# SFG2092

# SOLOMON ISLANDS GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON ELECTRICITY ACCESS EXPANSION PROJECT (GPOBA PROJECT)

DRAFT

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (ESMF)

**GOVERNMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS** 

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### Acronym

CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
ECD	Environment and Conservation Division
ESMP	Environment and Social Management Plan
ESMF	Environment and Social Management Framework
FPIC	Free, prior, informed consultation
FTE	Fixed Term Estate
GPOBA	Global Partnership on Output Based Aid
IA	Implementing Agency
IP	Indigenous People
MECDM	Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management Meteorology
OP	Operational Policy
PE	Project Engineering
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SP	Solomon Power
SREP	Scaling Up of Renewable Energy Program in Low Income Countries
UXO	Unexploded Ordinance
WB	The World Bank

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Solomon Islands Electricity Access Expansion Project supported by grants from the Global Partnership on Output Based Aid (GPOBA) and Scaling Up of Renewable Energy Program in Low Income Countries (SREP) under the Strategic Climate Fund aims to increase access of low-income households to electricity in peri-urban and rural areas of Solomon Islands. The proposed project will assist eligible low income households to connect to electricity grid extension coverage in Honiara and newly covered areas by provincial grids and micro-grids in rural areas such as in Taro, Seghe and Afio and other provinces in remote islands by addressing the ability of the poor households to pay the up-front connection charges and costs of basic wiring (as defined by the project). It delivers i) the benefits of grid electrification, include improved, safer lighting and more reliable power, to the low-income households that would otherwise not be able to afford the cost of connection and ii) access to electricity in unserved areas, peri-urban and rural areas.

Since the exact sites of the household electrical connections are not all known prior to the project appraisal and may need to be further clarified, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)<sup>1</sup> is prepared as required under the World Bank's Operational Policy (OP). 4.10 (Environmental Assessment). The purpose of this ESMF is to ensure that the subsidized connection meets with both the environmental and social safeguard policy of the World Bank and laws and regulations of Solomon Islands.

#### 2. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE ESMF

The ESMF will serve as the project's umbrella for the environmental and social management document, setting out the strategy to screening process that will ensure capturing all the project's environmental and social issues. The purpose of this ESMF is to guide the Implementing Agency (IA) – Solomon Power (SP) on the environmental and social screening and subsequent assessment of specific activities during project preparation, design and implementation. This ESMF together with Standard Operating Procedures of the Solomon Power (SP), provides:

- Project design to mitigate impacts and optimize benefits
- Protocol during construction to mitigate any impacts to be restored as prior to construction;
- Protocol for confirming and documenting authorization of impacts on any affected land and assets prior to connection;
- Consultation mechanism on the project and the ESMF and records of consultation;
- Complaint handling mechanism;
- Roles, responsibilities and capacity of those involved;
- Monitoring and reporting mechanism;
- Budget mechanism

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> By adopting ESMF document from similar projects in Pacific Island Countries such as the Solomon Islands Sustainable Energy Project (SISEP); Vanuatu GPOBA Grid Based Electricity Access Project.

The draft ESMF was prepared based on substantial community consultation that the feedback has been incorporated in this document. It was subsequently disclosed at the Solomon Power website and the World Bank website.

#### 3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Solomon Islands GPOBA Project proposes to increase access to electricity in low-income areas of Solomon Islands. The primary beneficiaries are the households in peri-urban areas of the Honiara grid-extension coverage and provincial grids and micro-grids in rural areas.

Component 1 of the project will provide OBA subsidies for new electricity service connections and subsidies for household wiring for low income households accessing electricity services. This will provide one-off subsidies to cover the cost (up to a predefined limit) of household connection to grid and mini-grid and household wiring for household accessing grid-based electricity services under the project. Specifically the Bank will support the connection between the low-voltage cables constructed by Solomon Power to the house and household wiring. Component 2 and 3 will provide implementation support to cover operating costs, including environmental and social impact management, and independent verification of outputs respectively.

The Bank supported activities will comprise connection of the households to the low voltage cables installed along roads under independent funding from Solomon Power. The World Bank project cannot operate without the low voltage power being generated and distributed under the Solomon Power project. Similarly the Solomon Power project cannot be effective without households' connection. Thus the World Bank safeguard policy requires application of World Bank Safeguard Policies in the Solomon Power project, covering grid extension and micro-grid installation.

The grid densification/extension will take place in Honiara areas, such as in Kakabona area, Green Valley, Burns Creek areas, Ohiola/Mbaranaba sites and other further identified areas. The new electricity connection through micro-grid (hybrid generation system) will be located in Taro area in Choiseul Province, Seghe area in Western Province, and Afio in Malaita Province and other areas in other further identified remote provinces.

Figure 1 illustrates the service connection with a household wiring component and an auxiliary pole.

### 4. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

#### 4.1 Environment impacts

The potential environment and social impacts are assessed based on the design, scope of work as well as the physical and biological environment of the project site. Mitigation measures for each potential environment and social impacts are designed to avoid, minimize or remediate the impacts. Relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are listed in the Annex C to support and manage activities undertaken by Solomon Power on a day to day basis.



Figure 1: Diagram of electricity network, service line and in-house wiring

The OBA project will only be subsidized for new electricity connections and for household wiring. This will involve very little construction i.e. auxiliary poles (if needed) connected low-voltage poles to house. The only new construction involve the construction of micro-grid in Seghe area, Taro area, Afio area and other provinces. As such the environmental impacts are expected to be minor, if any.

Soil digging activities for erecting power poles and laying foundation for outstations may result in the generation of dust, potential drainage issue and disposal of the excess excavated materials. However the scale of this activities is small and the environmental impacts are expected to be minor. None the less, Solomon Power and the contractor are expected to prevent pollution emanating from these activities and take remedial measures.

*Dust:* The construction works will have a minor and temporary impact in the form of dust during dry windy conditions. Some air pollution is expected from vehicles transporting power poles, cables, and other construction materials. Except from concrete foundations for outstations, there will be very little construction related activities requiring large scale stock piling of materials.

*Construction and demolition waste:* It is possible that remains of construction and demolished materials may accumulate at the project sites. Solid wastes, debris, spent oils or fuel from construction machinery or plant, construction material, or waste vegetation may be resulted by project activities.

*Impacts on noise level:* There are no noise standard in Solomon Islands, and the noise generated by the project will be temporary (i.e. during construction) and intermittent.

Construction noise is generally intermittent, attenuates quickly with distance, and depends on the type of operation, location and function of equipment. During construction, there will be a temporary adverse impact due to the noise of the construction equipment. However, all the works, especially for the installation of outstation, are in fairly remote areas, away from school or residences.

*Impact on access:* the project may cause temporary negative impacts, including inconvenience, minor disruptions to traffic using the road and on local access during the construction period, especially for grid extension related activities in Honiara.

*Impacts on health and safety:* the project's construction phase may cause potential health and safety impacts. The main impacts on health and safety associated with (i) risk of accidence at work sites, and (ii) traffic safety issues. The risk of spread of communicable disease is considered to be negligible because there is no expected high influx of people in search of jobs at project sites.

There will be no operation related impacts except for low level humming noise from the diesel generator. The noise is not discernable from the road side and given the remote locations of the facility, no impacts are anticipated.

*Chance to find unexploded Ordinance (UXO)*: UXO is defined as explosive ordinance that has been primed, fused, armed or otherwise prepared for use in armed conflict but has failed to explode. The area of Solomon Islands were the scenes of bitter fighting during World War II. While this was over 60 years ago, UXO may still be found in the area. Pre-construction impacts are expected to be associate mostly with the clearance of UXO from the proposed location of the project.

Preconstruction Impacts	Construction Impacts	<b>Operation Impacts</b>
Demolition wastes including	Operation of construction	Accident arises posing risk to
disposal of oil, chemicals,	machines creating noise and	workers (worker health and
debris, concrete, contaminated	emissions;	safety);
soil, scrap metals, etc.		
	Sedimentation and siltation to	Operation of generator creating
Transportation of demolition	adjacent water bodies;	noise and emissions eg. NOx,
wastes creating dust;		Sox, CO and burnt
	Water quality can be affected	hydrocarbons;
Operation of demolition	during construction activities	
machines creating noise and	when soils, wastewater, oils and	Accidental spillage of oil and
vibrations;	lubricants, sewage and other	fuel during at Power Station
	materials are allowed to move	(solid and liquid waste);
Workers safety a concern;	into the environment;	
		Storm water drainages;
Accidental spillage of chemicals	The project's construction phase	
to waterways causing pollution.	can cause a range of health and	Continuous supply of water to

#### Table 1: Potential environmental Impacts envisaged

Preconstruction Impacts	<b>Construction Impacts</b>	<b>Operation Impacts</b>
The clearance of UXO from the proposed location of the project.	safety impacts; It is possible that remains of construction waste accumulate at the project sites. Construction waste will be disposed at designated site approved by Solomon Power	project sites (power station) for use by generators and for use in emergency responses when an accident occurs important; There are marginal impacts involving delivery and storage of fuel. Negligence of protocol can result in a disaster.

#### 4.2 Social impacts

#### 4.2.1 Bank's Project

This GPOBA Project will be subsidized for new electricity connections and for household wiring for low income households accessing electricity services under the project. The electricity installation under the subsidy will cover basic wiring from the nearest power pole to house, including installation of auxiliary poles if needed, pre-paid metered connection and in house-wiring. The project itself will not create any significant impacts and no need to acquire land. Minor damages to assets during connections may happen due to the activities during installation covering digging a hole for a power pole (if needed), trimming vegetation, and arranging easement for over-head line from the property boundary to the house. Since the installation work will be undertaken if there is demand or application from the applicant/consumer (household owner), the work will be conducted based on obtaining consent from the household owner on any impacts on land. The consumer will organize the access from the street boundary to the property boundary as well as from property boundary to the house, including trimming vegetation. The installation itself will be conducted by the licensed service provider (contractor), thus any damage regarding pole installation and household wiring will be handled by contractor.

#### 4.2.2 Linked Project

The linked project is funded by Solomon Power covering extension of grid for distribution and installation of hybrid generation system.

#### 4.2.2.1 Distribution System

The grid densification/extensions will involve only minor civil works such as soil digging of holes for power poles and for easement of over-head line. For purpose of erecting power poles land may be required, however very small. All poles will be located either along existing road corridors or within communal/community owned land.

The new micro-grid (out station) facilities in remotes provinces will be built on the ground and required land area of around 1 Ha, for solar panel, battery, diesel generators and for Solomon Power site office. The Solomon Power will obtain the needed land through lease approach for 25 years that after 25 years it will either be extended or be handed over to other party. This approach has been conducted for existing hybrid generation systems by Solomon Power and 'as of right' under law. Therefor the proposed project activities, including the implementation of associated facilities do not encroach any privately owned land or communal land. In Seghe, SP has surveyed land belonging to church to be leased and currently in the evaluation stage. In Afio and Taro, the required land has been identified that it is owned by provincial government and further survey will be carried out by Solomon Power. The same approach to obtain the required land will be used for other areas for new micro-grid installation.

Any removal of trees/vegetation on non-road reserve to facilitate household connections will require consultation with the tree owner and will base on consent of the owner. If there is any demand to get compensation from the owner to remove the affected trees, SP will provide compensation for the trees in accordance with rates prescribed under law (referring to rates issued by Ministry of Agriculture). In the case of the affect to private structure, the project will avoid to impact to any structure. Thus impact of the project to structures will not be envisaged.

#### 5. POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK 5.1 World Bank Safeguard Policy

The World Bank's environmental and social safeguard policies are a foundation to achieve sustainable poverty reduction. The objective of the policies is to prevent and mitigate undue harm to people, their livelihoods and their environment in the development process. The project triggers two safeguard policies, i.e. OP 4.01 Environmental Assessment and OP 4.10 Indigenous Peoples. The project does not trigger OP. 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement that will be explained below.

#### 5.1.1 OP. 4.01 Environmental Assessment

The proposed project to be financed by World Bank requires Environment Assessment to ensure that it is environmentally friendly and sustainable. OP 4.01 (Environment Assessment) sets out the general policies and principles for environmental and social protection for projects financed by WB and requirements for assessment of impacts and implementation plans and measures to mitigate or manage impacts. The OP 4.01 has been used to classify the project category. For this project, the proposed project is expected to have minimum adverse environmental impacts, therefore the project has been classified as a Category B project. These impacts are expected to be temporary and can be readily mitigated.

#### 5.1.2 OP 4.10 Indigenous Peoples

This policy refers to "distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural group (s)" who self-identify and are recognized by others as distinct, have a collective attachment to habitats and natural resources, have institutions that are separate from the mainstream, or an indigenous language that may be different from the official language of the country. The objective of the policy is to ensure respect for indigenous people's human rights, cultural and economies, avoid adverse social or economic impacts and share benefits equitably.

The Solomon Islands Global Partnership on Electricity Access Expansion Project triggers the World Bank's Operational Policy (OP) 4.10 on Indigenous Peoples (IP) as most of the communities in the provinces the project is targeting fulfill the characteristics of indigenous peoples as per paragraph 4 of OP 4.10. As a result, the Borrower will not prepare a separate Indigenous Peoples Plan/Indigenous Peoples Policy Framework. The components of an IP plan is integrated in the project design.

The project is designed based on consultation with community. The consultation process will be conducted and expanded during the project implementation to ensure that stakeholders are fully engaged in the Project and have the opportunity to participate in its development and implementation and understand that there is a process in place for them to submit any grievances or complaints.

#### 5.1.3 OP. 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement

Involuntary resettlement refers to management of adverse impacts of loss of, or damage to, land, assets or livelihoods, where the affected persons have no choice.

The physical work of the project is covered under component 1. This GPOBA Project will subsidy basic wiring from the nearest pole to house, meter and in-house wiring. The project itself will not need to acquire any land. The micro-grid and grid densification/extensions, although they are not financed by the GPOBA project, are considered to be associated facilities that their implementation should follow the World Bank's safeguard policies. The grid densification/extensions will involve only minor civil works such as soil digging of holes for power poles and easement provision for over-head line. For purpose of erecting power poles may require land, however very small. All poles will be located either along existing road corridors or within communal/community owned land. The implementation of micro-grid (out station) facilities in remotes provinces will be built on the ground and need land around 1 Ha, for solar panel, battery and diesel generators, as well as site office of Solomon Power The Solomon Power will obtain the required land through lease approach for 25 years. This approach has been conducted for existing hybrid generation systems by Solomon Power and 'as of right' under law (Electricity Act). The proposed project activities, including the implementation of associated facilities do not encroach any privately owned land or communal land. Considering the size of affected land will be small strips of land for electricity power poles and for micro-grid (hybrid generation system) will use land leased by SP, the project will not invoke involuntary resettlement or compulsory acquisition procedures. All activity conducted by Solomon Power in the project based on obtained consent from people. Therefore the project does not triggered World Bank Policy OP 4.12 on Involuntary Resettlement.

In the case that land owner would like to donate their land voluntarily to the project or allow to use their land for the project, the ESMF provides procedures on voluntary land donation protocol and procedure on land use agreement (if applicable) to be followed, although it will not be envisaged. Please see Annex A and B.

#### 5.2 Solomon Islands Regulatory Requirements

This section provides a brief overview of the specific policies in relation to environmental and social safeguard applicable to the preparation and implementation of this project.

Act	Main Objectives	
Environment Act of 1998 and Environment Regulation of 2008	The Environment Act of 1998 and the Environment Regulation of 2008 require development consent for prescribed activities to be obtained from the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Management (MECDM). A development consent application must include an environmental assessment which complies with Environment Act and Environment Regulations requirements.	
Labor Act of 1978	<ul> <li>This Act deals with employment of workers. Part IX care of workers, requires the employer under:</li> <li>Article 65: to provide workers with rations.</li> <li>Article 66: to protect workers and dependent from malaria</li> <li>Article 67: to provide workers with an accessible supply of clean, non-polluted water for drinking, washing and for other domestic purposes. Water supplies may be inspected by a Health Officer.</li> <li>Article 68: requires the employer to make sufficient and proper sanitary arrangements for workers.</li> <li>Articles 69: requires employer to provide accommodation for the worker and his family it they are not conveniently located to the work place.</li> <li>Article 70: requires the employer to provide medical care at the workplace</li> <li>Article 71: states that depending on the circumstances the employer may be required to provide medical facilities</li> </ul>	
Safety at Work Act of 1996	<ul> <li>This Act consists of 4 parts.</li> <li>Part II: Articles 4 states that it is the duty of every employer to ensure the health and safety at work of his employees.</li> <li>Article 6: states that it is the duty of the employer to provide a safe workplace for persons other than his employees.</li> <li>Article 7 and 8: requires manufactures, supplier of tools and equipment, and suppliers of chemicals and other hazardous substances to ensure that these are safe and without health of risks.</li> <li>Article 12: states that any employer who operates unsafe machinery or substances and is injured will be responsible for the damages.</li> <li>Part III: Article 15 requires the employer to protect people from dust, fumes, etc. Article 16 provides for limits of exposure to dust and fumes.</li> <li>Article 17, 18, 19 and 20 require employers to comply with the operating requirements for: (i) pressure and vacuum systems, (ii) machinery; (iii) dangerous machinery, and (v) electrical installations.</li> <li>Article 21 and 22 require workplace to have fire protection and to take precautions against explosions.</li> </ul>	
River Waters of 1973	Control over waters for equitable and beneficial use; establishes activities for which permits are required.	
Land and Titles of 1988 (amended in 1996)	Consolidates the law relating to the tenure of land, registration of interest in land, and compulsory acquisition of land. The Act covers customary land rights. Part V of the Act deals with the purchase or lease of customary land by private treaty, and compulsory acquisition	

#### Table 2: Relevant policies or regulatory

Act	Main Objectives
	of land. For public works the land is not acquired as such, it is gifted or contributed following an extensive period of consultation and agreement through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU waives the customary interest in the land in lieu of the public infrastructure. in Article 12, the Constitution allows the compulsory acquisition of customary land or any right over of interest in it, as long as there have been negotiations with the owner(s) of the land, right of interest prior to the acquisition, the owner have a right of access to independent legal advice, and the interest in the acquired land is limited to a fixed-term interest.
Electricity Act of 1996	Sections 33 provides law basis on land acquisition and dealings in land. It says that "Subject to the provisions of the Land and Title Act, the Authority (Solomon Power) may for all the purpose of any of its functions under this Act, by agreement acquire, whether by way of purchase, lease, gift or exchange, any land situate within Solomon islands, whether such land is immediately required or not. The Act provides power to authority among others to enter and dig out and to consult with relevant parties and provide notice prior work will be conducted. The Act also provides grievance redress mechanism that any person who sustain any damage or loss by reason of the exercise of any of the powers conferred by this sections upon the Authority or a licensee may make application for compensation in writing in that behalf to the Authority or licensee.
Provincial Government Act of 1997	<ul> <li>The Act gives power to the provinces to make their own legislation including environment and conservation. Schedule 3 of the Act provides a list of activities for which the provinces have responsibility to pass ordinances.</li> <li>The State of the Environment Report (2008) shows that eight provincial ordinances have passed which include:</li> <li>One environmental protection ordinance</li> <li>Six wildlife and wildlife management and conservation area ordinances; and</li> <li>One marine and freshwater ordinaces</li> </ul>

### 6. PROCEDURE TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES 6.1 Environmental Procedure

Below is provided measures to mitigate environmental impacts.

*Dust:* There are a number of good engineering practices that can be employed to ensure that dust and vehicle related air quality impacts are mitigated during construction. These include:

• Construction equipment being maintained to a good standards. The equipment will be checked at regular intervals to ensure they are maintained in working order and the checks will be recorded by the Solomon Power as part of environmental monitoring;

- Prohibition of the use of equipment and machinery that causes excessive pollution (i.e. visible smoke) at the project sites;
- Ensuring that all vehicles transporting potentially dust-producing material are not overloaded, are provided with adequate tail-boards and side-boards, and are adequately covered with a tarpaulin (covering the entire load and secured at the sides and tail of the vehicle) during transportation;
- Material stockpiles being located in sheltered areas and be covered with tarpaulins or other such suitable covering to prevent material becoming airborne; and
- Periodic qualitative air quality monitoring (by observation rather than testing).

*Construction and demolition waste:* Demolished materials and construction materials will be disposed of at designated site approved by Solomon Power. These wastes should be removed fairly immediately at the first instance during the construction phase to allow accessibility and for health and safety reasons. Solid wastes, debris, spent oil or fuel from construction machinery or plant, construction material, or waste vegetation removed from worksites will not be dumped in streams or near streams.

*Impacts on noise level:* As mentioned, during construction there will be a temporary adverse impact due to the noise of the construction equipment. However, all the works are in fairly remotes areas away from schools or residence. Nonetheless, the following general measures will be taken to mitigate the effects of noise:

- Solomon Power and/or the contractor will be required to maintain all vehicle exhaust systems and noise generating equipment in good working order and maintained regularly;
- Prohibition of any construction activities between 9pm and 6am in, or close to, residential sites;
- Solomon Power will prepare a schedule of operations that will be approved by affected stakeholders. The schedule will establish the days, including identifying days on which there should be no work, and hours of work for each construction activity and identify the types of equipment to be used;
- Workers will be provided with noise abatement equipment as may be required; and
- Any complaints regarding noise will be dealt with by the Solomon Power in the first instance through the redress grievance mechanism.

Impact on access: Mitigation of impacts on access will include:

- Care taken during the construction period to ensure that disruptions to access and traffic are minimized;
- Signs and other appropriate safety features will be used to indicate construction works are being undertaken; and
- Solomon Power will ensure access roads to private owned land are not disturbed.

*Impacts on health and safety:* Observing general health and safety requirements, including supply of safety and protective gear and equipment to workers, to reduce the risk of accidents at the work sites. Mitigation measures for reducing and avoiding impacts on health and safety include:

• Provide construction workers training in health and safety issues, and on the specific hazards of their work;

- Provide workers with personal protection equipment, such as safety boots, safety glasses, reflector vests, helmets, gloves, and protective clothing;
- Provision of adequate protection to the general public in the vicinity of the work site, including advance notice of commencement of works, installing safety barriers if required and signage or marking of the work areas.

#### 6.2 Unexploded Ordinance (UXO)

The proposed project areas and alignments will be swept for UXO and if found will be cleared as per the established procedures before the site is ready for construction. Should UXO be discovered, the SP or contractor is to immediately cordon off the area, arrange the evacuation of nearby residences and inform the police on the finds. Currently all UXO finds are reported to the police who arrange the pickup, transport, storage and ultimate disposal of the finds. While construction site are expected to be swept for and cleared of UXOs, a chance find procedure for handling the UXOs during the construction is included in the ESMF. Please see annex C.

#### 6.3 Social Procedure

The impact of the proposed project is minor, site specific and of short duration. The social impact will cover impact on land for erecting poles, including installation of auxiliary pole if needed, and for laying foundation for power house of hybrid generation system, trimming or removal vegetation during construction for the extension of the over-head line. The impact of land acquisition and relocation due to the project are not anticipated.

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) of Solomon Power provides mechanism to undertake construction operation for activities listed above, including mechanism to handle any damage. The SOP support and manage activities undertaken by SP on a day to day basis and will be within the usual business as usual operation of SP.

The project will involve only minor civil works such as digging holes for power poles. This activity will be undertaken at the existing road right of way and within communal land. Under Solomon Power's SOP, SP will send notification to Ministry of Infrastructure Development (MID) to get consent when grid extension activity will use road right of way and to avoid any encroachment to private land. The same as when SP will install pole for distribution network in the customary land, SP should get consent from Ministry of Land. Since the installation work will be undertaken if there is demand or application from the applicant/consumer (household owner), the work will be conducted based on obtain consent from the household owner on any impacts on land. This is consistent with current SP policy to ensure no involuntary impacts on land or assets of applicants and other affected parties.

During the construction of household wiring the consumer will organizes the access from the street boundary to the property boundary as well as from property boundary to the house, including trimming vegetation. The installation itself will be conducted by licensed service provider (contractor), thus any damage regarding auxiliary pole installation and household wiring will be handled by contractor and will be monitored by SP. The project must restore any damage due to the digging hole for the poles to the previous status before the construction. Restoring any damage in soil for holes of power poles at existing road corridors or within communal land will be conducted by SP itself.

The land needed for new micro-grid development (hybrid generation system) will be carried out through lease approach. Therefore the project will not involve land acquisition and relocation. Any removal of trees/vegetation on non-road reserve to facilitate household connections will require consultation with the tree owner and will base on consent of the owner. If there is any demand for the compensation to remove the affected trees from the owner, SP will provide compensation for the trees in accordance with rates prescribed under law (referring to rates issued by Ministry of Agriculture). In the case of the affect to private structure, the installation of proposed facilities will be undertaken by avoiding to impact any private structures. Thus impact of the project to structures will not be envisaged. Under SOP of Solomon Power for each application for new connection, the applicant shall provide consent to SP on the legal status of land (Fixed Term Estate Register - FTE) or if in the case of communal land, the applicant should provide consent letter from 50% of land owning tribe as well as letter of consent from adjoining land owner for line access. All required consent letter shall be attached together with the application form for SP's further process. Please see annex E on the application for new connection. The requirement to provide consent regarding status of land is to avoid any land dispute that SP will not provide connection on illegal owned land.

The planning of the distribution network within the community will ensure that related damages caused by the construction is avoided or restored with the consent of the affected people. If the assets owners refuse to have facilities on their property (if any), the project will look for alternative location. Below table provides summary of social impacts and the interventions to be applied.

Social Impacts	Interventions	Implementing Agency	
Land			
Erecting power poles	It will use existing road right of way and within communal land (base on obtained consent from community). SP should get consent from Ministry of Infrastructure Development and/or Ministry of Land.	Auxiliary poles will be conducted by Contractor and will be monitored by SP. LV poles will be conducted by SP.	
Development power house for micro grid	It will be built at Solomon Power leased land.	Solomon Power	
Damage due to soil digging activity.	Any damage will be restored to the previous status before construction.	Solomon Power	
Vegetation			
Removal of trees/vegetation privately owned to facilitate household connections	Require consultation with the tree owner to obtain consent. If there is any demand for the compensation to	Solomon Power	

#### Table 3. Social Impact and the Interventions

Social Impacts	Interventions	Implementing Agency
	remove the affected trees from the	
	owner, SP will provide compensation	
	for the trees in accordance with rates	
	prescribed under law (referring to	
	rates issued by Ministry of	
	Agriculture).	
Structure	No impact to structure. The project	
	will avoid any impact to structure.	

#### 6.3.1 Indigenous Peoples Framework

The Solomon Islands Global Partnership on Electricity Access Expansion Project triggers the World Bank's Operational Policy (OP) 4.10 on Indigenous Peoples (IP) as most of the communities in the provinces the project is targeting fulfill the characteristics of indigenous peoples as per paragraph 4 of OP 4.10. As a result, the Borrower will not prepare a separate Indigenous Peoples Plan/Indigenous Peoples Policy Framework. However, the following note explains how aspects of an IP plan will be integrated into project design.

The project is triggering the Bank's Indigenous Peoples Policy (OP 4.10). The Solomon Islands population is indigenous because it has<sup>2</sup>: i) numerous self-identifying groups with distinctive institutions, with patterns varying island to island; ii) collective attachment to geographically distinct territories; (iii) indigenous language often different from official language of the country or region; and (iv) customary cultural, economic, social or political institutions separate from those of the dominant society and culture. Since essentially everyone in Solomon Islands is considered indigenous, an Indigenous People's Plan (IPP) was not prepared. However, consistent with the requirements of OP 4.10, the implementation of the pilot project will ensure that 1) community will participate in and benefit from the project through free, prior, and informed consultations; and 2) avoid or minimize potentially adverse effects of the project on IP's communities. When avoidance is not feasible, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for such effects. The following aspects of an IP Plan will be integrated in design and preparation of the project:

Measures to ensure free, prior and informed consultation will be carried out during project implementation. Detailed and continuous consultations will take place with communities in targeted provinces for micro-grid densification/extension and grid extension in Solomon Islands. As outcome of the project is communities in targeted area served by household connections are able to participate, plan and implement basic wiring and household connection activities, the project design recognizes that a meaningful participation by IP's communities requires clear measures within the project procedures that facilitate IP's participation and inclusion. Manual/guideline for conducting meaningful consultation will be prepared and will provide procedures to ensure that IP's communities get an opportunity to participate in the project design. If impacts as a result of the project are experienced, additional consultations will also take place with affected people in order to negotiated appropriate solutions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Referring to Environmental and Social Safeguard Instruments for the Pacific Island Countries (ESSIP). The World Bank. March 2015.

- Measures to ensure culturally-appropriate benefits are being included in the project. The project is culturally-appropriate as it ensures that the interventions are sensitive to socio-economic conditions, cultural beliefs and traditional practices of communities. The consultation and community-based activities under this proposed project will include both men and women. Moreover, the ESMF prepared for the project details mechanisms to ensure that thorough consultations are undertaken with stakeholders to identify culturally-appropriate benefits and to ensure that they are not disadvantaged by the project.
- Measures to ensure that adverse impacts are mitigated, including an appropriate grievance system/complaint handling mechanism, will be in place. The grievance system will be provided in the project manual/guideline. The project will actively require socialization of complaint handling mechanisms at all consultations.
- Measures for disclosing key project documents are in place. The key project document, such as Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be translated into local language. The ESMF will publicly available in the Solomon Power website/office, the World Bank's Office in Honiara and in the World Bank's Infoshop. Given low literacy levels in the country, the project will need to ensure that communication is presented orally and in written form in Pidgin language, to ensure stakeholders can understand the project and its potential impacts and benefits.

#### 7. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

Solomon Power has existing grievances and complaints resolution mechanism. These mechanisms will be informed during consultation with relevant stakeholders as part of the project information prior to implementation activities in each locality. It is anticipated that most complaints arising during construction are expected to be minor.

Complaints concerning dust, health and safety implication, trimming tree/vegetation and noise that should be able to be resolved quite easily. Simple matters such as obstruction of access to the complainant's premises or more complex matters (such as unexpected issues with internal wiring, accidental damage to premises, etc.) are dealt with as soon as possible. Complaint submitted by individual will be handled one by one individual basis. Complaint raised by communal will be handled through consultation with the community to provide solution on the grievance.

Complaint on environment issues, installation, etc. the AP will be directed to discuss their complaint directly with the Project Engineer (PE). For the straightforward complaints, the PE can make an on-the-spot determination to resolve the issue. For more complicated complaints, the PE will forward the complaint to the Solomon Power Management. The SP Management has a maximum of two days to resolve the complaint and convey a decision to the AP. The AP may if so desired, discuss the complaint directly with SP Management. If the complaint of the AP is dismissed, the AP will be informed of their rights in taking it to the next step. If the complaint regarding environmental issues, a copy of the decision will be sent to Environment Conservation Division (ECD). Should the AP not be satisfied, the AP may take the complaint to the Permanent Secretary (PS) in Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management Meteorology (MECDM) who will appoint the Director of the ECD to review the complaints. The PS will have 15 days to make a determination.

All complaint will be registered and responded to the complainant, informing them of the proposed solutions to the matter, with an indication of the process and time for resolution. All complaint will be entered in a Register with data on: date, name, contact address and reason for the complaint. A duplicate copy of the entry is given to affected people (AP) for their record. The register will show who has been directed to deal with the complaint and the date when this was made together with the date when the AP was informed of the decision and how the decision was conveyed to the AP. The Register then signed off by the person who is responsible for the decision and the dated. The Register will be kept at the front desk of Solomon Power office and is a public document. The duplicate copy given to the AP will also show the procedure that will be followed in assessing the complaint, together with a statement affirming the rights of the AP to make a complaint. There will be no cost to the AP for making the complaint.

Complaint related to billing, meter, power cash will be received by Customer Service Department that will record, categorize and channel the complaints to relevant department for further solution. Solomon Power will have Solomon Power site office for every project location for micro-grid development. For each site office there will be two Solomon Power staffs that one of the two will be Customer Service Officer that their task is to receiving applicant for connection and as channel for grievance redress mechanism.

If complaint pertaining to land exist, although it is not anticipated, existing community processes can be used for dealing with any complaint regarding land, especially for customary land and regarding any other project concern. They include the village chief, other elders, church leaders and other recognized civil society leaders.

Any complaint on the execution of this project submitted to the Solomon Power need to be documented. The Solomon Power maintain a register of complaints including:

- The complainant and contact details
- Date of registration of the grievance or claim
- Nature of grievance or claim
- Amount of the claim, if applicable
- Process for resolution
- Date and record of resolution
- Number of unresolved complaints and reasons, where applicable

More detail on grievance redress mechanism will be provided in the Project Operation Manual.

### 8. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND DISCLOSURE 8.1 Public Consultation

Consultation with community will be organized to ensure that people understand and support the project and actively participate. A key requirement for this is that community concerns are adequately taken into account. The following guidelines will be adopted:

• Involve local authorities and through them all community participate in planning and decision making. The Solomon Power will maintain continuous dialogue with officials, community leaders, church leaders and community, including women, starting with the project planning and right through to implementation

- Make arrangements through a semi-formal process to share project information and to get feedback, and to provide opportunities for community to contribute to planning, mitigation measures and sharing in project benefits;
- Disadvantaged groups such as the elderly, the poor, the landless and women headed households and indigenous people will be included in the consultations;
- Record all proceedings of meetings with stakeholders;
- Prepare and distribute a project information brochure in local language; outlining a brief description of the project and its impacts; mitigation measures, responsible agencies and grievance redress mechanism procedure.

Since OP 4.10 on Indigenous People is triggered for this project, consultation conducted by Solomon Power must follow the key principles for free, prior and informed consultation (FPIC) which include:

- FREE Information should be transparent and free from coercion or bias and conducted in a manner that allows Indigenous Peoples to openly their preferences or concerns without intimidation or trepidation;
- PRIOR Consultation starts as early as possible in the project planning. This include giving Indigenous Peoples sufficient time to go through the traditional processes of decision making, deliberation and consensus-building, such that the preferences or concerns raised by Indigenous Peoples communities may be considered before project design decisions or implementation arrangements are finalized;
- INFORMED Indigenous Peoples must be given enough information, transparent about the project scale, and in such a way that allow them to understand fully the impacts being discussed with them and feed into the decision-making process where appropriate, and had sufficient opportunity to consider relevant information about the project;
- CONSULTATION An inclusive process that allows Indigenous Peoples to participate meaningfully in decisions directly affecting them, including proposed management and mitigation measures and benefit sharing or distribution, through methods that enable concerns of women, the elderly, or others who customarily may not be expected or allowed to participate in community meetings to be considered.

In the context of the ESMF, information releases and public consultations will take place by the project proponent. The WB's Safeguard Policies and the Government of Solomon Islands' regulations require project related ESMF to be subject to public consultation and disclosure. These will inform the general public and potential beneficiaries about the project, the access requirements for a subsidized connection and to seek/encourage inputs from the stakeholders on environmental and social issues. Comment will be invited and the public will be aware that there is a mechanism for registering complaints.

Customer Service Department in Solomon Power has regular awareness program (media outreach) trough radio that is conducted weekly every Saturday and monthly end of every month. In this program community are able to raise question and submit complaint that are directly responded by SP. Through this program SP also uses it to introduce their project/program, to do community's awareness on safety around electricity, their procedure in regards to get connection, complaint mechanisms, etc. This proposed project will also be publicly launched through this approach to get wide coverage area of people to understand the project.

Prior to commencing work on grid or micro-grid extension the Solomon Power will work together with chief of villages to arrange community meeting, distribute pamphlets informing existence of the project, apologize for possible inconvenience (noise, dust, traffic disturbance, crowded area caused by workers, material, equipment and vehicles) and inform the affected community on measures that will be taken to minimize such effects to the people and make them aware of grievance procedure.

As initial step, Solomon Power conducted initial introduction consultation in new micro-grid areas e.g. in Afio, Seghe and Taro in October 2015. The initial consultation was conducted to provide the community living in the proposed project areas on the role of Solomon Power and about the project plan. Main concern that community raised is about the affordability to get household connection. A brief note from the consultation and some pictures on the consultation can be seen in annex F.

The consultation process will be conducted and expanded during the project implementation to ensure that stakeholders are fully engaged in the Project and have the opportunity to participate in its development and implementation and understand that there is a process in place for them to submit any grievances or complaints.

#### 8.2 Information Disclosure

Disclosure will conform to the Public Communications Policy of the WB: Disclosure and Exchange of Information which requires that the ESMF document for WB projects be accessible to the interested parties and the general public. Prior to the appraisal, the ESMF document will be disclosed in the World Bank Infoshop and made available to the public from Solomon Power website: <u>www.SIEA.com</u>

#### 9. INSTITUTIONAL ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND CAPACITY 9.1 World Bank

The World Bank will:

- Advise the SP about WB Safeguard Policy requirements
- Screen and determine environmental categorization of projects, including the environmental assessment requirements.
- Review and clear environmental assessment reports as a basis for project approval;
- Publicly disclose the ESMF in the Infoshop and on the WB website
- Review all statutory environmental clearance granted by ECD (Environmental and Conservation Division), particularly the conditions of the Development Consent and note all conditions in approving a project;
- Review EMP implementation and where appropriate take actions (as necessary) in close consultation with ECD;
- Monitor the EMP implementation and conduct due diligence as part of review missions;
- Ensure there is no land acquisition for the project and the land donation is conducted voluntarily (if any)
- Ensure that SP will conduct the required consultation with community and project's beneficiaries, including indigenous people and women; and other relevant stakeholders in the project area and

discloses relevant information on the project's component, project impacts, including grievance redress mechanism in an appropriate form, manner and language (s) accessible to those being consulted

#### 9.2 Solomon Power

Solomon Power will be the implementing agency for the project that will have overall responsibility for the project management. The Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification (MMERE) will oversee the implementation of the project.

Solomon Power will be responsible for ensuring the implementation and compliance of the ESMF. Considering the activities of the project components are main area of Solomon Power expertise that the impacts of the project is minor, site specific and of short duration, the implementation of the ESMF will be within the usual business as usual operations of Solomon Power. The impacts of the project will be mostly handled by Technical Department under Solomon Power. While SP has significant experience to implement the ESMF and to handle any possible impacts of the project, its resource are limited. However, SP has seriously considered to establish environment department within Solomon Power to look after its own operations, especially it is plans to undertake a larger project in the near future. Currently SP has added Environment Department under SP structure and has assigned an officer to responsible for SP environmental issues. As new department capacity building is substantially needed.

Once the detailed design and site surveys are available, the Solomon Power will prepare a detailed Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) using the ESMF as a guidance document. A template of ESMP is provided in annex G. The detailed ESMP will be submitted to the World Bank and ECD for review, comment and approval. The ESMP will be included as an integral part of the bid documents to enable the contractors to bid on the project with awareness of the environmental issues and mitigation measures to be implemented as part of the project. The successful contractor will prepare a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) outlining how to implement and monitor the EMP during construction.

Solomon Power will be responsible for updating the ESMP at construction stage, whenever additional engineering information is available and for implementing the environmental, health and safety actions included in the ESMP. As required, Solomon Power will be responsible for environmental monitoring during construction and operation of the project. The ECD will also be responsible for verifying the monitoring undertaken by the Solomon Power through audits and spot-checks. The outcomes of the monitoring will be included in the overall monthly progress reports to be submitted by Solomon Power to ECD.

Solomon Power will have responsible to follow the procedure on obtaining land for the project, ensuring relevant stakeholders, including indigenous people, involve and participate in the project and get benefit for the project, receiving, resolving and maintaining a register of any complaints or grievances submitted by people as guided in the ESMF.

#### 9.3 Environmental and Conservation Division (ECD)

As the national agency responsible for environment and conservation, the ECD will need to be involved in the various aspects of the environmental management activities. Under the requirements of the Environment Act 1998, ECD will need to review the EIA and monitor the progress of implementation activities if consent is given. The ECD has been fully informed of the status of the project and also awaits the submission of the EIA.

The ECD will need to be consulted during the construction phase of the project to ensure that all monitoring requirements are adhered to. The ECD will be tasked also to assist in the auditing of implementation of the ESMPs and ensure that environmental management and mitigation of the project is undertaken to a good standard.

#### 9.4 Environmental Management and Reporting Arrangements

Monitoring is a component of impact assessment setup to combat uncertainties pertaining to unanticipated impacts, to ensure mitigation measures are working and to reassure public on the progress of the development. Progressive monitoring must accompany various stages of the project activities (construction and operational phase). The Environmental Monitoring Plans is based on the potential impacts, significance of impacts and mitigation approaches identified during the screening study. It comprises of parameters to be monitored, frequencies and responsible authorities as per impact. ECD is responsible for monitoring compliance, review Solomon Power monthly monitoring report and suggest ways to improve or strengthen mitigation approaches.

The ECD is required to:

- Co-ordinate compliance monitoring programs; and
- Review Solomon Power monthly monitoring report and suggest ways to strengthen mitigation approaches.

Project Stage	Responsible Organization	Responsibilities
Feasibility study and appointment	SP and WB ECD, SP and WB	Prepare EA including overall ESMP Preliminary design
Feasibility study and project review and approval	ECD, SP and WB	<ul> <li>Review and approval of EIA including overall ESMF and ESMP</li> <li>Review all feasibility study documentation, prepare Board presentation and submit to Steering Committee (as required)</li> <li>Provide inputs to monitoring requirements</li> </ul>
Detailed design	SP	<ul> <li>Prepare detailed design</li> <li>Update ESMP based on specifics of detailed design</li> <li>Submit EMP to ECD and WB for review and approval</li> </ul>

#### Table 4: Responsibilities for Environmental Management and Monitoring

Project Stage	Responsible Organization	Responsibilities
Construction	SP and/or contractor	<ul> <li>Implementation and supervision of the EMP</li> <li>Audit construction phase through environmental inspections and review monitoring dana</li> <li>Preparation and submission of monthly environmental reports</li> <li>Provide awareness/training to workers</li> </ul>
	MECDM	<ul> <li>Ensure compliance with Government requirements</li> <li>Review complicated issues arising from the project</li> </ul>
Operation	SP	<ul> <li>Provide budget to undertake long term environmental monitoring</li> <li>Undertake environmental monitoring and prepare bi-annual reports</li> </ul>

#### **10. MONITORING AND SUPERVISION**

The Solomon Power as the project implementing agency will report progress with a frequency agreed and as indicated in the grant agreement and Project Operation Manual. This report will include documentation of consultation for each project area, evidence obtaining consent, evidence on leasing contract for the needed land, proof of voluntary land donation (if any) a summary of complaints and outcomes and any incidents in relation to ESMF. The MMERE will review and forward the report to the World Bank which will provide feedback.

#### **11. BUDGET PROVISION**

All of the requirements in the ESMF will fall within the usual business as usual operations of the Solomon Power except for consultation, including outreach and awareness activities and logistic cost to ensure supervision of the project compliance with the ESMF to be covered by the Component 2 (Implementation Support for Solomon Power)

#### **ANNEX A: Land Use Agreement**

Land Use Agreement (LUA) may be required where (i) activities require access on a permanent or temporary basis to certain sites on customary land; (ii) no suitable alternatives sites exist; (iii) customary land owners have agreed for the land to be used for a specific purpose for the benefit of the whole community; and (iv) any other situation where it may be deemed the most appropriate instrument for the local context.

It is important that absentee landowners are engaged, and that a suitable witness (non-clan member) signs the agreement.

The process used to enter into the LUA is as follows:

- Share the rationale for the project and its proposed sitting, and seek the granting of access of the necessary land by landowning clan or household;
- Village representatives of the community, organize a meeting with the representatives of the specific clan/s who have customary ownership pf the proposed land or access-way;
- Any person with fixed physical assets on the land/proposed site, but not considered a landowner, is involved in the meetings and their rights are taken into consideration;
- The meeting would discuss the proposed project with the landowning clan or household to reach an understanding that the project is for the benefit of the whole community and access of land (either permanent or temporarily) is required;
- The payment of access fees should be discussed and agreed in writing (if applicable);
- The landowners would be clearly notified that the agreement to allow land access should be completely voluntary and the specific timeframe should be mutually agreed too;
- If agreement to proceed is reached, then a LUA will be entered into between the clan, the other clans and the leader of the community;
- The LUA should be endorsed by the Village Chief or equivalent;
- The signed LUA will be submitted as part of the project proposal;
- The LUA is submitted to the local magistrate or equivalent for certification.

If all landowner parties are in disagreement about the land or condition of LUA, or if landowners are excluded from the initial discussion then the project will not proceed and the grievance process must be followed where relevant.

#### LAND USE AGREEMENT TEMPLATE

Project:	Province:
Location:	
Land Parcel:	
Land Title Reference:	

### Dear Sir/Madam,

1)	We, the undersigned being the representatives of the			
		acknowledge thathave the right under the customary law		
	to mak	te decisions on the land known asfor the purpose of		
	of any	development or other conducted on the said land. We certify that all members of the		
	village	agree to the truth of this certificate and that we are the persons authorized to sign it.		
2)	We, the	e undersigned being the representatives ofclan of		
		Village,Province,		
		hereby declare that:		
	1)	We have the right under customary law to allow access or use of the land		
		for the purpose of(project		
		name) and agree to allow access to to support the project (entity).		
	2)	That we undertake not to interfere in any manner on any activities or developments		
		undertaken by ouron the said parcel of land;		
	3)	We commit ourselves in upholding the contents and the spirit of this agreement for so		
		long as it remains in force;		
	4)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
		honor it.		
Infrast	ructure			
Details	of infra	astructure funded by Govt:		
Ongoii	ng Main	itenance		

Responsibility of landowner (detail of specific infrastructure)

.....

.....

Time frame/scheduling arrangements

.....

#### 3) SIGNATORIES

I/We hereby sign confirming that the above is true and correct:

Party	Name	Signature	Date
Landowner			
Village Representative			
Project Representative			

#### 4) WITNESSES

We, the undersigned being representatives of	clan (who share	
the land boundary with	clan) hereby declare that the Customary Law, we	
are rightful owners of the land known as	located at	
Village	Province and that it has the right by	
customary law to transfer/lease the said parcel of land.		

Project Partner	Name	Organization
Solomon Power Representative		
Province Officer		
Local Representative		

Made under our hands these agreements:

This	day of	.20at
Village	Province	in
Submitted to:		
On this	day of	20at

#### Annex B: Process for Voluntary Land Donations<sup>3</sup>

The project will obtain the needed land through leasing. However in the case that land owners are willing to donate their land voluntarily to the project, this ESFM provide voluntary land donation protocol to be followed by the project.

The principles governing voluntary donation are as follows.

Voluntary land donation refers to a process by which an individual or communal owner agrees after consultation, to provide land or property for project-related activities. Voluntary contribution is an act of informed consent, made with the prior knowledge of other options available and their consequences, including the right not to contribute or transfer the land. It must be obtained without undue coercion. The right to refuse must be legitimate right, unconditional and the potential transferor must be capable of exercising it in the local community. It is important to be sure that the decision to donate is undertaken without coercion, manipulation or any form of pressure on the part of public or traditional authorities. For collective or communal land, donation must be based upon the informed consent of all individuals using or occupying the land.

Voluntary land donation requires a declaration by the individual, household or group that they are donating the use of the land for a specific purpose and for a specific period of time. It is acceptable only if the following safeguards are in place:

- a. Full consultation with landowners and any non-titled, affected people on site selection
- b. Voluntary donations should not severely affect the livelihoods (if land-based) or living standards of affected people
- c. Any voluntary donation will be confirmed through written record and verified by an independent third party, such as a customary leader or church leader
- d. An adequate complaints resolutions mechanism should be in place

Ensuring voluntary land donation needs a good consultation process. The consultation with land owners will provide details as to any land required to facilitate the works as well as some basic socio-economic information about the land owner to ensure they meet the following criteria for progressing with the process of voluntary land donation.

The Solomon Power will obtain the views of the land owners as to whether they support the project in general and the proposed works specifically and whether they are willing to discuss providing land for the project on voluntary basis. In the event that the owner is not willing to discuss the provision of land for use by the project, the project cannot proceed with the particular works in respect of that piece of land.

In case where the land owners are willing to discuss voluntarily providing land for the project (as a donation or in return for a community based consideration, such as improving households electricity connection for all community, etc), the Solomon Power will document the basis on which the land transfer will proceed. Strong efforts need to be made to ensure voluntary land donations are in fact

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Referring to ESSIP

voluntary and that people do not feel coerced or pressured in any way. If safeguard specialist of the project believes an land donor is being pressured to voluntarily give land, he/she will need to re-evaluate the process to ensure the land donor is giving land voluntarily.

Given the specific issues surrounding land ownership and use in the Pacific Islands, including Solomon Islands, it is important that the project team carries out careful due diligence to understand the type of land rights that exist in the project area and to identify any particular issues relating to land ownership and use. Thereafter, a more specific due diligence must be conducted on each parcel of land proposed for donation to identify:

- The owner or owners of the land
- The users of the land, or any parties that occupy the land (either physically or through ownership of an asset or conduct of livelihood or business activities on the land);
- Any competing claims of ownership or use;
- Structures and assets on the land;
- Any encumbrances on the land.

The criteria for eligibility for consideration of land owners as voluntary contributors include:

- The land is not under dispute or the subject of an unresolved land claim;
- The land contributed does not represent more of 10% of the land donor total productive land;
- The land owner does not fall below the official poverty line
- The land owner will not be materially affected by the donation of the piece of land.

#### **Process for Voluntary Donation**

This section provides guidance on the process of voluntary land donation (VLD), namely on how to:

- Determine and document the appropriateness of VLD in the project context;
- Verify the requirements of the donation and the formalization of the donation;
- Carry out due diligence on the owners and users of land donated;
- Ensure appropriate consultation and disclosure;
- Establish informed consent of the person donating the land; and
- Establish grievance redress mechanism.

It is necessary to follow a clear process for the donation and to prepare and maintain documents that demonstrate such process. Each step set out below should be addressed in the context of the specific project, and fully documented.

#### (i) Determine and document that VLD is appropriate in the circumstances of the project

The team should record the reasons why it thinks that the donation of land is appropriate for the project. In certain cases, only some of the land the project requires will be donated or alternatives to land donation exist. The project team should identify (in as much detail as possible):

- What the land will be used for;
- How much land the project will require on both a permanent and temporary basis;
- How much of the land will be donated;

- What alternatives to donation exist (e.g. right of use; right of way);
- The terms of the donation
- The identities of the parties who intend to donate;
- The beneficiaries of the donation; and
- Any details that are relevant to why donation must be appropriate.

#### (ii) Verify the requirements to transfer and formalize the transfer of, the land

It is important to understand the process that should be followed to transfer the land and appropriate ways to formalize the transfer so as to achieve certainty for both the transferor of the land and the project. This may require consideration of the legal and administrative requirements, but also, particularly in the case of customary land, local and community processes. Any cost regarding the formalization of transfer the land from the donor to the project will be borne by the project.

#### (iii) Conduct due diligence on who owns and uses the land

Given the specific issues surrounding land ownership and use in the Pacific Islands Countries (PICs), it is important that the project team carries out careful due diligence to understand the type of land rights that exist in the project area, and to identify any particular issues relating to land ownership and use. Thereafter, a more specific due diligence must be conducted on each parcel of land proposed for donation to identify:

- The owner or owners of the land;
- The users of the land, or any parties that occupy the land (either physically or through ownership of an asset or conduct of livelihood or business activities on the land;
- Any competing claims of ownership or use;
- Structures and assets on the land;
- Any encumbrances on the land.

#### (iv) Disclosure and consultation

The decision to donate must be taken on the basis of a full understanding of the project and the consequences of agreeing to donate that land. Accordingly, the parties that will be affected by the donation (the owners and users of the land) must be provided with accurate and accessible information regarding what the land will be used for, for how long, and the impact the donation will have on them and their families. It is important that prior written notification indicating the location and amount of land that is sought be provided and that its intended use for the project is disclosed.

There should be a clear agreement as to which party will pay the costs associated with the donated land. This could include measurement costs, documentation and notarial fees, transfer taxes, registration fees. It should also include the costs of re-measuring/re-titling the transferee's remaining land and any new documentation relating to it.

#### (v) Establishing Informed Consent

It is crucial that the project team is confident that the decision to donate was taken in circumstances of *informed consent or power of choice*. As discussed earlier, this means being confident that the owner (s) or user (s) of the land understand:

- What the land is going to be used for, by whom and for how long;
- That they will be deprived of the ownership or right to use the land, and what this really means;
- That they have a right to refuse to donate the land;
- Whether there are alternatives to using the land;
- What they will need to do to donate the land (e.g. execute documents, get spousal, consent, pay, taxes);
- The effect of the donation on their family, and what they can do if they (or their family or heirs) want the land back;
- The exact demarcation of land boundary for the project's use;
- Whether there are proposals which would allow other land to be used;
- What they will need to do to donate the land;
- The intergenerational effect of donation on their family, what they can do it they (or their family or heirs) want the land back.

The terms of conditions of the land donation must be mutually agreed upon and detailing in a written agreement.

#### (vi) Documentation

While it is important to have evidence of an intention and agreement to donate the land, it is equally important to ensure, where required and appropriate, that the land is legally transferred. While the process relating to the legal transfer of the land is frequently complicated and time consuming, it must be addressed.

To ensure that any land provided for the sitting of projects is contributed voluntarily, two representatives of the landowners (family or clan) are asked to sign a Land Commitment Paper (see below). This certifies that the land is voluntarily donated for the purposes of the project and for the benefit of the community. The signature of the Letter is witnessed (as attested by their signature) by a suitable project representative.

The project team should:

- Identify the appropriate documentation, including the agreement to make the transfer and any legal documentation that may be required;
- Ensure that the agreement:
  - Refers to the consultation has taken place;
  - Sets out the terms of the transfer;
  - Confirms that the decision to the transfer was freely made and was not subject to coercion, manipulation or any form of pressure;
  - Attaches an accurate map of the land being transferred (boundaries, coordinates)
  - Sets out who will bear the costs of the transfer (e.g. notarial fees, taxes, title issues) and documenting the residual land rights;

- Ensure that all necessary parties sign the documents, including obtaining consent from spouses and children over a certain age;
- Ensure that the transfer and title is registered or recorded; and
- Ensure that the land remaining after the donated land is excised is properly titled, registered or recorded.

It is also important to maintain a record of the process that has been followed. Such documents could include the following:

- The notification indicating the location and amount of land that is sought and its intended use for the project, with a record of when and where this was made public;
- Records of the consultations that were held and what was discussed;
- Copies of each of the formal statements of donation, establishing informed consent as described above, and signed by each owner or user involved;
- Copies of all documents, registrations or records evidencing the legal transfer of the land;
- A map, showing each parcel of land

The project implementing agency should maintain a record with documentation for ech parcel of land donated. Such documentation must be available for World Bank review and for review in relation to any grievances that may arise.

(vii) Grievance arrangement

Refer to grievance redress mechanism of the ESMF.

### LAND DONATION COMMITMENT LETTER TEMPLATE

Date:
Village, Province:
I/We
I/we confirm, I/we have the right under custom law, with agreement of community leaders, to gift this land for the purpose of and sign this letter as a commitment of our voluntary donation that will benefit our whole community.
I/we declare that:
I/we have the right to transfer rights to use or access this land;
I/we understand that all residents will have access to this site and in order to maintain the asset/infrastructure;
I/we commit ourselves in upholding the contents and spirits of this agreement for so long as it remains in force;
I/we understand this donation is a gift that will benefit our whole community and understand no compensation payments will be made now or in the future;
I/we understand that dishonoring this agreement could result in project termination.
Details of the land (size in sqm, location of village, structure, type -unused, bush, garden)
For the purpose of: (specify activity)
For the duration of: (specify commencement date and duration)

\*Natural Resources Donation (optional) [*This may require a separate agreement form depending on the context, quantity being donated, and number of resource owners*]

I/We .....are the rightful resource owner(s) (e.g. sand, gravel, rocks, timber) located at .....that area also being donated to the project.

I/We commit to donating .....as a contribution for the project.

Signed:

Position	Signature	Name
Male Household Head		
Female Household Head		
Landowner^		
Clan or landowner representative (if applicable)		
Resource Owner (1)*		
Resource Owner(2)*		
Village Chief		
Govt/Project Representaive		
Witness		

^(append list of all custom owners if relevant)

#### Annex C: Relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

- SOP Managing Air Quality during Construction and Operation
- SOP Fueling Vehicle
- SOP Transportation of Fuel + Chemicals to Project Site
- SOP Surface Water Quality Monitoring
- SOP Waste Oil Collection Storage and Removal
- SOP Hydrocarbon Spills
- SOP -- Erosion and Sediment Control
- SOP Strom Water Design Drainage Techniques
- SOP Vegetation Clearing
- SOP Wood Waste and Timber Off-cuts Handling, Disposal and Management
- SOP Oily Rags Waste Handling, Disposal and Management
- SOP Waste Scrap Steel and Metals Handling, Disposal and Management

#### 1.0 Introduction

Solomon Islandswas the site of severe battle between the Japanese Army and the American Allied Forces during WWII. The war resulted in hundreds of thousands of firearms and UXO items left behind.

WWII ordnance found in Solomon Islands can be defined as either unexploded (UXO) or abandoned (AXO). Unexploded ordnance are explosive ordnances that has been primed, fused, armed or prepared for use in armed conflict but has failed to explode. Abandoned explosive ordnances are explosive ordnance unused during the war and subsequently left behind.

For the purpose of this guide, UXO is used as the general term to describe unexploded or abandoned ordnance, munitions and explosive devices left behind during WWII which represents a hazard to people and to any future development of the land on which they are abandoned.

Although UXO is not captured in the Environmental Act 1998 and Environmental Regulation 2008, UXO clearance activities have become an integral part in any development activity in the Solomon Islands. As the ministry responsible for infrastructure development in SI, MID has a draft UXO procedure developed as a means to render safe and take responsibility for UXO related hazards on any development activity occurring on SIG crown land.

Note that this guide only provides guidance for the management of UXO threats. It does not give detailed guidance on EOD contracting practise. The safety of SIEA employees, its clients and customers, developers and partners, consultants and contractors are not guaranteed.

More guidance on international standards on unexploded ordnance for the construction industry can be obtained from CIRIA C681: Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)

#### 2.0 Objective of the Guide

The overall purpose of this guide is to provide apolicy and framework governing responsibility and procedures to assess, mitigate and eliminate any UXO related hazard from any SIEA project site before any construction work commences. It provides guidance on the management of any UXO hazards associated with any development activity carried out by the Authority.

This guide also helps the Authority conduct appropriate UXO risk management procedures at the design phase, provide budget for and seek appropriate advice and guidance on UXO contamination and disposal.
It provides the steps to follow to allow EOD contractors to sweep and clear contaminated project sites before any building, engineering, geotechnical investigations, and maintenancework of a construction nature starts.

#### 3.0 Target Audience

This guide is targeted for SIEA staff, its clients and customers, developers and partners, consultants and contractors. It should be applicable to health authorities, the environmental division, land owners and other relevant local agencies and stakeholders involved in the development project.

SIEA Contractors and Engineers are equally responsible for the wellbeing of their personnel on site and would be advised at the initial contract meetings of their responsibility, the process to manage UXO risks and who to contact at SIEA regarding UXO sightings and threats during project construction.

### 4.0 Responsibility and Risk Mitigation Measures

Risk mitigation measures are put in place to ensure so far as is reasonably practical the health and safety of SIEA employees and of any other persons affected by the development activity.

### 4.1 Authority

SIEA and all its employees have a responsibility under the SIEA OH&S policy<sup>1</sup> to ensure the safety of its staff and every other person involved or affected by its normal day to day operation or any development activity.

The responsibility to report sighting of a UXO or any suspicious article found at project sites or any SIEA location in the country resides with the SIEA and all its employees.

In the event of a suspicious UXO find, the following risk mitigation measures should immediately be followed.

- the area must be cordoned off appropriately
- physical measures put in place to avoid unauthorised tampering of the UXO find
- highly visible markings are provided at the HIGH RISK area.
- the UXO risk is communicated to surrounding communities

The find is reported to the SIEA Capital Works Programme Manager(CWPM) and the RSIPF-EOU. The CWPM will be responsible for the assessment, mitigation or elimination of any UXO related hazard with responsible authorities and EOD clearance contractors. SIEA will keep statistics and records of UXO information from studies done on its sites and the report made available to public upon request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The SIEA policy on Occupational Health and Safety 2010 is being reviewed.

A reporting system is required to be established, communicated to all parties and managed for UXO clearance activities.

SIEA is responsible forpublic awareness and consultation and building employee and stakeholder capacity to respond to the UXO threats at SIEA locations

UXO clearance will be considered and integrated into capital development activities and budget.

### 4.2 General Public

The general public must be consulted and encouraged to provide feedback and comments on their general short and long term safety during planning and design stage through the operational life of the project. These public consultations are carried out as part of required activities at the initial project initiation, planning and design stage.

Public comments and concerns must be properly documented and timely feedback provided. The mechanism to address public concerns will follow the existing SIEA mechanism for handling of customer complaints, through the Customer Service Department and the Public Relations Officer.

### 4.3 EODContractors

EOD contractors are required to becompetent and registered to carry out this type of service. Theyare required to have the necessary expertise and equipment to identify, isolate, remove and safely dispose all UXO threats with assistance from the RSIPF-EOU.

The EOD contractor is responsible for site safety procedures and are required to have in place appropriate strategies to manage risks and environmental impacts and have appropriate insurance coverage.

The contractor will provide to SIEA before any clearance work begins,

- Supporting documentation on competency (experience and references), insurance coverage and legal registration where necessary
- · Proposed suitably qualified and experienced staffing to carry out the service
- Proposed procedures complying with international standard UXO clearance practices
- · Proposed UXO identification and clearance methodology and timing
- Contract amount for the service

The typical activities to be carried out by EOD contractors is summarised below.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The procedures are summarised from the MID's '9.0 Unexploded Ordnance Procedure'

- Carry out and complete UXO survey of the project site including affected areas outside of the project site but related to the project.
- Cordon off areas and prevent unauthorised tampering where suspected UXO threats are determined.
- Arrange for and carry out safe removal of all UXO ordnance from project site.
- Responsibly dispose UXO ordnance in accordance with relevant local law
- Ensure strategies and resources are in place to manage unintended accidents and explosions.
- Provide a report confirming completion of UXO survey, detection, removal and disposal.
- Provide necessary documentation to RSIPF EOD and other relevant SIG agencies for the issuing of a Certificate of Clearance.
- Continuously monitor, document and report to SIEA and RSIPF any residual UXO threats arising during project implementation

The contractor will confirm and certify in accordance with CIRIA C681: Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) or an alternate internationally accepted standard.

### 4.4 RSIPF – EOU

The RSIPF-EOU is the body responsible for clearance and disposal of UXO finds. The RSIPF EOU also responds to public reports of UXO and undertakeclearance activities. Where there are no nearby police stations in the outer islands, reports should be directed to relevant government district agencies which then notify police at the provincial headquarters.

The RSIPF EOU will provide a Certificate of Clearance after suspected UXO ordnances have been removed by them or by EOD clearance contractors before any construction work can begin.

### 5.0 Risk Assessment and Management

### 5.1 Preliminary Risk Assessment

Preliminary risk assessmentis required to be carried out to enable SIEA to identify any potential UXO risk or threat and decide whether a detailed risk assessment is required.

Preliminary risk assessment includes:

- examination of existing historical data
- talking with local surrounding communities about any past occurrences with UXO's
- provide probability on threat potential and
- recommend further steps to take

This is to be documented and filed and communicated to the CWPM or Project Engineer. A Preliminary risk assessment form is attached in Annex 1. If priorital states are identified a detailed tak assessment leading to direction and identification, survey and depend will be initiated

### 9.2 Detailed Reck Amount

In the datalled Kirk Assessment steps, preject planning will take into consideration USO activities in the davign and budget for the prepert.

Risk unigation transmets are put in place and the public made searce of the U207 risk.

#### 6.8 Contact Details

r

AB MEA staff, closin and partners, do alogors and partners, conditions and contraction are to contact the following SEA and #SEPF personal regarding USD issues on SEA lead.

Organitation	Contact Details		
	Mark Gronnancej Capital Wooke Programma Managos F13.8ma n Homata Fanal : Mick Discoursey/Drive costs di Tel.32946		
MEA.	Rothin Simpson Rothin Simpson Rothin States F-D.Bas Rothin B Hamises Famal: Initial Simpson (drive around) Tel.32044		
	Ration Tageo Politic Relation Officer Politic Relation Officer Politic Relation Failed Rated Tail (2014)		
RS IN	Officer in Charge Explosive Ordinance Unit P.O.Bose Of 723 Homen Tel. 20443		
Matery of Easternment Climate Change Disaster Management and Materiology	Distorter Ent internet Conservation Division P1110au 21 Haminto Tal. 23031		
HEER	Under finantery (Tadonal) P(Ullina GB Homizza Ta 25761		

### 7.0 Annex

# Annex 1. Preliminary risk assessment form

	Details		
Name of assessor			
Date of assessment			
Site Address			
Development Proposed			
Historical findings			
	Name of interviewee	Detail	
Findings from Interviews			
	Probability and risk of UXO encounter  Raing 1 LOW  Raing 2  Raing 3  Raing 4  Raing 5  Raing 5  Raing 6  Raing 6  Raing 8  Raing 8  Raing 8  Raing 8  Raing 9  Raing 8  Raing 9  Raing		<b>Th</b> 11
Threat potential / Probability <sup>3</sup>	Racing 1 LOW Recing 2 Racing 3 Racing 4 Racing 5 MOD Hacing 6 Racing 7 Racing 8	ERATE	Rating
Threat potential / Probability <sup>3</sup> Recommendation	Racing 1 LOW Recing 2 Racing 3 Racing 4 Racing 5 MOD Hacing 6 Racing 7 Racing 8	ERATE	Rating

Note: Attach site plan and map of area assessed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The threat probability rating is extracted from CIRIA C681: Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)

### Annex E: Application Form for New Connection (under SOP of Solomon Power)

# PART A: THE CUSTOMER

TO: General Manager, Solomon Islands Electricity Authority

### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

I/We jointly and severally hereby apply for and agree to receive from Solomon Islands Electricity Authority, electricity at the premises described in this Agreement subject to the following terms and conditions:

- 1. The supply of electricity will be provided in accordance with the Electricity Act Cap 128; the Regulations made there under and as may be amended from time to time.
- 2. To pay the charges for electricity consumed by me, any charges payable for the hire apparatus, or any other services rendered by the Solomon Islands Electricity Authority within 15 days after the date upon which the account has been given to me/us. The prices for supply of electricity shall be in accordance with such tariffs as may, from time to time, be prescribed by Electricity (Tariff) (Automatic Base Tariff and Fuel Adjustments) Regulations 2005).
- 3. As security for the payment for electricity supplied to and consumed by me/us and for hiring Electricity apparatus from Solomon Islands Electricity Authority supply. This sum will be an estimate of the total amount of all charges likely to incur by me/us for the supply of electricity and hire of apparatus for two months or alternatively, as determined at the sole discretion of the Authority upon reassessment of my/our usage of electricity during the continuity of this Agreement.
- 4. To be responsible for safekeeping of all meters and equipment provided and fixed at my/our premises by the Solomon Islands Electricity Authority and bear any loss due to illegal connection or damage to any meter or other equipment while it is fixed at my/our premises.
- 5. To obtain all easements/way leaves, or statutory consents or approvals and consent of the lessor/landlord (where the customer is a tenant as maybe necessary for the supply of electricity to me/us [the authority]. The easements/way leaves, or statutory consents or approvals and consent of the lessor to be in writing and signed by the landlord or owner of the property and witnessed by an independent person whose name and contact details should be printed on the said authority.
- 6. To allow Solomon Islands Electricity Authority or its employees to read the electricity meter regularly [every once a month]. The months Solomon Islands Electricity Authority cannot read the electricity meter it will estimate the reading by taking into account your average consumption in the previous month.
- 7. To provide original proof of tenancy (where the customer is a tenant e.g. Tenancy agreement or rental receipts.)
- 8. To pay a Security deposit of \$3,000.00 as a new domestic customer or \$6,000.00 as a new commercial customer for a new kwt installation, as provided for in the Regulations under the Electricity Act, Section X, on Security Deposits and Service Charges and determined at the sole discretion of the Authority upon reassessment of my usage of electricity during the continuity of this Agreement.

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- 9. To provide certified true copy of Power of Attorney where I am the legal care taker of the said premises.
- 10. To pay reconnection, penalty and other fees as stipulated by SIEA.
- 11. To inform SIEA when the premises is vacated.

12. To ensure that the power factor requirement at my/our premises shall be at full load and is not less than 0.85.

To provide original proof of identify for sighting and photocopying by SIEA Officer receiving the Agreement. (e.g. Driver's License,
 Passport, NPF Card, any previous utility bill for last three months, Employment Card, Certificate of Incorporation in respect of a limited

# PART B: CUSTOMER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

1. CUSTOMER NAME:			
First Name:	Middle Name:	Surname:	
2. MAILING ADDRESS:			
PO Box No Town: ie	e. Honiara/Auki etc.)		_
Suburb (ie Vura)	Telepho	one No.:	_
Email:			_
	SERVICE: □Temporary Supply	, and the second s	□ Separation □Addition
Comment			
4. CHECKLIST REQUIREMEN	ITS: [FOR NEW CONNECTION]		
	Lot No	Additional description of location, (i	e. next to or Building
Attach copies of: □ F1	rE Register   □Passport No. /I	Driver's License No. or NPF No	
	Or 🗆 Curi	rent Photo and Statutory Declaration	
	□ Town Council Approval of Building	g Plan	
	□ Letter of Consent from Adjoining L	and Owner for Line Access	
	□ If Tribally Owned Land, consent L	etter from 50% of Land Owning Tribe.	
□ If Comr	mercial customer, Company Registrat	tion and Business License	
5. TYPE OF INSTALLATIO	ON: □ Domestic □	Commercial 🛛 Industrial	
If Commercial or Industria	l, state Business Name:		
6. SIEA LICENSED ELECTRIC	CAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS:		
Name of Electrical Contractor:		Registration No	
Tel. No			40
7. APPLICANT DECLARATIC	DN:		40

PART C: REGULATORY DEPARTMEN	T PERMIT NUMBER:			
	PERMIT TO WIRE			
10. ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR DETA	ILS:			
Name of Electrical Contractor:	License NoTel.	No		
11. TYPE OF METER REQUIRED:	12. PHASES:			
Kilowatt Meter     Cash Power	□ CT Meter	□ 1	□2	□3
13. DISTANCE TO NEAREST SUPPL	Y POINT: NEAREST METE	R		_
14. LOAD DETAILS:				

**15.** Please include a Sketch detailing where the supply is including the nearest existing supply point.
 Draw at the back of this form if more space is needed.

16. DECLARATION:

I (Electrical Contractor) apply for Permission for electrical works as described in this application. The declaration has been read and explained to me in Pidgin/English and I fully understand the content. I will obtain all easements / way leavers of statutory, consents or approval as may be necessary. I have/ have not previously engaged an electrical contractor to carry out the electrical works at the specific installation.

Signature

# PART D: DISTRIBUTION

# **18. SURVEY AND QUOTATION**

18.1	Date Permit Received 18.2 Date of Surve				
18.3	Description of Location to Confirm Installa	ation No. :			
18.4	Job Description:				
18.5	Total Quotation: \$	(Attach Copy of	Quotation)		
18.6	Survey Team Leader:				
	Name	Signature	Date		
18.7	APPROVAL				
	Manager Distribution:				
	Name	Signature	Date		
PART	E: CUSTOMER SERVICES DEPARTMENT				
19. <b>P</b> /	AYMENT				
19.1	Date Quotation Received:				
19.2	Date of Payment:	_ Receipt No	(Attached)		
19.3	Payment: Material /Labor Cost: \$_				
	Security Deposit: \$				
	Installation Fee: \$				
	Total Payment :	\$			
PART	F: DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT				
20. <b>C</b>	ONSTRUCTION OF LINE				
20.1	Material Ordered from Stores: (Date)		-		
20.2	Material Received from Stores: (Date)				
20.3	Line Constructed: (Date		-		
20.4	Transformer No Phase	Connected	_		
20.5	Team Leader:		_		

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# SOLOMON POWER CONSULTATION BRIEF NOTE ON SOLOMON ISLANDS ELECTRICITY ACCESS EXPANSION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF HYBRID GENERATION SYSTEM PROJECT IN THE PROVINCES

The Solomon Power undertaken serial initial consultations in Taro, Seghe and Afio on establishment of hybrid generation systems in the provinces during September – October 2015. The Solomon Power team consist of General Manager of Customer Services, including Public Relation Officer, Engineering Officer and Technical Officer; Health and Safety Officer under Corporate Service Department; as well as Chief Inspection of Regulatory Department.

The consultation was attended by Provincial Government Representative; member of National Parliament, people from commercial sector (kiosk owners, retailers), school representative (teacher and student in Afio and in Seghe); Church Representatives in Seghe, and community living in the project areas, including women.

During the consultation meeting the Solomon Power has introduced themselves as the national electricity agency that has task to generate, distribute and sell electricity to Solomon Islands supported by existing law and regulations. As part of the State-Owned Enterprise, Solomon Power has responsibility among others on social responsibility covering awareness activity, health and safety issues, policies, procedures including how to submit complaint, environmental issues and involving all stakeholders. The consultation informed upcoming hybrid generation system projects in the targeted provinces and explained to the people regarding the preparation of the project, including land required for the project. The Solomon Power provides awareness regarding the benefits of power for community, such as improving quality lighting, facilitating education activities, generating household income, enhancing church programs and community events.

During the consultation, an equal participation among the community was occurred, including women. Participants raised their questions and concerns freely. The main concerns raised during the consultation in the three project locations are i) how safety is electricity (e.g. is it safe; how to switch power); ii) the connection process (e.g. who will do the connection, procedure to apply the connection, what meter will be used); iii) cost of connection (e.g. who will pay the line; the cost amount, is it affordable).

During the consultation time, Solomon Power also conducted community awareness incorporation with local schools in Seghe and Afio to teach student on health and safety of electricity.

Some pictures from field are provided below.



Consultation meeting in Seghe



Solomon Power presentation in Seghe



Solomon Power presentation in Seghe at school on safety of electricity



Consultation meeting in Afio



Solomon Power presentation in Rokera School – Afio



Solomon Power consultation meeting with Hauhui Chiefs in Afio



Meeting with Provincial Executives



Consultation meeting with community in Taro



Taro meeting house

# **Annex G: Template of ESMP**

- A. Executive Summary
- B. Policy, Legal and Administrative Framework
  - 1. Solomon Islands Environmental Law and Regulations
  - 2. Solomon Islands Environmental Assessment Process
  - 3. World Bank Safeguard Policy Requirements
  - 4. Institutions
  - 5. Extent of ESMP
- C. Description of the project
  - 1. Project Background
  - 2. Project Component and Activities
  - 3. Implementation Arrangement and Schedule
  - 4. Project Benefit and Justification
- D. Anticipated Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures
  - 1. Impacts and Mitigation Measures Due to Pre-installation Activities
  - 2. Impacts and Mitigation Measures Due to Installation Activities
  - 3. Impacts and Mitigation Measures from Operation
  - 4. Impacts and Mitigation due to Decommissioning
  - 5. Cumulative Impacts
- E. Analysis of Alternative
- F. Consultation and Information Disclosure
  - 1. Stakeholders/Community Consultations
  - 2. Information Disclosure
- G. Grievance Redress Mechanism
- H. Environment and Social Management Plan
  - 1. Environment Management Plan
  - 2. Social Management Plan
  - 3. Implementation Arrangement
  - 4. Budget and Resources

# Table of Environment and Social Management Plan

č					
Project	Potential	Proposed	Mitigation Cost	Institutional	Implementation
activity/ stage	impact	mitigation		Responsibility	Schedule
	-	measures			

# Table of Environmental Monitoring Plan

Environmental	Aspect to be	Time and	Location	Monitoring	Responsibility	
Features	monitored	Frequency of		Cost	party for	
		Monitoring			implementation	

I. Conclusion and Recommendation