

## Project #2

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Committee



Photo: James Hardcastle/ TNC

# Community-based Resource Management (CBRM) and Coastal Habitats Inshore Fisheries Stock/Habitat Mapping

**Project Duration:** 2 years (2013-2014)

**Proponent:** Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology

**Objectives:** The primary goal of the project is to acquire data on CBRM initiatives, coastal habitats and inshore fish stocks that currently do not exist within the country.

**Beneficiaries:** The project will assist Government and practitioners alike, particularly the Solomon Islands Locally Managed Marine Areas (SILMMA) Network, for planning and monitoring of implementation of CBRM activities in the country against the NPoA.

**Funding:** Total amount of the proposed project USD\$691,246. Solomon Islands request USD\$591,390 to complete this essential national work in the next 2 years

**Government counterpart:** The Government has the capacity to invest

15% of the total cost of the program amounting to USD\$99,855.

**Brief Background:** Baseline data on habitats, fish stocks, and national initiatives on marine resource management is important to the successful implementation of any coastal environment program especially in the Solomon Islands context. To date, there has been no nation-wide mapping on Community Based Resource Management (CBRM) and coastal habitats on seagrass and coral reefs.

Through other national initiatives, mangrove mapping will be conducted with the support of the Australian Government Support to the Coral Triangle and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). In addition, to date there has been no fish stock assessment on inshore fisheries in the country. Fish stock assessments are important as it provides information on fish availability, productivity, and population structure.

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These assessments assist in identifying consequences of doing different management approaches and formulating policy that is critical for ensuring long-term sustainability of stocks.

Elements required for a national scale mapping of Community Based Resource Management (CBRM) initiatives in the country is available. CBRM activities are implemented and promoted by multiple stakeholders – different Government agencies, NGOs and CBOs. The challenge is locating these elements, identifying the gaps, ground-truthing the information and mapping these.

The project addresses this major gap in information by collecting information, conducting on-the-ground mapping and fish stock assessments, and production of maps. It is anticipated that these information will then be geo-referenced and stored within the National Community Based Data and Information Centre for Locally Manage Marine Areas (SILMMA), Marine Protected Areas/LMMAs, Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA). This is directly linked to the Solomon Islands NPoA in terms of major information gaps within the following themes: CBRM, EAFM and Data and Information.

The project will cover the whole country, addressing the following issues:

- Lack of collective information on CBRM initiatives in the country;

- Lack of baseline data on inshore fish stocks within the country; and
- Lack of existing national data on coastal habitats

**Components:**

1. **Desk review:** a review will be conducted of CBRM initiatives, communities of interest, listing of stakeholders amongst others.
2. **Field work and survey:** a large component of the project will be conducting field work and surveys for the collection of specified data.
3. **GIS mapping:** information gathered from CBRM mapping, coastal habitat mapping and fish stock assessments will be geo-referenced to create GIS maps
4. **Expertise support/mentoring and training**

**Contact Information:**

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**Budget Distribution:**

Activities	Total Cost in US\$	Gov't Investment	Request
Salaries	153,065	32,680	
Meeting/Training and Special Events	355,450	3,700	
Equipment and Material	72,607	11,350	
Field Operations	58,400	19,000	
Institutional Support/Admin.	51,725	33,125	
<b>Total</b>	<b>691,246</b>	<b>99,855</b>	<b>591,392</b>