

CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization's Legal Name:	Natural Resources Development Foundation
Project Title:	Forest Conservation through Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in protected rainforest areas in the Mt Maetambe to Kolombangara River Corridor, Solomon islands
Grant Number:	CEPF-103738
Hotspot:	East Melanesian Islands
Strategic Direction:	1 Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas under-served by current conservation efforts
Grant Amount:	\$222,413.30
Project Dates:	July 01, 2018 - January 31, 2022
Date of Report:	March 14, 2022

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster management & Meteorology (MECDM): This Ministry, through the Conservation Department, has worked closely with NRDF and the Tribal Partners to fulfill all the requirements in the Protected Area (PA) process and has facilitated the official declarations of the Protected Areas. Sirebe, Sipoare and Padezaka tribal lands were declared PA, Vuri and Garasa are in the last steps of the process.

Nakau Programme: The team of the Nakau programme has assisted NRDF in the validation of the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project and the verification of the first inception Project (Sirebe) under this grouped project. Nakau also successfully negotiated with buyers of carbon credits from the Babatana Project. Nakau was also engaged in some short technical consultations to do the carbon credit accounting and provided training in mapping of some of the eligible areas.

Ecological Solutions Solomon Islands (ESSI): Facilitated the biodiversity assessments in the Babatana Area, specifically for the Padezaka and Lukelombere area. We also used their biodiversity data for all the PA management plans.

Intergraded Forest Management Programme (IFMP): Technical and financial support for the the work in the Padezaka tribal area through its Field coordinator Fred Tabepuda.

Sirebe, Sipoare, Garasa and Padezaka Tribal Associations: Associations representing the members of the tribes in the Babatana Project Area. The associations assisted all

stakeholders to implement and successfully fulfill the requirements to become PA and develop the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project.

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
People linked to the four established Protected areas receive financial benefits from sales of PES credits, supporting their forest conservation initiatives and overall economic development for at least 30 years after the closure of the project.	The project managed to validate the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project under the Plan VIVO standard. The Babatana project is a grouped project under which all the PA tribes will become members. The Sirebe tribe was the first tribe to be verified by an international auditor (supported by this project) and has already sold 3 years of their annual carbon credits generated from their protected area. The Siporae tribe is ready to have their audit and start selling their credits.

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
At the end of the project period in July 2020, four tribal forest areas (Siporae, Garasa, Sikipozo and Padezaka) located within the Mt Maetambe Kolombangara River Corridor KBA, are officially declared protected areas, protecting approximately 4500 hectares of high biodiversity rainforest ecosystems against logging and mining.	Two of the four project areas (Padezaka and Siporae) have been declared Legal Protected Areas under the PA ACT 2010. Both areas together protect 5489 of high biodiversity rainforest ecosystems against logging and mining. Garasa and Sikipoza are in the last steps towards declaration, expected to be declared before June 2022 and adding another 2675 hectares of protected rainforest.
At the end of the Project period (July 2020), all four tribal areas that have declared their forest Protected Areas are validated by third party auditing and are ready for Payment for Ecosystem Services crediting under the Nakau PES Programme	All the tribes have been validated under the Plan VIVO standard as a grouped project: the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project.
At the end of the project period (July 2020) each of the four tribes have the capacity and mechanism in place that safeguards a well running PES project which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well defined and approved/endorsed (FPIC obtained) Area Management plan Well defined and approved/endorsed (FPIC obtained) Nakau Business plan Well defined and approved/endorsed (FPIC obtained) Nakau benefit sharing plan Well defined and approved/endorsed (FPIC obtained) and validated (Auditor) Project Description (PD) Signed PES agreements (FPIC obtained) with the Project Coordinator (NRDF) 	All the four tribes have a well defined management plan for their PA areas. Busienssplan and benefit sharing plan are drafted for Siporae only. The other tribes are still in their PA process (Garasa, Sikipozo) or just started their PES activities (Padezaka). The PD for the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project was validated under Plan VIVO standard by 3rd party auditor. Except for the Sirebe tribe, no PES agreements have been signed yet.

Impact Description	Impact Summary
At the end of the project period (July 2020) all four tribes have established Legal entities (Tribal Associations) that have the capacity and capability to manage a Protected Area and the Nakau PES project,	All tribes except Padezaka have established their Tribal Associations. Padezaka is still to be registered due to some delays in dealing with some registration requirements.
At the end of the Project period (July 2020) at least 2 persons (of which at least 1 female) from each legal established entity (Tribal Association) are well trained and have sufficient skills in financial management and bookkeeping to manage the income streams and expenses from the Nakau PES project.	Due to the delays in the PA processes to get the tribal areas PA declared no training was provided yet to the tribes on financial management. However the financial structures were communicated to the Siporae tribe as part of their readiness process for PES crediting. The tribe received training during a money story/business planning workshop. In general the financial structures and systems that a Nakau project requires were shared with all tribes during general awareness sessions.
<p>Within the time frame of the project (2018/2020) women in all four tribes are empowered by the project through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of four women saving clubs (one in each tribal community) • Sufficient representation (not less than 40%) as office bearers and committee members and • A separate clause in the PES agreement (and benefit sharing plan) that sets aside a certain share (%) of the benefits towards women projects. 	All tribes have established their women saving clubs. All club members received training on how to set-up and managed a saving club and all clubs are performing mostly well. As part of the validation of the Babatana project it was suggested that 5% of the income from PES credits will go to saving clubs and women development projects. This share has already been implemented by the Sirebe tribe and will also be used in all upcoming business and benefit sharing plans of the other tribes.
After the project in July 2020, two permanent NRDF staff members in Choiseul are trained and skilled (and received a Nakau Programme Coordinator certificate) to assist and support project owners (the Tribes) in all the aspects of a Nakau PES project and are capable to roll out Nakau projects to other tribal lands in the Mt Maetambe to Kolombangara River Corridor, Choiseul Province or Country.	The NRDF project coordinator in Choiseul was the only person to receive training and is now fully capable to assist tribes in developing their PES project under the Nakau programme.
Within the project timeframe there is considerable less sediment flow in the Kolombangara river system because of active patrolling by rangers from the partner tribes in the downstream areas, who will report any observations of non compliance with the Logging Code of Practice by nearby logging companies to the respected Government Ministries (Forestry and Environment). This change will be measured through water sampling and photography during rain times.	During the project implementation period two illegal logging operations have occurred in the Padezaka area (before declaration), causing severe environmental damage to the river system. The operations have been reported to the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. Officers of both ministries have visited the areas (facilitated by NRDF and Tribes) and verified the illegal operations. Both operations stopped and moved out from the area. Rangers have done regular monitoring trips to check the boundaries of the PA's
Within the project period October/November 2019 the first tribe in Choiseul (Sirebe) is validated and verified under the Nakau programme and will start selling carbon credits	The Sirebe tribe has gone through a successful validation and verification process and has already sold 3 years of their annual credits to the European market.

Impact Description	Impact Summary
to the European market in the beginning of 2020 and will function as a trial (model) for the other 4 upcoming projects.	
All Rangers in each of the six tribal areas have conducted legal and ranger skills training and are equipped with the necessary supplies and equipment to perform their duties as specified in the PA management plans.	Most of the rangers have received training to upgrade their skills to do proper management and monitoring of the their respected PA's. Legal training was provided by the Solomon Island Government while other rangers skills training was provided by NRDF. All sorts of ranger equipment has been purchased such as binoculars, bird books, forest inventory equipment, camping gears and mobile devises for mapping and photographing.
Rangers of the Sirebe and Siporae tribe are trained and skilled to do monitoring activities within the eligible PES crediting area, following the requirements of the Nakau Monitoring plan, using the AVENZA mapping application and tools.	All Sirebe and Siporae rangers have been trained in monitoring (incl AVENZA) and forest inventory techniques.

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Although a bit expected, the news that Sirebe has sold their first carbon credits triggered more interest from tribes in the Country in conservation. Whether this is a positive or negative development is a point of discussion and yet to be seen. However it does give tribes a clear choice between conservation and logging as both deal with cash income and economic development for the tribes.

The success of the Babatana project has increased the interest of other programmes and funders to invest and fund similar projects in the Solomons.

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:

1. First three terrestrial forest areas declared Protected Area under the Protected Area Act 2010, covering an area of 5489 hectares.
2. Two other areas (Garasa, Vuri), covering an area of 2675 hectares are in the last steps to become a PA, expecting to be declared in the first half of 2022.
3. Successful validation of the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project against International Standards (PLAN VIVO)
4. Successful verification of the Sirebe Forest carbon project being the first tribe to sell verified carbon credits to the overseas market.
5. Increased skills with local rangers, PA committees, Project management teams through workshops, trainings and on the spot instructions in areas such as mapping, GPS, Monitoring, Tree identification, Law enforcement (PA), Project management etc.
6. Set up women saving-clubs for all the tribes joining the Babatana Rainforest Conservation project, with a total number of members of 707 (as of January 2022)

7. Empowerment of women through savings club establishment, awareness building, and short trainings such as computer and hospitality training.

8. Recruitment of Women Development Officer in Choiseul with own office space.

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1.0	People in the six target tribal communities are fully informed and aware on Protected Areas and the Nakau PES programme, and agree to start Nakau activities under the CEPF project.	1.1	Central awareness session held and minutes and meeting report on PA and Nakau Programme awareness, including sign in lists, produced and filed (July 2018).	Done during the inception of the project in 2018
2.0	All the required forest technical and social economic data is collected in each of target community through surveys and inventories	2.1	Final area boundary map for each target area produced and endorsed by Tribes (October 2018)	All areas have verified area maps (boundary/land-use) in place.
2.0	All the required forest technical and social economic data is collected in each of target community through surveys and inventories	2.2	Final area landuse map of each target area produced, endorsed by tribal and community members and showing PA and Nakau designated areas (November 2018).	All maps in place. Only Siporae has determined its PES designated eligible area. Others are in process to do that.
2.0	All the required forest technical and social economic data is collected in each of target community through surveys and inventories	2.3	2.3 Social economic baseline data for each community collected, analyzed and filed (June 2021)	Social baseline for Siporae and Padezaka done and finalized. Vuri (Sikipozo) and Garasa not done yet.
2.0	All the required forest technical and social	2.4	Permanent sample plot data collected, analysed and	Sample plot data collected for Sirebe and Siporae. All data has been analyzed and

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
	economic data is collected in each of target community through surveys and inventories		carbon credits in each target area quantified (March 2019).	carbon accounting figures are available for both areas.
3.0	All target communities have adequate organizational structures and capacity in place to manage the protected areas and run Nakau programme activities.	3.1	Management plan for each area produced, and approved by the tribal members (FPIC obtained) following PA and Nakau templates and standards (February 2019)	All tribes have their PA management plans finalized and verified by the Ministry of Environment.
3.0	All target communities have adequate organizational structures and capacity in place to manage the protected areas and run Nakau programme activities.	3.2	3.2 Each target community has produced a business and benefit sharing plan, following Nakau standards (June 2021). (amendment)	Only Siporae has a draft business plan as they are the second tribe to be verified for PES crediting. Other tribes still to start their process.
3.0	All target communities have adequate organizational structures and capacity in place to manage the protected areas and run Nakau programme activities.	3.3	3.3 Tribal associations established and official registered. Both constitutions (PA and Association) final and endorsed (June 2021).	All tribes except Padezaka (delays with registrar) have registered their Tribal association.
3.0	All target communities have adequate organizational structures and capacity in place to manage the protected	3.4	3.4 Central training by Ministry of Environment conducted and training report produced including participant lists and certificates (May 2021).	Training Conducted in April 2021. Report filed.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
	areas and run Nakau programme activities.			
3.0	All target communities have adequate organizational structures and capacity in place to manage the protected areas and run Nakau programme activities.	3.5	PA applications submitted to Ministry of Environment (September 2019).	Padezaka and Siporae declared. Vuri and Garasa are in the last steps of the process and with the Attorney General for PA endorsement.
3.0	All target communities have adequate organizational structures and capacity in place to manage the protected areas and run Nakau programme activities.	3.6	Final Nakau Project Document send to nakau programme management for pre audit (October 2019)	Done
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.1	Report on visit Ministry of Environment and endorsement letter from the Minister of Environment (November 2019).	Padezaka PA application was verified (visit) by the Ministry and has been declared PA in December 2021.
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.2	4.2 Audit report written and released to NRDF for further actions (if any) (November 2020)	Done
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.3	4.3 All six Protected areas declared and Nakau Programme launched and report (photo's) and news	Total of 3 areas PA declared (Sirebe, Siporae and Padezaka). All ceremonies covered by newspaper and website articles. Sire launched its Nakau PES project in June 2021 after their successful verification audit.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
			article published (December 2021).	
5.0	Communities use practical marketing and promotion tools and have build an own network of potential PES buyers, besides the mainstream Nakau markets	5.1	5.1 Nakau brochure produced and printed (December 2021)	Not completed
5.0	Communities use practical marketing and promotion tools and have build an own network of potential PES buyers, besides the mainstream Nakau markets	5.2	5.2 Report on outcomes of Nakau promotion sessions in Honiara and Gizo produced and news article about written (December 2021).	Sessions not held however much publicity was given in newspapers and radio about the Nakau programme and carbon trade in the project area.
6.0	CEPF Project Management and Monitoring	6.1	CEPF financial and programmatic reports submitted on time and accurately (Quarterly).	Completed
6.0	CEPF Project Management and Monitoring	6.2	6.2 Final impact monitoring report completed at project close (December 2021).	In process
6.0	CEPF Project Management and Monitoring	6.3	6.3 Safeguard policies for indigenous people implemented, monitored and reported in a standalone report every six months to CEPF to ensure full compliance	Completed

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
6.0	CEPF Project Management and Monitoring	6.4	6.4 Baseline and final evaluation of civil society tracking toll and gender tracking tool applied for NRDF and sent to CEPF (July 2018 & December 2021).	In process
6.0	CEPF Project Management and Monitoring	6.5	Brief article and photo's sent to CEPF on grant outcomes achievement during course of grant implementation (Quarterly).	3 articles published in newsletter.
7.0	Women in the six target tribal communities are empowered by the project through sufficient representation and engagement in project management and project benefits	7.1	Women in each target community have established a women saving club	Every tribe has established a women saving club and sub-clubs (larger tribes).
7.0	Women in the six target tribal communities are empowered by the project through sufficient representation and engagement in project management and project benefits	7.2	7.2 Women of each tribal community are sufficient represented as members and office bearers in Associations and committees and PES agreements have clauses securing benefits for women projects and empowerment activities.(December 2021)	It has been endorsed by the partners and NRDF that 5% of the income of carbon credits will support the women saving clubs and women projects in general. Women participation in committees and management structures is still low but NRDF is slowly making a change by providing women with some extra skills in administration and computer literacy so they can take positions in the near future.
8.0	NRDF staff sufficient trained in Nakau	8.1	8.1 NRDF staff (Project coordinator) fully	The test has not been developed but the training has been fulfilled and the Choiseul

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
	Programme implementation for future project roll outs		understand the implementation and running of an existing Nakau project (Vanuatu) and has successfully accomplished the Nakau Programme examination test (Developed by Live and Learn). (December 2021)	Project Coordinator (Cornelius Qaqara) is fully skilled in supporting tribes to develop a PES project.
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.4	PES/Programme/License agreements signed between Sirebe Tribe, Nakau Programme and NRDF (August 2019) (amendment)	PES agreement signed on 15th September 2020
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.5	Project Document (PA) part A in Final version(July 2019) (amendment)	Completed
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.6	Project Document Part B (Technical Specification Module) ready for the third party audit (VIVO)(July 2019) (amendment)	Completed
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.7	Auditor engaged (Contract signed) and audit plan drafted and approved (desktop and field visit).(September 2019) (amendment)	Completed

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.8	4.8 Audit report for Sirebe released by Auditor and corrected (Corrective action requests) where needed. (November 2020) (amendment)	Completed
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.10	4.10 Project Documents A and B Validated (2nd party validation) and ready for 3rd party audit Audit) (November 2020)	Completed
4.0	Protected areas declared by the Ministry of Environment and validated under the Nakau PES programme	4.11	Siporae, Garasa and Vuri have been verified by 3rd party audit and have entered the Babatana Grouped PES project.	Not completed. Siporae has had many delays due to Covid and Vuri and Garasa have been going through their PA process (with settling objections) first.

Tools, products or methodologies that resulted from the project or contributed to the results:

The methodologies used in the PA (PA toolkit) and Nakau process (Nakau Programme Methodology Framework) were already in place before the project started.

One methodology that was developed during this project cycle was the forest inventory methodology. First developed and used in 2014, the methodology was completely revised as a result of the lessons learned from the verification audit of the Sirebe Project. Through some consultation with the Nakau programme the new forest inventory manual was finalized and is now being used in other project such as Siporae. (Manual attached under "other information" section)

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
4.2	Number of local civil society organizations that demonstrate improvements in organizational capacity.				
4.4	Number of conservationists that demonstrate strengthened capacity in conservation management, science and leadership.				
5.3	Number of civil society organizations supported by CEPF that secure follow-up funding from conservation trust funds and/or the GEF Small Grants Programme.				
1	Hectares in a key biodiversity area (KBA) with new or strengthened protection and management.				
2	At least 100,000 hectares within production landscapes are managed for				

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	biodiversity conservation or sustainable use.				
3	At least 5 local land-use or development plans influenced to accommodate biodiversity.				
1.1	Baseline surveys completed for at least 10 priority sites.				
1.2	Awareness of the values of biodiversity and the nature of threats and drivers raised among local communities within at least 10 priority sites.				
1.3	Threat levels to at least 15 priority sites reduced through locally relevant conservation actions implemented by local communities.				
1.4	Conservation incentives (ecotourism, payments for ecosystem services, conservation				

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	agreements, etc.) demonstrated for at least 5 priority sites.				
1.5	Number of communities targeted by site-based projects that show tangible well-being benefits.				
2.1	Number of CEPF priority sites where ownership and tenure rights within customary lands have been mapped				
2.2	Number of communities affected by incompatible development projects provided with legal training and support.				
2.3	Number of partnerships catalyzed between civil society organizations and natural resource companies to promote sustainable development through better environmental and social practices.				

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
2.4	Number of CEPF priority sites where biodiversity and ecosystem service values are integrated into land-use and/or development plans and policies.				

GLOBAL INDICATORS

Protected Areas

Protected areas that have been created and/or expanded as a result of the project. Protected areas may include private or community reserves, municipal or provincial parks, or other designations where biodiversity conservation is an official management goal.

Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID*	Latitude	Longitude	Country	Original Total Size (Hectares)**	New Protected Hectares***	Year of Legal Declaration or Expansion
Padezaka Tribal Rainforest Conservation Area		-6.948957	156.801602	Solomon Islands	4,823	4,823	2021
Siporae Tribal Forest Conservation Area		-7.023581	156.810688	Solomon Islands	666	666	2019
Sirebe Forest Conservation Area		-6.986027	156.792143	Solomon Islands	800	800	2019

*World Database of Protected Areas

**If this is a new protected area, 0 should appear in this column

*** This column excludes the original total size of the protected area.

Key Biodiversity Area Management

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) under improved management—where tangible results have been achieved to support conservation—as a result of the project.

KBA Name	KBA Code	Size of KBA	Number of Hectares with Improved Management
Mount Maetambe - Kolombangara River	SLB15		9,140

Production Landscapes

Production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity as a result of the project.

A production landscape is defined as a site outside a protected area where commercial agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
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Benefits to Individuals

- Structured Training:**

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
150	707	Legal enforcement for rangers Forest inventory Tree identification Basic computer skills Hospitality Saving club set-up/management Business planning GPS / Mapping

- Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits
210	228	The Sirebe tribe has received their first payments from their PES (Carbon) credit sells. The tribe exist of approximately 438 members compromised of primary and secondary landowners. All of these members

Number of Men - Cash Benefits	Number of Women - Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits
		have received cash benefits from the first sales. Men/Women ratio is about 48/52

Benefits to Communities

View the characteristics column below with the following corresponding codes:	View the benefits column below with the following corresponding codes:
1- Small Landowners	a. Increased Access to Clean Water
2- Subsistence Economy	b. Increased Food Security
3- Indigenous/ Ethnic Peoples	c. Increased Access to Energy
4- Pastoralists / Nomadic Peoples	d. Increased Access to Public Services
5- Recent Migrants	e. Increased Resilience to Climate Change
6- Urban Communities	f. Improved Land Tenure
7- Other	g. Improved Use of Traditional Knowledge
	h. Improved Decision-Making
	i. Improved Access to Ecosystem Services

Community Name	Community Characteristics							Type of Benefit									Country	Number of Males Benefitting	Number of Females Benefitting
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i			

Characteristics of "Other" Communities:

Policies, Laws and Regulations

View the topics column below with the following corresponding codes:			
A- Agriculture	E- Energy	I- Planning/Zoning	M- Tourism
B- Climate	F- Fisheries	J- Pollution	N- Transportation
C- Ecosystem Management	G- Forestry	K- Protected Areas	O- Wildlife Trade
D- Education	H- Mining and Quarrying	L- Species Protection	P- Other

No.	Name of Law	Scope	Topics															
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P

“Other” Topics Addressed by the Policy, Law or Regulation:

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment
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Companies Adopting Biodiversity-friendly Practices

A company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Name of Company	Description of Biodiversity-Friendly Practice	Country/Countries where Practice was Adopted
Cookson Adventures	The company has bought PES credits from the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project (Sirebe) for their annual carbon footprint off-set.	Solomon Islands

Networks and Partnerships

Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable.

Name of Network/Partnership	Year Established	Country/ Countries	Established by Project?	Purpose
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Sustainable Financing

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate funding for the long-term (generally five or more years). These include, but are not limited to, conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

Name of Mechanism	Purpose	Date Established	Description	Country/ Countries	Project Intervention	Delivery of Funds?
Nakau Programme	The Nakau Programme is a Payment for Environmental Services (PES) programme focusing on community based forest protection and sustainable economic development. It has developed projects in Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands. (www.nakau.org).	2021	Under the Nakau Programme the validated grouped project: "Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project" has been established. The project owners are the tribal landowner groups that manage their Legal Protected areas and sell their verified PES credits to the overseas markets. www.planvivo.org/babatana	Solomon Islands	Supported an existing mechanism	Yes, the Sirebe tribe has received their first payments which were used for conservation work.

Globally Threatened Species

Globally threatened species (CR, EN, VU) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, benefitting from the project.

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
Haliaeetus	sanfordi	Forest Fish Eagle	VU	The project area is know to have several pairs of breeding Solomon Sea eagles. The bird is frequently observed. Now the area has been declared the bird habitat is	Unknown

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
				safeguarded against any disturbances by logging or mining and hunting.	

LESSONS LEARNED

Part of this project was the validation of the Babatana Rainforest Conservation project and the verification of the Sirebe Forest carbon Project. Because it was the first audit we have learned a lot on how to prepare and be ready for a verification. One very important lesson is that keeping record and data is a must. Auditors come and verify is the process has followed the right procedures and everything needs documented proof. This we found was a weakness and need improvement. Minutes of meetings in which important decisions were made are extremely important. Also any documentation that show FPIC in the development processes (PA and PES) needs to be in place. The lessons learned from the Sirebe audit will be used for the audits planned for the other tribal members of the project.

Planning remains a problem in the Solomons. What ever workplan or timeline you make, it will always turn out differently. Many activities were delayed due to many reasons. Although Covid was not a problem in the country itself it did caused many delays as the virus influenced the assistance from our overseas partners. For example the Sirebe audit had many delays because of covid and due to the unviability of staff and delays in consulting local consultants. Although planning is a must, flexibility needs to be observed.

Looking back at the success of declaring the first PA's and developing the first carbon project in the Solomon Islands we must evaluate what the reasons behind this success is. NRDF learned that working closely with the tribes is a main reason behind the success. "Boots on the ground" and "walk the talk" and build a long-term relationship with the beneficiaries during the PA and Nakau processes are key to getting these processes done. The Ministry has acknowledged NRDF for its persistence to make progress steps happen as very helpful. Implementing this sort of projects by visiting the communities once in a while does not work. It takes a lot of time, energy and funds to work like this and therefore commitment of staff and also funder is vital. BY that long-term commitment of funders is needed as a PA process takes at least 3 years and the development of a PES project another 2 years. This is a minimum.

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

Having the first PAs established and having developed a well running PES project based on existing methodologies makes this project easy to replicate to other areas. However as mentioned before the work is very intensive and challenging and needs lots of input (time, staff, funds). Looking at NRDF the organization is confident with its capacity to implement project in the field. However, the organization has difficulties to manage and maintain its core organizational structure. Maintain continues cashflow, find long term funders and fulfill requirements of funders is extremely time consuming and needs the right capacity. Although NRDF has been able to successfully finance its programme over more than a decade financial and organizational management needs extra attention.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

See safeguard reporting

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

All documentations, certificates and reports that relate to the validation of the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project and the verification of the Sirebe Forest Carbon project can be found under the following web link: <https://www.planvivo.org/babatana>

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	
Breakdown of Additional Funding	

INFORMATION SHARING AND CEPF POLICY

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. For more information about this project, you may contact the organization and/or individual listed below.

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