

The Workshop on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Mangrove Policy,
Implementation Guide, and Technology Factsheets

Fourth National Workshop

A One Day Workshop Report

30th of September, 2024

SINU Kukum Campus Honiara



Mary Tahu Paia

marytahupaia@gmail.com



Table of Contents

<u>1. Introduction</u>	2
<u>1.1 Workshop Objectives</u>	2
<u>2. Workshop Opening Address</u>	2
<u>2.1 Workshop Overview</u>	3
<u>3. Mangrove Discussions and Feedbacks</u>	3
<u>3.1 Vision and Mission statements</u>	3
<u>3.2 Guiding Principles</u>	4
<u>3.3. Technology Factsheets</u>	5
<u>3.3.1 Alternative technology for Small Islands and urban communities</u>	5
<u>3.3.2 Water treatment in Agriculture and Livestock</u>	5
<u>3.3.3 Climate Change and early warning Systems</u>	5
<u>3.3.4 Fisheries and Aquaculture: shellfish, Seagrass</u>	5
<u>3.3.5 Integrating spatial data and environment data to manage, restore and protect mangroves</u>	5
<u>3.3.6 PV solar farming</u>	6
<u>3.4 Closing remarks</u>	6
<u>4. Conclusion</u>	6
<u>Annex 4. Participants List</u>	7

1. Introduction

The validation Workshop for the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Mangrove Policy, Implementation Guide, and Technological Factsheets aims to bring together key stakeholders, experts, and community representatives to review and validate essential components of the ICZM mangrove Policy framework. This workshop focused on refining the proposed mangrove policy, ensuring that the implementation guide is practical and effective, and assessing the technological factsheets designed to support sustainable management and conservation efforts in coastal zones. The outcomes of this validation process will contribute to strengthening coastal resilience, promoting ecosystem-based approaches, and addressing the challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation in the Solomon Islands.

1.1 Workshop Objectives

The one-day workshop held aims to achieve three primary objectives:

- Validate the proposed integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) policy;
- Validate and refine the Implementation guides
- Validation of the technology factsheets

2. Workshop Opening Address

The workshop commenced with opening remarks by Climate Change Director Thaddeus Siota, who expressing gratitude to all attendees for their presence that morning. Mr. Thaddeus acknowledged the extensive work involved in developing the policy, highlighting that it is the result of multiple workshops and consultations led by the Korean Environment Institute (KEI) team in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, SINU, and the Ministry of Fisheries.

He further stated that the primary objective of the workshop was to validate the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) policy document. It was noted that, although invitations had been sent out, some participants were unable to attend due to prior commitments. To ensure inclusivity, the document will be circulated for additional feedback and comments from those who could not be present.

Thaddeus also conveyed apologies on behalf of the Technical Assistance (TA) team, specifically Dr. Kang, who was attending a national mangrove forum in Fiji at the time. It was mentioned that Fiji, Papua New Guinea (PNG), and the Solomon Islands are in competition to host a regional mangrove center, with hopes that the Solomon Islands would be selected. In closing, the speaker reiterated their appreciation for everyone's attendance at the workshop.

2.1 Workshop Overview: Background of CTCN support on Mangrove Policy work in Solomon Islands

Director of Climate Change Division, Mr Thaddeus Siota commenced the session stated that the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) support on the mangrove policy work in the Solomon Islands. He further explained that the workshop centred on the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Policy is the result of extensive collaboration between the Korean Environment Institute (KEI), the Ministry of Environment, SINU, the Ministry of Fisheries, and other key stakeholders. During the session, Director Siota stressed the significance of the policy, which is undergoing validation, noting that feedback from participants unable to attend due to other commitments would be incorporated in later stages. The workshop also touched on ongoing regional efforts, such as a mangrove conservation forum in Fiji, which involves cooperation between Fiji, Papua New Guinea (PNG), and the Solomon Islands, demonstrating the shared commitment to safeguarding coastal ecosystems across the Pacific.

Thaddeus Siota followed with a PowerPoint presentation on the ICZM Policy, offering an overview of the Technical Assistance (TA) involved in its formulation, with a particular focus on mangrove ecosystems. He highlighted key workshops and consultations held between February and July 2024, which included site visits and various policy development activities. Siota also emphasized the significant outcomes from these workshops, including mangrove mapping and extensive community engagements, which played a crucial role in shaping the policy.

Thaddeus concluded by presenting a timeline of activities leading up to the final workshop to validate the ICZM mangrove policy framework, which took place from February to July 2024. The activities included:

A preparatory workshop held with ministry stakeholders, focusing on mangrove ecosystems. During this session, the Korean team presented studies and analyses of mangrove ecosystems using policy frameworks, and the mangrove mapping was verified. A workshop conducted to discuss the vision, mission, and policy statement and feedback was received on the policy document, and the team also visited Auki during Malaita Day.

3. Mangrove Discussions and Feedbacks

3.1 Vision and Mission statements

During the workshop discussion session led by Chris Teva and Chris Manepolo, concerns were raised about the growing threats to mangrove ecosystems from human-induced activities. This led to a discussion on the need to incorporate terms such as "geohazards," along with concepts like "resilient," "sustainable," and "integrated," into the policy's vision statement to better reflect its comprehensive approach. Additionally, participants debated whether the mission statement should focus on "coastal zones" or "coastal communities," highlighting the importance of clarity in addressing the specific areas and populations affected by the policy.

The following key points were raised during the discussions;

Vision Statement: Revised to: "A resilient, sustainable and integrated mangrove ecosystem for the Solomon Islands.

Mission Statement: Finalized as: "To sustainably manage and establish formal mechanisms for mangrove ecosystems through integrated approaches, ensuring vital environmental services while enhancing socio-economic benefits for coastal communities."

There was a strong emphasis on incorporating elements related to livelihoods, environmental health, and geohazards into both statements to ensure a holistic approach to mangrove ecosystem management.

The objectives of the Mangrove Policy were reviewed, with suggestions to revise them to place greater emphasis on promoting the value of mangroves, recognizing the role of indigenous communities, supporting conservation efforts, and enhancing integration for ecosystem management. Participants also proposed additional objectives, such as improving communication strategies, fostering research collaboration, and advancing the development of a blue economy to further support sustainable mangrove management.

The following were suggested for mangrove policy objectives;

- a. Define and identify the value and importance of mangroves.
- b. Recognize and acknowledge indigenous conservation and resource management practices.
- c. Promote alternative livelihoods, including appropriate technologies and blue economy initiatives.
- d. Strengthen coordination and empower coastal communities to manage mangrove ecosystems.
- e. Promote research, communication, and collaboration with communities, institutions, and NGOs.

3.2 Guiding Principles

The discussion progressed to the guiding principles, with some participants emphasizing the need for actions under these principles to align with the established strategies. Specific issues such as pollution and waste management were identified as areas that could be incorporated into the strategic framework. During the discussions around the principles and sustainability, the facilitator requested for further comments on sustainability. Barnabas stressed the importance of including payments for ecosystem services and recognizing the value of mangrove ecosystems, while Veira suggested that technical definitions from existing conventions or national laws should be integrated for clarity. The discussion then shifted to people-centered approaches. Marvin proposed replacing the term

"aspiration" with "values" concerning indigenous peoples, and George raised the idea of incorporating mangrove-related topics into school curricula to enhance awareness among students.

3.3. Technology Factsheets

Dr. Mary facilitated the final session, during which participants were grouped into three (3) groups each with the e-copy of the technology factsheets to include any comments or feedbacks. Based on the discussion and feedbacks, few comments were highlighted and received from the participants.

3.3.1 Alternative technology for Small Islands and urban communities

In the background section, it was suggested to highlight the high cost of production and inadequate infrastructure as the primary challenges facing the country. Additionally, under the rationale for the technology, bell peppers, peas, kale, and spinach should be included as examples of fruit and vegetables. It is also important to consider the typical costs associated with a system, including logistics and transportation expenses. Furthermore, the inclusion of success stories or case studies from the Solomon Islands is necessary to provide relevant context.

Further comments included a question regarding the accessibility of this technology to communities, such as those in Langalanga Lagoon, where there is limited water availability. The concern was raised about how this technology, which requires a reliable water supply, can be implemented in such areas.

3.3.2 Water treatment in Agriculture and Livestock

Suggestion was made to include Island Tank Limited as another local supplier for tanks.

3.3.3 Climate Change and early warning Systems

The comments indicated that while the technology is applicable and effective, it is only accessible to those who have access to phones or radios for receiving alerts.

3.3.4 Fisheries and Aquaculture: shellfish, Seagrass

It would be beneficial to include examples or case studies of the technology's implementation in the Pacific Islands.

3.3.5 Integrating spatial data and environment data to manage, restore and protect mangroves.

An existing GIS infrastructure, including spatial files and drones, can help reduce the costs associated with establishing new infrastructure. Therefore, it may be worthwhile to include training for GIS experts in the budget.

3.3.6 PV solar farming

Include a case study on the existing farms

3.4 Closing remarks

Thaddeus Siota closed the workshop with remarks expressing gratitude to all stakeholders for their contributions. He emphasized that this is a living document and appreciated everyone's time and commitment. Participants were encouraged to submit their final comments by Friday. Once the document is endorsed by the PS, it will be prepared for submission to the Cabinet.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, there was a strong emphasis on integrating elements related to livelihoods, environmental health, and geohazards into both statements to ensure a comprehensive approach to mangrove ecosystem management. Participants stressed the importance of aligning actions under these principles with the established strategies. The objectives of the Mangrove Policy were revisited, highlighting the need to promote the value of mangroves, acknowledge the role of indigenous communities, support conservation efforts, and enhance integration for ecosystem management. Additionally, participants proposed new objectives, such as improving communication strategies, fostering research collaboration, and advancing the development of a blue economy to further support sustainable mangrove management. For the technology factsheets, suggestions included adding Island Tank Limited as another local supplier for tanks. While the early warning systems technology is deemed applicable and effective, it is only accessible to those with phones or radios for receiving alerts. To improve the document, it would be beneficial to include examples or case studies of the technology's implementation in the Pacific Islands, along with a case study on existing solar PV farms. Furthermore, leveraging the existing GIS infrastructure, which includes spatial files and drones, could help lower the costs associated with establishing new infrastructure; thus, incorporating training for GIS experts into the budget may be advantageous.

Annex 5. Participants List

ICZM Allowance Sign sheet

30th September 2024

Name	Organisation	Contact	Amount	Signature
Marvin Becking	SINU	7375705	200	MB
Barnabas Gago	MECDM/PMCU	7466736	200	[Signature]
D. Michel Gagne	MECDM	7119875	200	[Signature]
Douglas Harilla	SICAN	7111372	200	[Signature]
Justin Ron	SICAN	roniboyjustin@gmail.com	\$200	[Signature]
Eddie Huitarau	SICAN/SI Rangar's	edh.huitarau7@gmail.com	\$200	[Signature]
Elasha Talota	LLSI	7153955	200	[Signature]
Steve Tahunipae	SINU	7847837	\$200	[Signature]
Vera T. Puhia	MECDM/CD	7643740	\$200	[Signature]
Samira Archua	SPREP/maclive	7217306	\$200	[Signature]
Mark Paneta	FATF	7541315	\$200	[Signature]
Agnes Takutile	NTF/MID	7972164	\$200	[Signature]
George Harasika	SINU	7412786	\$200	[Signature]
Larsen Gomeau	SINU	7207876	\$200	[Signature]
Carlos. Hiro	SINU	7445346	\$200	elt
Chris Teva	CCD/MECDM	7442119	\$200	[Signature]
Thaddens Siota	CCD/MECDM	7552271	\$200	[Signature]
Christian M	WCS/MECDM	7186094	\$200	[Signature]
Mary. Pina	SINU	7871601	\$200	[Signature]
Lorelyn Obiasa	SINU	7804424	\$200-	[Signature]
Mauld. Ajo	SINU	789920	\$200-	[Signature]
Froni Mele	SINU	7933788	\$200-	[Signature]
Patrossa Giga	SINU	7553731	\$200	[Signature]