

# UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



# UNDP

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## COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

### Consideration and approval of country programmes

#### THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR SOLOMON ISLANDS

#### UNDP assistance requested by the Government of the Solomon Islands for the period 1982-1986

Illustrative IPF for 1982-1986: \$ 4 000 000

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The third country programme for the Solomon Islands covers the period 1982-1986. It includes technical and pre-investment assistance intended to help implement the priority development programmes of the Government planned for the same five year period. Within this time frame, particular stress will be given to the strengthening of development administration at the provincial level, in line with the policy of the new Government which was constituted in September 1981.

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Note: In accordance with decision 81/15, adopted by the Governing Council on 27 June 1981 (E/1981/61/Rev.1, Annex I), the third country programme for the Solomon Islands is being submitted to the Council without an accompanying note by the Administrator.

The previous country programmes for the Solomon Islands and the accompanying notes by the Administrator were issued under the document symbols DP/GC/SOI/R.1-DP/GC/SOI/R.2 and DP/GC/SOI/R.1/RECOMMENDATION, SOI/R.2/RECOMMENDATION, respectively.

2. The country programme exercise was conducted by the Government, in consultation with the UNDP field office based in Suva and with the personnel of other United Nations agencies based in the Pacific, who provided useful observations and suggestions. Because of the high level of approved programme expenditures during the last years of the second UNDP programming cycle (1977-1981) and the relatively limited and declining level of indicative planning figure (IPF) funds available to the country annually during the 1982-1986 period, the Government did not ask United Nations agencies to send formal country programming missions. The Government and UNDP undertook a thorough review of the ongoing and proposed UNDP projects in September 1981, which helped to determine the priorities for continuing UNDP-financed assistance during the 1982-1986 period. A number of projects were then redesigned to reflect the new stress being given to the strengthening of development administration at the provincial level.

3. In formulating the new country programme, attention was given as to how UNDP-financed assistance might best complement that being provided by other agencies of the United Nations system and by the various other multilateral and bilateral donors. Particular attention was also given to the co-ordination of assistance under the new country programme with consultancies and training opportunities available under the UNDP-financed regional programme for Asia and the Pacific over the corresponding period.

4. The Government of the Solomon Islands is committed to the promotion of national development in the context of a democratic political system and is determined to maximize popular participation in decisions relating to development planning and development administration. A major increase in the political, administrative and economic responsibilities of the Government at the provincial level is therefore envisaged. This will require the expansion and upgrading of available manpower if the Government is to respond satisfactorily to the needs and wishes of the people, taking into account the differing cultural, ethnic, geographic and economic circumstances found in the respective provinces.

5. The devolution of Government responsibilities will also require some reallocation of available funds and other resources away from urban claims in favour of rural requirements at the provincial and village levels. Within this framework, the Government is determined to stimulate increased investment in the development of natural resources and to channel funds into relatively labour-intensive, low capitalization schemes designed to provide increased employment opportunities and improved social services to the population.

6. During the 1982-1986 period, UNDP assistance will therefore concentrate largely on administrative and technical training, with a view to strengthening manpower capacity and services in the provincial areas; technical support to physical infrastructure development projects; pre-investment and other investment support activities in connection with the exploitation of natural resources; and strengthening of social infrastructure services in the fields of health, education and rural water supply.

7. The present country programming covers the 1982-1986 period and therefore coincides with the third UNDP cycle. The UNDP Governing Council approved an illustrative third cycle IPF for the Solomon Islands of \$4 million. This was subsequently reduced by 20 per cent to \$3.2 million for planning purposes by the UNDP Administration in the light of lower than anticipated pledges. Taking into account a savings of approximately \$70,000 in 1981 carried over to 1982 in order

to help cover ongoing budget commitments in that year, the funds available for programming in 1982-1986 amount to \$3,270,000.

8. The total projected external aid during the 1981-1985 period amounts to approximately US\$ 250 million. The major bilateral contributors include the United Kingdom or Great Britain and Northern Ireland (40 per cent), Australia (13 per cent), Japan (9 per cent), and New Zealand (2 per cent). Multilateral assistance anticipated during this period includes that of the European Development Funds (EDF) (8 per cent), and the European Investment Bank (EIB) (2 per cent), the Asian Development Bank (ASDB) (10 per cent), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)/International Development Agency (IDA) (5 per cent), the Commonwealth Development Corporation (5 per cent), the Fund of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) (2 per cent), and the United Nations system (2 per cent).

#### UNDP TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ENVISAGED IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

9. In order to obtain maximum benefit from UNDP funds available during the third programming cycle, it was deemed necessary to concentrate UNDP assistance in a few specific sectors where a significant impact could be made. Within these sectors, UNDP assistance would be utilized largely for highly specialized consultants and for longer term expertise only where required, to help ensure the continuity of Government programmes being assisted. The extensive use of short-term specialized consultants will help to ensure that the programme remains flexible and responsive to evolving technical assistance requirements.

10. In addition, the country programme includes a major provision for the technical type of expertise available under the United Nations Volunteer Programme. These technicians for the most part will be assigned to help reinforce development programmes at the provincial level. They will be provided with substantive support as required by United Nations technical expertise based in the capital city, Honiara.

11. In all sectors, the country programme will give high priority to the training of the nationals of Solomon Island associated with the national programmes receiving UNDP assistance. This will help to achieve greater national self-reliance in the implementation of national and provincial development programmes, while enabling international assistance to be phased down or out as quickly as possible. From 1982 to 1986, UNDP assistance will be concentrated in the following development areas:

##### A. Natural resources

12. One of the objectives of the Government is to promote the balanced development and utilization of the country's natural resources, to increase the financial independence of the Solomon Islands, to generate income and to create savings for investments in order to ensure increased self-reliance and sustained growth. Although over-all strategic priority is given to programmes contributing directly to the provinces, the Government is likely to continue to undertake a limited number of large projects of over-all national importance which stress major infrastructure, mining or petroleum development.

13. The UNDP country programme will provide assistance in support of one such major undertaking: Hydropower Project Manager (SOI/81/002) (estimated UNDP contribution 1983-1986: US\$ 240,000). The Government is now at an advanced stage in its planning for the implementation of a hydropower scheme on the Lungga River on Guadalcanal, which inter alia, would provide sufficient power to the Honiara area to enable a steady expansion of national industry to take place. The Government has requested UNDP to provide, under Government execution arrangements, a director/project manager for the Lungga Management Board that would supervise the construction of this major hydroelectric development scheme.

#### B. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

14. The main objective of the Government in this sector is to develop and diversify the productive base of the economy, to increase rural income and employment and to generate savings for investments. The most immediate developments of this policy will take place in the fishing and forestry sectors, with longer term development of export agro-industrial enterprises. The Government is also determined to achieve a balance between large-scale investments utilizing foreign capital and expertise in joint-venture arrangements and smaller scale investments owned and managed by nationals and which generate direct rural income at the community level, complementary to existing agricultural and fishing activities. Where foreign capital and manpower are used, Government will ensure that these are on terms which are fair to all parties concerned.

15. UNDP will continue to support the development of national fisheries and of the co-operative network. Besides the provision of assistance to the ongoing projects listed below, an additional US\$ 238,000 has been earmarked to this sector.

Fish Marketing and Off-shore Fishing Development (SOI/75/006) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982-1983: US\$ 25,100).

16. To assist with the development of fisheries at the provincial level, this UNDP project will continue to provide assistance in the maintenance and repair of cold storage and freezing facilities for fisheries in the outer islands. New activities envisaged as follow-up to this project include support to the artisanal fishing industry and the training of provincial fisheries officers required at the rural fisheries centres, which will be built during 1982-1983.

Consultancies for Fishing Agreements (SOI/79/004) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982-1984: US\$ 51,400).

17. This project will provide consultancies to the Government regarding the technical aspects of fishing negotiations with potential foreign investors, including for a new fish cannery. The project will enable the Government to draw on outside expertise for advice on legal, technical, marketing and industrial aspects while negotiating joint ventures or direct foreign investments. At the same time, the project will give priority to the training of officials of Solomon Islands in negotiating procedures.

Co-operative Marketing and Consumer Distribution (SOI/81/003) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982-1983: US\$ 124,200).

18. UNDP assistance in the promotion of co-operative activities will include advisory services and related training focused on the proper organization and management of co-operatives at the provincial level. The project will give emphasis to training of both Central Co-operative Association personnel and of primary co-operative society members in organization and operating management techniques.

19. Assistance to the fisheries sector will also be available from three regional projects: Regional Fisheries Programme (RAS/73/025); Training in Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (RAS/79/025); and Advisory Assistance on Transnational Corporations (RAS/81/086). In addition, the Government will continue to receive assistance in support of its Rootcrops Development Programme under the project (RAS/74/017).

#### C. Human settlements

20. The Government is committed to an effective human settlements management which should ensure that the physical infrastructure is developed in ways which adequately respond to the requirements posed by planned economic and social activities and land use, while enhancing the environment in which people are living. In order to help achieve this, decision-making on physical planning matters will be significantly devolved to the provincial and community levels.

21. The country programme will continue to provide technical assistance in physical planning under the following project:

Assistance to Physical Planning (SOI/82/002) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982-1985: US\$ 653,000).

Under this new phase, the effective use of urban and rural settlement planning at the provincial level will be promoted. The project will also provide training and professional advice to all provincial administrations in the preparation and implementation of physical plans for improved land use.

#### D. Health

22. While health standards in the Solomon Islands are relatively good in comparison with those in many developing countries, the distribution and quality of primary health care services in rural areas must be improved in order to keep pace with the expanding needs of the rapidly growing population. The development of rural health services is constrained by the dispersed nature of the population, unsafe water supplies and poor sanitation facilities, lack of knowledge about personal health care, and the high costs of maintaining adequate services in remote areas. Malaria continues to be the single most serious health problem, with the number of reported cases rising significantly in the last few years. This recent resurgence has also been marked by the emergence of drug resistance vectors. The Government's emphasis in developing health services is to promote primary health care through: (a) more widespread access to basic

services (especially immunization and maternal/child health care); (b) strengthened health education; and (c) improved water supplies and sanitation systems. Continuing priority will also be given to malaria control. In the development of primary health care services, focus will be placed at the village community level in order to make it possible for individuals to take increased responsibility for improving their own and their children's health.

23. UNDP assistance in the health sector during the third country programme is intended to help strengthen provincial primary health care programmes in the areas listed below.

Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (SOI/80/002) (Estimated UNDP contribution 1982-1986: US\$ 323,500).

24. Dependable rural water supply is seen as a basic input to the improvement of health at community level by providing the physical environment in which individuals can exercise responsibility for their own health care. Over 60 per cent of the population are not yet serviced by piped potable water supplies. The programme is currently undertaking approximately 200 new water schemes per annum. Programme administration is the responsibility of the provinces, which are in the best position to decide on priority requirements. However, supplementary technical expertise will continue to be required to provide supervision and training in the construction and maintenance of village water supply systems and sanitation facilities. UNDP project assistance will continue to provide expertise and training for this programme during the 1982-1986 period. Training will be supplemented under UNDP regional project, Training in Water Supply and Sanitation (RAS/79/038).

Malaria Control Programme (SOI/82/001) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982-1987: US\$ 350,000).

25. In continuing to assist in the control of malaria, UNDP will be addressing the most important health problem in the country. The Government is now looking at ways of making this programme more effective, including the devolution of day-to-day management to the provincial authorities and a greater community participation in malaria control. External assistance will continue to be an important component. Technical and managerial assistance from UNDP is seen to be a continuing requirement throughout the country programme period. Under the project's new phase, however, increased emphasis will be given to specialized training for sub-professional personnel associated with the malaria control campaign. Related training assistance will be available for this under the project, Regional Training in Malaria Control and Eradication (RAS/79/021).

Training of Assistant Health Inspectors (SOI/80/001) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982-1983: US\$ 93,800).

26. Assistant health inspectors are required in order to help strengthen the health education programme of the Government in urban and, particularly, rural areas and to help reinforce the rural water supply and malaria control programmes referred to above. Assistance to this training will be provided at the Honiara Technical Institute.

27. A number of UNDP regional projects will also provide assistance in the field of health: Training of Hospital Administrators (RAS/81/054); Arboviral Diseases Control (RAS/79/032); Umbrella Health Training (RAS/81/015); and Regional Health Development Network (RAS/81/017). The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) has also planned assistance designed to strengthen health education for the period 1982-1986.

#### E. Education and employment

28. With a young and rapidly expanding population, demands for primary, secondary and technical education will continue to increase. The Government will be devoting increasing financial and manpower resources to the expansion and improvement of education at all levels. Efforts will be made to orient education towards urban and, particularly, towards rural employment opportunities. In this connection, increasing attention will be given to the integration and vocational training into formal education and to the expansion of the provincial secondary school systems. Greater emphasis will be placed on provincial secondary schools as a community resource in which the community province become more directly involved in meeting formal and non formal education requirements. In order to improve and expand in-country tertiary training in technical skills, the Honiara Technical Institute will be expanding and diversifying its practical training in line with specific national requirements.

29. UNDP assistance in these sectors will be designed to reinforce Government programmes to strengthen technical education, with particular emphasis on manpower requirements at the provincial level. In addition to financing ongoing projects, an additional US\$ 400,000 has been earmarked for activities in support of Government employment policy.

Handicraft Training for New Secondary Schools (SOI/78/001) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982: US\$ 43,000).

30. This project will continue to assist with pre-service and in-service training of teachers in vocational skills subject matter to be built into the primary and secondary school curricula. UNDP assistance in vocational curriculum development and teacher training at the Honiara Teachers College will continue through part of 1982.

Public and Business Administration (SOI/79/001) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982: US\$ 14,000).

31. This project will continue to provide fellowships and study tours in public and business administration in 1982.

National Trade Testing and Training Scheme (SOI/78/005) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982: US\$ 179,600).

32. This project will provide for on-and off-the-job training and trade testing for some 3,000 tradesmen in the electric, building and mechanical trades. It is envisaged that UNDP assistance in this field will continue throughout the third country programme period.

Supervisory Training (SOI/78/008) (Estimated UNDP contribution, 1982: US\$ 50,000).

33. This project will continue to provide instruction on supervisory skills for middle management in both public and private sectors. UNDP assistance will terminate in 1982 when national counterparts at the Honiara Technical Institute are in a position to assume instruction responsibilities.

34. Complementary assistance will be available from ongoing and future regions/projects: Vocational Training in Rural Areas (RAS/75/008); Regional Manpower Planning (RAS/79/035); Vocationally Oriented Education (RAS/81/012); and Training in Basic Skills (RAS/81/034).

35. The financial summary of the country programme for the Solomon Islands during the third UNDP programming cycle is attached as Annex I. It is foreseen that the details of UNDP assistance to be provided during the 1984-1986 period, in particular, will be worked out in a series of sectoral reviews to start early in 1983 on the occasion of monitoring missions, that will culminate in a country programme review exercise to be undertaken later in 1983. This will enable the Government to ensure that the country programme reflects evolving priorities for UNDP-financed technical and pre-investment assistance during the 1984-1986 period in line with the IPF funds actually available.



Annex

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A. Resources

(a) IPF and other resources	\$
(i) Illustrative IPF for programme period	4 000 000
(ii) Carry-over from previous IPF cycles	70 000
(iii) Other resources	-
(b) Provision for adequate programming	-
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TOTAL	4 070 000

B. Use of resources

(a) Programmed	
(i) Ongoing projects	905 000
(ii) New projects and new phases included in the country programme	1 243 000
(iii) Earmarked for specific objectives and activities for which projects are to be worked out (continuous programming at a later stage)	638 000
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Subtotal	2 786 000
(b) Reserve	484 000
(c) Unprogrammed balance <sup>a/</sup>	800 000
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TOTAL	4 070 000

<sup>a/</sup> Representing 20 per cent of the illustrative IPF which has not been taken into account for programming in accordance with the Administrator's instructions contained in UNDP/PROG/FIELD/111; UNDP/PROG/HQTRS/126.

C. Financial distribution of programme, by sector <sup>b/</sup>

	<u>Sector</u> <sup>b/</sup>	<u>Ongoing projects</u>	<u>New projects</u>	<u>Sectoral earmarkings</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
		\$	\$	\$	\$
03	Natural resources	-	240 000	-	240 000
04	Agriculture, forestry & fisheries	201 000	-	238 000	439 000
09	Human settlements	-	653 000	-	653 000
10	Health	417 000	350 000	-	767 000
11	Education	57 000	-	-	57 000
12	Employment	230 000	-	400 000	630 000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>905 000</b>	<b>1 243 000</b>	<b>638 000</b>	<b>2 786 000</b>

<sup>b/</sup> According to ACC classification.