



Ministry of Education, Culture and  
Science of the Netherlands



Solomon Islands Government

## Stakeholder Consultation Dialogue

### “Towards Developing Sustainable Livelihoods in the East Rennell World Heritage Site”

**Tuesday 31st May 2022**

Organized by:

Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development and UNESCO

With support of:

UNESCO/Netherlands Fund-in-Trust

**Venue: Heritage Park Hotel (+ online participation through Zoom)**

**Time: 8.30 – 3.00 pm**

#### **Background:**

East Rennell is the first and only World Heritage site in Solomon Islands since 1998. It is also the first natural site under customary land ownership and management inscribed on the World Heritage List, managed and safeguarded by people living in the four villages over generations.

East Rennell was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2013 due to multiple threats to the site, notably posed by commercial logging and mining. This is critically linked to the absence of sustainable livelihoods for the people in East Rennell, who are the custodians of the World Heritage site. In light of increasing impact of climate change and associated disasters affecting the communities in recent years, there is an urgent need to develop sustainable nature-based livelihoods for the local communities to strengthen their security and well-being, while ensuring the safeguarding of the World Heritage value. It will help creating an enabling environment to achieve the *Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger* by 2025.

#### **Purpose:**

With support from the UNESCO/Netherlands Funds-in-Trust, community meetings were organized in each of the four villages in East Rennell during 28 April and 1 May 2022 to:

- 1) discuss existing challenges and opportunities in East Rennell, and
- 2) identify potential sustainable livelihood options in East Rennell.

Building on the community meetings, this stakeholder consultation dialogue aims to bring together key stakeholders, including representatives of the communities from East Rennell and those based in Honiara, line ministries, provincial government, NGOs and experts, to discuss concrete actions by respective stakeholders and through collaborative efforts towards the development of nature-based sustainable livelihoods which are compatible with the World Heritage value.

**Programme:**

Time (Honiara)	Item
8.30 -9 am	<p><b>Welcome Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms Sophie Liligeto</b> (Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development)</li> <li>• <b>Ms Nisha</b> (Director and UNESCO Representative to the Pacific States)</li> <li>• <b>MP Dr. Tautai</b> (Renbel Constituency)</li> </ul>
9 – 10 am	<p><b>Session 1: Identifying challenges and opportunities</b> Moderator: Dennis Marita (Director Culture, Ministry of Culture and Tourism)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation from the East Rennell World Heritage Site <b>Representative of Chiefs</b></li> <li>• Presentation from national perspectives (MECCDM/MEHRD) <b>Ms Sophie Liligeto</b> (Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development)</li> <li>• Presentation from a regional perspective <b>Mr Tony O’Keeffe</b> (UNESCO expert for the Periodic Reporting)</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussions</b></p>
10.00 –10.30 am	<i>Tea break</i>
10.30 – 12.00 pm	<p><b>Session 2: Sharing experiences and lessons learnt from other projects and new opportunities for East Rennell</b> Moderator: Dennis Marita (Director Culture, Ministry of Culture and Tourism)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms Lorrene Bambu (UNDP Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Programme)</b> – Lessons learnt from livelihood projects in East Rennell supported by UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme</li> <li>• <b>Ms Elma Panisi (Live &amp; Learn) and Mr Wilko Bosma (Natural Resources Development Foundation)</b> – Forest protection through payment for environmental services (carbon) in Western Province</li> <li>• <b>BirdLife International</b></li> <li>• <b>Mr Dau Ifereimi (IUCN Oceania)</b> - Nature-based livelihoods in the Pacific SIDS</li> <li>• <b>Mr Peter Kenilorea (Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources) and Mr Mitsuo Inuma (JICA expert, IC Net Limited)</b> - Experience of supporting coastal communities through JICA-Community Based Resource Management (CBRM) approach</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussions</b></p>
12 – 1 pm	<i>Tea/Lunch break</i>
1 pm – 3.00 pm	<p><b>Session 3: Panel discussion – Action towards the development of nature-based sustainable livelihood in East Rennell World Heritage Site</b> Moderator: Dennis Marita (Director Culture, Ministry of Culture and Tourism)</p> <p><b>Drafting and adoption of an Action Plan</b></p>
3.00 pm	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <p><b>Mr Trevor Maeda</b> (Ministry of Environment and Conservation, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology)</p>