PDO.** The AF will expand the scope of activities under REP. A new subcomponent IA(iii) will be added to the Project Description. As a result, the PDO will be amended as follows: "To assist targeted vulnerable urban populations in the Recipient's territory to (i) increase their incomes through the provision of short term employment; (ii) improve their knowledge, experience and basic employment skills that are valued in the workplace and society; and (iii) *improve their access to services and markets through repaired, more climate resilient roads and access infrastructure.*"

### 3. Project Description

The Rapid Employment Project (REP) was processed as an emergency project to provide short term employment and pre-employment training to vulnerable groups at the time when ethnic conflicts, brought on by the global financial crisis, were high in the country.

The project has three components:

1. The project has three main components:

**Component 1:** Rapid Employment Scheme (RES), designed to provide short-term employment to unemployed residents of Honiara through labor based public works. It comprises two subcomponents:

**Sub-component 1A- Road Repair and Maintenance Scheme** executed by the Ministry of Infrastructure Development (MID), which includes:

- i. Carrying out of labor-based road repair and maintenance works of the unpaved urban and peri-urban roads in and around Honiara;
- ii. Provision of technical assistance and training to build the capacity of local works contractors and of MID

**Sub-component 1B- Urban Works and Services** is implemented by the Honiara City Council (HCC) which is responsible for sub-project activities such as street cleaning, brushing and clearing, development of community access infrastructure,;

**Component 2:** Pre-Employment Training (PET), provides basic life skills training to REP beneficiaries to prepare them for RES and for future employment opportunities.

**Component 3:** Project Management Support, provides technical support to the implementing agencies, HCC and MID.

#### Summary of Activities under Additional Financing

2. The proposed additional financing will scale up the three components of REP as described below, and start implementing an additional subcomponent AI(iii).

3. **Sub Component 1A – Road Repair and Maintenance Scheme (US\$2,770,000).** A new subcomponent is being added under the Road Repair and Maintenance scheme, namely, the 'improvement and maintenance of urban and peri-urban roads in and around Honiara'. Activities under

this subcomponent are different from the road repair and maintenance activities previously carried out under REP in two ways. Firstly, the primary focus of the activities will shift from labor-generation to developing more climate resilient roads that can be accessible to vulnerable communities in all weather conditions. Secondly, the AF activities will entail a mix of labor-based and machine based operations. The envisaged total length of road improvements is expected to be approximately 12 kilometers (roads made more climate resilient), with a further 10 kilometers of maintenance and spot improvements. Works contracts for the roads will come to a total of US\$2,240,000 and the remaining US\$530,000 will go towards the procurement of goods and services, including equipment, materials, and technical supervision.

4. **Sub Component 1B – Urban Works and Services Scheme (US\$645,000).** Under the proposed AF this sub-component will continue to fund street cleaning activities for an extra year (until the proposed revised closing date), 5 additional concrete pedestrian access paths, and repairs to two schools. This is expected to generate an additional 50,000 labor days, and the community infrastructure will benefit an additional 7,000 people.

5. **Component 2 – Pre-Employment Training (US\$165,000).** The proposed AF will continue pre-employment training and job and social service referral services through the extended term of REP.

6. **Component 3 –Project Management Support (\$420,000).** The proposed AF will cover incremental project management costs for the additional 18 months. This would include the costs of rental and utilities, operating costs, staff, monitoring and evaluation, especially associated with project closure.

#### 4. Project Location and salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis

The project focuses on Honiara and its surrounding peri-urban areas.

The Solomon Islands is a fragile state and is vulnerable to conflict. The country has been rebuilding its economy which was severely affected by the economic downturn in the late 1990s/early 2000s and the subsequent tension and ethnic conflicts which arose out of the crisis. The country continues to be fragile as evidenced by recent riots and tensions from the slow response to the recovery efforts during the recent flooding.

As a small Pacific Island state, Solomon Islands is particularly vulnerable to natural disasters. Not only is it prone to earthquakes, it is also at risk to cyclones and tsunamis. In April 2014, the Solomon Islands experienced severe flooding caused by an unprecedented tropical depression induced heavy rains which battered the country from April 1-5, 2014. The rainfall was deemed to be rarer than a one-in-100 year event. The flooding resulted in the loss of lives, homes and businesses, damages to existing infrastructures including roads. Honiara and Guadalcanal Province were declared disaster zones.

#### 5. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists

Ms. Ly Thi Dieu Vu, Environmental Consultant  
Mr. Roberto Tordecilla, Social Development Specialist

#### 6. Safeguard Policies Triggered

| Safeguard Policy | Triggered? | Explanation (Optional)   |
|------------------|------------|--|
| Environmental    | Yes        | The project's overall environmental impacts is positive as employment- |

| Safeguard Policy                                 | Triggered? | Explanation (Optional)   |
|--|------------|--|
| Assessment (OP/BP 4.01)                          |            | <p>generating activities (road repair, stormwater drainage cleaning, construction of concrete access paths, street cleaning and landscaping) contribute to make the city cleaner and more attractive. The proposed investments under the AF project (repairing and improving tertiary roads damaged by the flood) is expected to make the roads less dusty in dry weather and less muddy in rainy weather. Better road surface also help to reduce gas emissions from vehicles. The proposed investments under the AF are small scale in nature and thus the potential impacts and risks would be limited to dust, noise, traffic and ground disturbance, and occupational health issues. These potential impacts are marginal, localized, temporary and manageable.</p> <p>An Environmental and Social Management Guidelines (ESMG) has been developed and applied for the parent project. It contains specific environmental mitigation measures applicable for each type of physical activities financed by the project. The ESMF was updated in October 2012 and reviewed again and re-disclosed in March 2014 taking into account the experiences from parent project implementation. Since the types of AF project investments are the same as under the parent project, the existing ESGM is deemed adequate to address any potential environmental and social safeguards impacts which may arise under the AF.</p> |
| Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04)                    | No         | As the project will be implemented in already developed urban areas including streets, roads and local communities, the Project will not cause any impacts on any natural habitats.  |
| Forests (OP/BP 4.36)                             | No         | The Project will not cause any impacts on forests or involve deforestation as sub-projects will be implemented in urban areas.   |
| Pest Management (OP 4.09)                        | No         | No chemicals will be used in the projects for pest control   |
| Physical Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11)         | No         | Excavation would be very limited within the existing road base. Materials used for road repair and rehabilitation will be purchased from local suppliers, no borrow pits or quarries will be open under the project. Therefore OP 4.11 is not triggered.   |
| Indigenous Peoples (OP/BP 4.10)                  | No         | OP 4.10 was not triggered under the original project, and under subsequent AF operations, since it has been assessed and reconfirmed that no Indigenous Peoples reside in and around Honiara. The project has targeted urban and peri-urban communities in Honiara mostly made up of migrants during the last 4 years, and the AF activities will take place in the same geographical locations as the parent project.   |
| Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12)            | Yes        | The exact details of road sections to be rehabilitated are not yet available at this stage. While unlikely, some structures or crops may be affected and, in some cases, small portions of land may be acquired. The project has developed a Resettlement Policy Framework which forms part of the ESGM for the project. This will provide guidance to the project in addressing issues related to land acquisition for Right of Way (RoW)-related issues.   |
| Safety of Dams (OP/BP 4.37)                      | No         | The AF Project activities would not affect any existing dam or depend on the safety of any existing dam.   |
| Projects on International Waterways (OP/BP 7.50) | No         | The AF Project will not be implemented in areas of international waterways or use water resources from international waterways   |
| Projects in Disputed Areas (OP/BP 7.60)          | No         | The AF Project will not be implemented in disputed areas.  |

**II. Key Safeguard Policy Issues and Their Management**

**A. Summary of key safeguards issues**

|   |
|---|
| <p><b>1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:</b></p>   |
| <p>Both the parent project’s activities (road repair, stormwater drainage cleaning, construction of concrete access footpaths in urban settlements, street cleaning, landscaping activities, and small scale community environmental improvement initiatives) and the AF’s proposed investments (repairing and rehabilitating tertiary roads damaged by the flood) are small-scale. The potential negative environmental impacts associated with these investments are small-scale, mostly site-specific and manageable. The Project would not cause any large scale, significant or irreversible impacts.</p> <p>The parent project has brought about positive social and environmental impacts through short-term employment provision, improved local sanitation, roadside vegetation control and waste collection. Additional positive impacts are expected with the proposed activities under the AF as rehabilitated roads will be safer for people in rainy weather, more sustainable roads will allow continued access to services and markets in poor weather conditions. Improved drainage will reduce flooding risks.</p>  |
| <p><b>2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:</b></p>   |
| <p>It is hoped that the demonstration effects of some of the REP activities related to urban regeneration and environmental improvements will lead to some positive changes in the cleanliness of areas and communities where REP groups are not directly active or working. This could include greater awareness about not putting garbage into undesignated areas everywhere, keeping streams clean, and recycling.</p> <p>In addition to providing short-term employment and pre-employment training, the AF will build on the positive impacts which REP has made in several key areas: (i) visible improvement to the urban environment from the street cleaning activities which in turn created a sense of pride and interest in urban regeneration and environmental protection; (ii) concrete steps and footpaths provide better access to main roads and thereby to schools, clinics, markets and workplaces in many vulnerable communities (also provided an escape route during the April 2014 flash floods); (iii) stronger community ownership and involvement as a result of group based work approach and community level investments; and (iv) greater citizen-state accountability and legitimacy of local institutions responsible for delivery due to the provision of regular public services in Honiara.</p>  |
| <p><b>3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.</b></p>  |
| <p>N/A</p>  |
| <p><b>4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.</b></p>   |
| <p>In compliance with the World Bank’s OP 4.01, and the Solomon Islands Government’s own requirements, an ESMG was prepared by the Government to serve as the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project. The ESMG provides detailed guidance on the mitigation measures to be employed to address potential negative impacts of the proposed physical works. In addition, sufficient training has been provided to the project personnel for the effective implementation of the ESMG. The ESMG was reviewed again in March 2014 and found to be adequate. The project is in compliance with the ESMG.</p> <p>The ESMG also includes simple guidelines and technical matrices (e.g. list of environmental mitigation measures for each type of physical activities, Land Acquisition and Resettlement Screening Checklist, Land Occupier Consent Form, etc.) to facilitate the preparation of simplified Environmental Management Plans (EMP) for civil works contracts managed by MID and for Community Group Agreements managed by HCC. To date, subproject Environmental Management Plans (EMP) have been prepared and incorporated into bidding document and civil works contracts and community contracting managed by MID and HCC on a regular basis. Bidding documents and civil work contracts include items for safety gear and equipment. Environmental, health and safety topics are also incorporated in the Pre-Employment Training curriculum (Component 2 of the Project). Acceptable mitigation</p> |

measures have been applied at construction sites and the observed level of environmental impacts are marginal.

The ESMG also includes an RPF to address the project's impact on land use and on livelihoods as well as a consultation matrix to guide the project's consultations with communities. In addition, the project has also established a GRS to seek feedback from community groups and project stakeholders. This has been assessed as effective during a review carried out in September 2013. The GRS flowchart and form were updated once more during the 9<sup>th</sup> ISM, and a re-orientation for PIU staff made to update staff skills for the management of the GRS.

The implementing agencies have acquired and developed the basic knowledge and skills to apply the World Bank's safeguard policies during four years implementation of the parent project. Therefore, their capacity is adequate to manage safeguards in the AF project.

**5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.**

Consultations at various levels were conducted during project preparation and in the development of the ESMG. Consultations were held with line agencies (Ministry of Lands, HCC and MID), civil society, NGOs, youth, community and settlement groups, ward councillors and ward advisory committees. These consultations were summarized in the ESMG. These types of consultations are done regularly and routinely during implementation as well as in the identification, selection and preparation of the subproject activities under the AF.

**B. Disclosure Requirements**


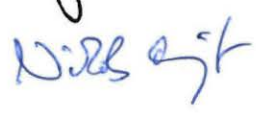
| <b>Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other:</b>   |            |
|--|------------|
| Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?   | Yes        |
| Date of receipt by the Bank  | 4/18/2013  |
| Date of "in-country" disclosure  | 10/1/2012  |
| Date of submission to InfoShop   | 10/21/2013 |
| <b>Re-disclosure</b>   |            |
| Date of in-country re-disclosure   | 4/23/2014  |
| Date of submission to InfoShop   | 4/22/2014  |
| For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors | N/A        |
| <b>Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process:</b>  |            |
| Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?   | n/a        |
| Date of receipt by the Bank  | 4/18/2013  |
| Date of "in-country" disclosure  | 10/1/2012  |
| Date of submission to InfoShop   | 10/21/2013 |
| <b>Re-disclosure</b>   |            |
| Date of in-country re-disclosure   | 4/23/2014  |
| Date of submission to InfoShop   | 4/22/2014  |
| <b>Indigenous Peoples Plan/Planning Framework:</b>   |            |
| Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?   |            |
| Date of receipt by the Bank  |            |
| Date of "in-country" disclosure  |            |
| Date of submission to InfoShop   |            |
| <b>Re-disclosure</b>   |            |
| Date of in-country re-disclosure   |            |
| Date of submission to InfoShop   |            |
| <b>Pest Management Plan:</b>   |            |
| Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?   |            |
| Date of receipt by the Bank  |            |
| Date of "in-country" disclosure  |            |
| Date of submission to InfoShop   |            |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <i>Re-disclosure</i>  |  |
| <i>Date of in-country re-disclosure</i>   |  |
| <i>Date of submission to InfoShop</i>   |  |
| * If the project triggers the Pest Management and/or Physical Cultural Resources, the respective issues are to be addressed and disclosed as part of the Environmental Assessment/Audit/or EMP. |  |
| If in-country disclosure of any of the above documents is not expected, please explain why:   |  |
|   |  |

**C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting)**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment</b>  |     |
| Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?  | Yes |
| If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Sector Manager (SM) review and approve the EA report?  | Yes |
| Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?   | Yes |
| <b>The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information</b>  |     |
| Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?   | Yes |
| Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs? | Yes |
| <b>All Safeguard Policies</b>  |     |
| Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?                  | Yes |
| Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?   | Yes |
| Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project includes the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?                            | Yes |
| Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?                           | Yes |

**III. Approvals**

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Signed and submitted by:</i>  |   |
| Task Team Leader:                | Sonya M. Sultan   |
| Environmental Specialist:        | Ly Thi Dieu Vu  |
| Social Development Specialist:   | Roberto Tordecilla  |
| <i>Approved by:</i>              |   |
| Regional Safeguards Coordinator: | Surhid Gautam for Peter Leonard  12/29/14 |
| Comments:                        |   |
| Sector Manager (Acting):         | Jan Weetjens  12/30/14                    |
| Comments:                        |   |