

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Organization Legal Name:	International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management
Project Title:	Building Coalitions in Solomon Islands to Enhance Resource Management and Sustainable Development
Grant Number:	65968
CEPF Region:	East Melanesian Islands
Strategic Direction:	4 Increase local, national and regional capacity to conserve biodiversity through catalyzing civil society partnerships
Grant Amount:	\$140,000.00
Project Dates:	June 01, 2016 - May 31, 2018
Date of Report:	October 16, 2018

Implementation Partners

List each partner and explain how they were involved in the project

WorldFish - Project lead, facilitator and convenor at early meetings, documented meetings etc.

Western Province Government - co-funder, network participant, information collation points

WWF - network member

Tetepare Descendants Association

Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership

KIBCA

Western Province Government (Planning Department)

Western Province Government (Environment Department)

Western Province Government (Fisheries Department)

Rendova Network - network member

Save the Children - network member

GELCA

Ecological solutions-SI

NRDF

American Museum of Natural History - network member

SPC Youth@Work - network collaborator

Logha Island Community representatives - network members

Malaita Provincial Partnership for Development - network advisor

Ministry of Environment, Climate and Disaster Management - network advisor, connection to national government, network supporter

Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources - network advisor, connection to national government, network supporter

Conservation Impacts

Summarize the overall impact of your project, describing how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

Organizations working in Western Province have been involved in a range of consultations where the desire and need to build coalitions or networks was expressed. For example, in the Symposium on community based resource management in Western Province (March 2014, Gizo), participants called for a coalition on stakeholders involved in CBRM to be built, but resources available at that time meant that the effort was limited to an email list. In a more recent workshop (i.e., the Western Province After Action Review Workshop; June 2015, Gizo) participants expressed the value of such a multi stakeholder discussion and planning forum, and called for such efforts to continue. In 2016 this project funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership for Development provided seed funding (staff time, resources, meeting costs) to enable formation and capacity building for networking – with the ultimate objective of improving environmental outcomes for the benefit of people and ecosystems in Western Province. Through the actions of the project the Western Province Network for Sustainable Environment (WPNSE) was established in August 2016 - formalizing a terms of reference 1st May 2017. These terms of reference were designed with input and lessons from other networks (see Five Principle of Network Success) – taking a particular emphasis on sustainability (a concern with these initiatives). This output and lessons not only help this network - but recognise that such networks are a common strategy to improve environmental outcomes all across Melanesia. Success of the network in collaborating on joint activities, improving responsiveness of government to NGO and environmental concerns and sharing information to improve outcomes was shared in the very first National Environmental Symposium in late 2017. Joint activities included joint messaging for national environment days, anti-litter campaigns, supporting youth@work interns, joint trips to examine fisheries and marine concerns etc.

On the 11th July 2017 the WPNSE was received formal endorsement by the Western Province government. The network has increasingly shown signs that it is a sustainable and vibrant institution - that delivers environmental outcomes more effectively and efficiently as a result of improved relationships and information exchange. The network will continue to function beyond the life of the project - and WorldFish will continue to play a role as a member. Funding commitments have been made to the organisations and action plans identify a range of items that will further improve the networks achievements and voice.

Observations from Delvene Boso, Country Director "The network creation is a result from numerous calls from provincial govt and stakeholders in WP, or at least in Gizo, for a coordinated approach to activities. The network envisioned one of its role to feed information to and to support the prov govt in its reporting against its development strategy, which is still unfinalised. The role of the network in information sharing is critical, but it also allows the network to remain abreast of each other rather than in sector silos at the provincial level. There is momentum within the network to continue beyond the CEPF project; people and organisations are willing to fund

meeting costs for example, and there is lively discussion. Having the Environment Officer as member of and Secretary of the network is beneficial for the sustainability of the network."

Comments from the Premier Hon Malloney Lokopio (also the Provincial Environmental member) regarding the network; *"In the past we faced a lot of challenges partly because of not enough skilled staff at all provincial level therefore having these opportunities to build a network to support and complement provincial government plan, structures and policies will enable to ensure our conservation initiatives and natural resource management concerns is captured by all stakeholders using this network"*. He further explained that, *"The Western Province Network for Sustainable Environment formed because individuals and groups recognized that the challenges and solutions are more complex than any one organization can deliver particularly to tackle the challenging tasks of environmental management and sustainable development in our Province"*. He told the politicians to support the network and look at possible outputs to sustain the network.

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
1. A coalition of diverse Western Province stakeholders, including civil society, research agencies, government agencies and private sector actors, continues to work collaborative to progress conservation and development concerns in the province	The network has the formal structures, formal recognition, member buy in and financial commitments to ensure continue collaboration towards conservation and development in Western Province. Collaborative efforts of the network are not only documented in reports, but have on three occasions been published in local media raising public profile of environmental issues and actions.
2. The coalition of civil society, government and private sector actors has increased capacity to regularly and effectively facilitate multi-stakeholder contributions (via the coalition) towards to national and provincial conservation and development policies and objectives.	Long term capacity to be determined (could be determined through Outcome Harvesting in one to two years) - however the indicators suggest this capacity is in place and a range of anecdotes within the meeting reports and other suggest this is starting to happen - not yet led to policy change.
3. Natural resource management, conservation and development objectives and the diverse views and activities of Western Province local civil society groups, and other stakeholders, are well represented in policy and action.	To be determined of course. Again - outcome harvesting in one to two years would be a useful method to gather evidence of this. As previously noted - the structure and performance of the network to date suggest this is likely. Of course dependent at least in part on the pace and receptiveness of government policy development.
4. Conservation and development outcomes are greater and accelerated due to improved alignment, coordination and learning amongst the diverse Western Province civil society, government and private sector actors.	Strong evidence of increased alignment, coordination and learning - evidence of this in development outcomes to be determined.
5. Lessons on effective multi-stakeholder networks (shared via a peer reviewed publication and lessons learned brief) improve the function of conservation and development networks in Solomon Islands and beyond.	Published as the lessons learned brief. Also Peer review publication has been submitted for publication (focused on the MPPD network - but draws some lessons from this network).

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)


Impact Description	Impact Summary
1. Six of civil society organizations (including WWF, WorldFish, TDA and SICCP), as well as government and private sectors actors demonstrate improved capacity for information management and coordination with other stakeholders	Examples throughout the meeting records and the formal (but simple) reporting structure set up by this project provide the platforms for regular information exchange. Channels of communication are more open than they have been. This has resulted in new collaborations, improved coordination.
2. Conservation objectives for both marine and terrestrial ecosystems are integrated into the Western Province Development Strategy, to include the key biodiversity areas of the CEPF East Melanesian Islands Ecosystem Profile.”	This outcome has been delayed - due to the very slow to no progress made on the Western Province Development Strategy - detailed in a range of reports previously. Nonetheless, capacity and coordination to influence policy is substantially higher than it was.
3. Mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of the coalition are designed, approved, and implemented.	Several mechanisms are in place already to ensure sustainability of the network - detailed in the sustainability strategy. Noting also that concerns about sustainability were taken on board from earlier cross-province learning - and influenced the ToR of the network.
4. Key lessons on strategic networking and coalition building are shared amongst Western Province stakeholders and throughout broader conservation and development networks in the Asia-Pacific region.	Success in two forms. First in the written output "Five Principle of Network Success" and second in the presentation at the Solomon Islands National Environment Symposium.

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

Communication between network members has substantially improved and can be observed in the details of exchanges/updates in the quarterly meetings and reports.

The network itself, the buy in, the elements of sustainability in place are all strong successes - and in fact potentially beyond expectations. This means long term impacts look, at this stage, likely to be achieved. It would however be very beneficial to conduct an assessment of outcomes one and again two years down the track. WorldFish will look at doing this through other funding sources - if CEPF is unable to support this kind of activity. It can be reported back to CEPF if there is an interest and mechanism.

One of the challenges in the short term was influencing the Western Province Development Strategy - from a previous report we noted however "One of the important roles of the network is to contribute to the current draft of the Western Provincial development strategy. However according to the chief Planning officer, the draft development strategy is still with a consultant who is doing the write up. He is still cooperating the ward profile data that province undertake late last year. The Chief provincial planning officer, who is the officer responsible for the final draft of the Development strategy highlighted the need for the network to collectively look at the draft when it will be presented back to



the stakeholders in August. She viewed that opportunity for the WPNSE to have some influence to support the National Development Strategy (NDS) 10 and 11 of WPG."

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

It was not anticipated that buy-in to the network would happen so rapidly - the impact was commitment of co-funding on many meetings. This was a very positive and unexpected outcome. Unfortunately, this commitment of funds by partners caused some problems with project spending rate. Despite best efforts to propose a range of solutions (endorsed by the network) project was not administration was not able to facilitate the many strategies presented to make the most of this opportunity for greater impact.

Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	Inception meeting to solidify Civil Society (SICCP, WWF, TDA) and Provincial Government commitment to coalition	1.1	Inception meeting report (August 2016) demonstrating civil society and government involvement	Inception meeting help and successful. Meeting minutes submitted.
2	Workshop 1 - Learning lessons from networks and coalitions	2.1	Workshop1 report (October 2016)	Workshop 1 successful and held in Gizo with a range of partners, workshop report submitted. Key lessons learned drawn to enable sustainable network design.
2	Workshop 1 - Learning lessons from networks and coalitions	2.2	Lessons learned report (December 2016)	Lessons learned were drafted through the course of workshop 1 and were produced into a published Guidance note "Five Principles of network Success" - available online and submitted with project documents.
3	A coalition of at least six leading civil society organizations (including WWF, WorldFish, TDA and SICCP), as well as government and private sectors actors established and operational in order to accelerate conservation and development outcomes	3.1	Workshop 2 report (March 2017)	Workshop 2 held in Gizo, co-hosted by provincial government. Workshop report produced, submitted as project documentation and shared with workshop participants.
3	A coalition of at least six leading civil society organizations	3.2	Draft Western Province Development Strategy	Due to changes in Western Provincial Government staffing the timeline for delivery of the Western provincial Development strategy was substantially delayed and did not progress through the source of the project. This was

	(including WWF, WorldFish, TDA and SICCP), as well as government and private sectors actors established and operational in order to accelerate conservation and development outcomes		reflect input from coalition members (March 2017)	unforeseen and out of the control of the project team. Efforts were diverted to other outputs, activities and influence.
4	Six of civil society organizations (including WWF, WorldFish, TDA and SICCP), as well as government and private sectors actors demonstrate improved capacity for information management and coordination with other stakeholders	4.1	Design appropriate reporting mechanisms with coalition membership with preliminary data collected (October 2017)	A simple reporting structure template and process was created by and to serve the network members. This was trialed in the late 2017 and was to serve the information purposes of the entire network and the Provincial Government.
5	Workshop 3 - Facilitate Western Province Coalition review meeting	5.1	Workshop 3 report (March 2018)	Workshop 3, and an additional workshop (Workshop 4) were held. The first co-funded by the Provincial government and the second with additional funding support from WWF. A report was drafted and circulated to the Network members and submitted to the project administrators.
6	Sustainability strategy implementation meeting between project leads	6.1	Sustainability strategy document (May 2018)	A sustainability strategy was developed in the final workshop meeting and finalized subsequently. It was circulated amongst network members for minuting and further reference in subsequent meetings.
7	Country level	7.1	Liaise with the	The CEPF national consultation was held in late 2016 and

	grantee exchange meeting		CEPF in-country National Liaison Officer to obtain and finalise meeting participants and agenda to prepare for logistics.	was organised by WorldFish Honiara team in close and effective liaison with the CEPF administrators. Workshop logistics, participation and budget were handled successfully by the WorldFish team.
7	Country level grantee exchange meeting	7.2	Arrangement of travel and accommodation for participants as evidenced by travel itineraries and receipts and bookings and receipts from hotels.	Travel and accommodation arrangements made by the WorldFish Honiara team. All supporting documentation previously submitted to CEPF administrators.
7	Country level grantee exchange meeting	7.3	Securing the venue and catering and related meeting costs as evidenced by quotes for venue hire and catering and receipts for selected venue and catering option and associated costs of meeting.	Venue and catering successfully organised, budgets managed and supporting documentation (receipts etc) all provided and liquidated. Workshop by all reports was a great success.

Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

Previously submitted all in previous reports;

Five Principle of Network Success (attached again)

Method for examing capacity building through networks (submitted scientific article in review - we will not submit here because we don't want it on the website until published)

Western Province network for the environment (attached article submitted to Melanesian Geo)

Solomon Islands National Resource Management Symposium Proceedings (attached)

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

The project had a focus on lessons learned - these are captured in written output.

In terms of project implementation it is possible that, given the time spent on ensuring fit and buy-in to the project at design stage, we could have taken a risk and planned for some co-funding.

Nonetheless that would have represnted a risk in delivery. The project was well designed - there was little room in project design or project management structures however for adaptation as situations change.

Sustainability / Replication

Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

WorldFish requires a certain level of experience and accountability for Project Leadership - to meet Donor demands and our own internal reporting, accounting requirements. At the time of project design only an person sitting outside the Country was in a position to take another Project Leadership role. Of course, we recognised that this brings both opportunities and challenges. In terms of challenges there was a degress of disconnect between formal Project Leadership tasks and project management tasks - which were about implementation, clope contact with network members, logistics etc. In terms of oppotunities this structure enabled confidance in delivery as well as an opprotunity for capacity building whilst retaining autonomy. National ownership of the project was never in question and was indeed a very strong element to this entire project - and is a critical foundation to the likely sustainable structures and relationships enabled through this project.

Safeguards

If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards

Additional Comments/Recommendations

Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF

We faced some challenges working with the CEPF as new systems and staff came on board - this caused inefficiencies for Project Leadership - but did not substantially influence activities on the ground. There were at times a lot of attention to some details, but bigger picture changes - where discussions, decisions and actionable guidance wererequired - seemed more difficult or very delayed. This did have an affect in terms of lost opportunity to have greater impact, as well as more robust and independant impact assessments etc. We feel that these systems have been ironed out now - and that any subsequent partnership wtiH CEPF would be even more productive and efficient.

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

Total additional funding (US\$)


\$12,000.00

Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

A - project co-financing was provided by the Western Province Government to support meetings (unanticipated) (in the order of approximately USD 6000)



A - funding support was provided by WorldFish through an ACIAR funded project to supplement the production of the Lessons Learned Brief (in the order or approximately USD 6000)

A - Asia Development Bank funding support (via WorldFish) to the National Resource Maangement Symposium (to which this project provided some support through attendance, presentation, distirbution of materials) (substantial - ensure how to quantify proportion to project)

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

1. Please include your full contact details (Name, Organization, Mailing address, Telephone number, E-mail address) below

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