



# Integrated Coastal Zone Management Planning 1 Day Workshop Report

Strengthening and streamlining Capacity Building in the  
IZCM policy framework for Solomon Islands.

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# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Overview

The second ICZM Mangrove Planning and Coordination National Workshop was held on 28<sup>th</sup> May at Kukum Campus, Solomon Islands National University. The event was a collaborative effort between KEI, SINU and the governmental bodies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) aimed to continuously build on to have a mangrove policy in place for Solomon Islands.

During the opening remarks Director of Climate Change Division (CCD), MECDM stated that many work were done within different organizations mandates on mangrove through Community Based Resource Management (CBRM), however the intention now through CTCNs aid, will progressively work on building the Mangrove Policy Framework for Solomon Islands.

## 1.2 Attendees

The event was attended by reps from stakeholders including Directors, Senior Ministry officers, NGOs and Academic staffs.

## 1.3 Scope of the Report

This report is provided to Korean Environment Institute as part of local expert assistance in the planning and coordination of mangrove policy for Solomon Islands. The report captures outcomes of a workshop that is executed by Solomon Islands National University and KEI with participation from various stakeholders.

## 2.0 Sessions that Capture capacity building outcomes

### 2.1 Session: ICZM and Mangrove Workshop Debrief – Capacity Building

A brief was provided on the background on the importance of capacity building and gender recognized in mangrove policy framework. And emphasized on gender concept being a familiar topic within the formal sector already.

Discussions were done on gender topics across all sectors and feedback was provided for capacity building and gender relations and inclusion. Each sector highlights their mandates for these two different areas. Some of the issues relating to mangrove use and participation by society is also part of gender perspective and the importance of recognizing it.

Environment, Fisheries, Planning, Ministry of Women, and other sectors have focal points and policies that encompass gender and social inclusion aspects. From the previous workshop various feedback from different groups on gender and social inclusion policies within their respective sectors was also presented.

#### 2.1.1 Challenges:

Solomon Islands doesn't have a mangrove policy at the current state. There is no existing ICZM programs particularly for mangrove for Solomon Islands. There is limited resources and capacity to support mangrove, to support work with mangroves and its management.

Policies overlap, most sectors are working under respective mandates to address mangrove. And NGOs highlighted they worked on different parts of S.I with the focus on marine scope but mostly areas outside of mangrove scope.

Data collection and sharing is also a challenge. Academics and institution are not very much experienced at the institutional level, the use and access of mangroves forest are very much experienced at the community level. They contributed mostly on the areas of research and data collection.

Power to make decision making. Who makes the decision? with concern to natural resources at the community level (over mangrove resources) and up to the national level. Mr. Pulekera's presentation highlight the opportunity areas, that were identified in the different groups including the Government, NGOs, Academics. The main recommendation for gender includes more research, collaboration with key stakeholders.

Mainstreaming gender and social inclusion participation for sustainable use and management of mangrove ecosystems is important for Solomon Islands, given the

nature of the country's Marine Tenure system and local governance and population and geographical locations.

This session highlights the interlinkage of gender, social inclusion and capacity building in Solomon Islands. Capacity building tools must be inclusive moving forward.

### 2.1.2 Enhancing mangrove ecosystems capacity building topic.

**Presented on behalf of Claire by Veira**

**Time: 11am**

Gives a brief on the SI Statistics on Literacy and Education population and the status of Capacity building within the different participating sectors. More than 85% of land is own by local people. Only 15% is governed under the government and others. In terms of literacy population is functionally illiterate, meaning they cannot read simple shop signs and clinic notices (World Vision, 2016). To put into local context of capacity building in Solomon Islands, land ownership determines how resources are managed which is different from place to place. While literacy determines the type of information/educational resources we use, and how effective this information can be absorbed and utilized.

Government, NGOs have no proper distribution of trainings for staff on mangrove ecosystems and academics may have interests on indigenous knowledge on mangroves however priority redirected to other areas.

Government can provide training opportunities and SINU can facilitate to provide training avenues as well. NGOs in their role to support mangrove policy can provide specialized TOT and strengthen relationship with key stakeholders including SINU, Ministries and the community.

For the academic sector, they should also provide trainings within their curriculum to accommodate for studies on mangrove ecosystems within Solomon Islands. Recommendations was also shared on this component of capacity building in complementing gender equity and social inclusion to be considered.

### 2.1.3 Discussion: Q & A

**Prof Kang:** Prepared Framework policy for the breakout groups and finalize it. And moved on to describe the difference between Policy Framework and Framework Policy.

**Dr. Mauli:** Raise the question on "Integrated" term, and specifying which sectors were involved? as per to describe the integration term.

**Prof Kang:** Described it in the form of different ecosystem services (as a form of integration), which also information on it was given by different feedback from the

previous workshop. Protect, Promotion of sustainable use, connect terrestrial and marine ecosystems. He described it in the form of spatial environment.

**(MFMR):** Consultation with communities involved the attempt to ask communities which areas are important to identify is the form of mapping component for mangrove ecosystems. To capture the significant areas including protected areas, taboo sites, fishing grounds and others is important, as this will should also be reflected within the mangrove policy.

## 2. 2 Session: Integrated Planning and Coordination of Mangrove Policy Framework

There are several factors we must consider, including the people, types of stakeholders (national, provincial, community) and associated habitats.

### 2.2.1 Policy statement 5.1 Integrated Planning and Coordination is mangroves

- Regular consultation with resource users (awareness, knowledge sharing), with regards to peoples' interest. This activity requires a good understanding of literacy level of people engaged in consultation. The tools we used must be relevant to ensure there is awareness and understanding of the issues brought forward.
- Recognizing and Celebrating World Mangrove Day. Engagement in international days is a good way of communicating and raising awareness. How to utilise such days as educational avenue for awareness can be challenging but with proper channels of management it is possible.
- Jurisdiction of access to resources by users – guided by laws and policies and aligning it to other bodies of laws/policies. The gap of aligning national policies with existing traditional jurisdictions can be challenging. It is proper to address this especially in capacity building.
- Capacity Building immensely supports empowerment. Understanding stakeholder's role in the resource management gives opportunities to utilize the skills learned and put to action. Governance arrangement (National policies, communities) enhances collaborative mechanisms and interactive Governance like CBRM gives opportunities for holistic learning.

### 2.2.1.1 Group Discussion Feedback on Policy statement 5.1

Summary Update on 5.1 was done by Dr Seno Mauli. She stated that there are four thematic areas to look at.

- **Governance** – objective is to bridge gaps and appreciating existing structures between stakeholders. In terms of capacity building, this gap is crucial to be addressed and aligned all stakeholders work throughout the country.
- **Sustainable financing** – One of the challenges is having sustainable financing to support programs. An example is Solomon Islands National Ocean Policy (SINOP) did not have the mandates for stakeholders to ensure Ministries are informed of their work and having them engaged. This also applies to capacity building programmes. The framework should allow all stakeholders to be informed and aware of their engagement in the country and allows sustainable financial mechanisms for these programs.
- **Capacity** – This is a cross cutting thematic areas for both 5.1 & 5.2 across all levels. There should be a coordination and interactive approach to meet halfway and moving forward to have integrated solution. We are suggesting livelihood departments in the relevant ministries and organisation that have the capacity to execute. Livelihood pathways and options, linking market chains and translation of policy into action. To allow for effective implementation.
- **Other areas:** CBRM Strategy can be incorporated with the Code of Logging Practice led by Forestry. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process can be led by MECDM. However, all this had to be aligned to work together.

### 2.2.3 Policy statement 5.2 Sustainable Economic Development (Livelihood)

The discussion was also facilitated by Dr Mauli. Currently we should look at who are direct users of mangrove resources. This involves the people/community (resource owners/users) especially women. The important audience here is women. Looking forward we should be considering sustainable practices (as part of the strategy). Which also brings us to consider CBRM.

### 2.2.4 Policy statement 5.3 Sustainably Managing the ecosystem

It investigates enhancing biodiversity, protecting it and managing ecosystems. Waste Management should also be considered within this section to ensure that waste issues are properly managed.

#### *2.2.4.1 Group Discussion Feedback on policy statement 5.3*

Conserve Coastal and Marine resources and environment for sustainable development. Community Involvement- engagement of community in the planning, conservation practices to build capacity.

Promote best conservation and management Practices – that will enable the identification of the best management and conservation practices. This will be successful with research on the types of conservation practices that will work. Each area is different, and the framework should consider a general way forward that should be able to capture our unique practices. M&E a handbook needs to be created to act as a guideline.

#### **2.2.5 Policy statement 5.4 Environmental Risk Management**

Under this heading people should be made aware, ensuring that actions are present to mitigation and adapt to environmental risks, example relating to climate change risks and potential impacts.

Professor Kang also explained that environmental risk comes in two ways Direct human influence and degradation and Indirect Impact includes sea level rise and fossil fuel burning over the years and its consequences. Also to factor in awareness on impacts of climate change through the policy statement.

#### **2.2.6 Policy statement 5.5 Education Awareness and Research**

Research (academic research and scientific knowledge) and it will also take us into research. Mangrove Mapping and collecting data should be encouraged as part of the activities. (SINU) raised that currently the overlap of many documents on policies already exists, however we want to talk about policy that are practical and effective.

(Professor Kang) There are so many publications on mangrove ecosystems functions and can be uploaded on the website and uploaded the main framework policy and these materials might be useful to refer to it and supplied to high school and university within the country.

Make sure individuals also learn them at an early age so they become familiar with the topic on mangrove and become aware of it. Professor Kang, also mention the technical solutions options provided.

Moving forward it is important to work on MOU since it is cross sectorial, and this policy will require some form of MOUs to enable its effectiveness. Through institutional arrangements, this will also help.

### *2.2.6.1 Group Discussion Feedback on Policy statement 5.5 Education Awareness and Research.*

Capacity Building - awareness included in curriculums from early education to tertiary education system. Promote research and build human resources. Research facilities and entities are important to enhance the knowledge and skills in the country. Explore funding opportunities to support research and development, including technological solutions that fits the local context.

## 3.0 Conclusion

Capacity building in Solomon Islands comprise of complex dynamics that needs understanding of the local context and innovating a tool that is fitting. There are layers of complexity that is needed to be broken down to find the right solutions. The layers include National, Sub-National, Provincial, Private Sector, Community.

Building capacity through these layers is crucial and should be featured in the Policy framework. While the institutional, organisational and individual capacity can be a huge challenge, there are existing Enabling environment capacity like Governance/leadership, policy & legal frameworks, incentive mechanisms, accountability frameworks, budget allocations that can be capitalised.

Capacity building should be looked at in a holistic manner and not just individual capacity building (Expertise, knowledge, skills, competencies, attitude) which usually the case for Solomon Islands.