

Environmental and Social Monitoring Report

Semi Annual Report
July 2019

SOL: Solar Power Development Project

Prepared by Solomon Power for the Government of the Solomon Islands and the Asian Development Bank.

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SOLAR POWER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SOLOMON ISLANDS

THIRD SEMI ANNUAL REPORT 2019

DRAFT 2

JULY 2019

1. Introduction

1.1. Background to the Project

The Solomon Islands Government (SIG) with assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB) provide support for the development and operation of grid connected solar-diesel-battery power stations at five provincial centres in the Solomon Islands, which would largely substitute for existing diesel generation. These includes the provincial towns of Kirakira in Makira-Ulawa Province, Malu'u in Malaita Province, Munda in Western Province, Lata in Temotu Province and Tulagi in Central Province.

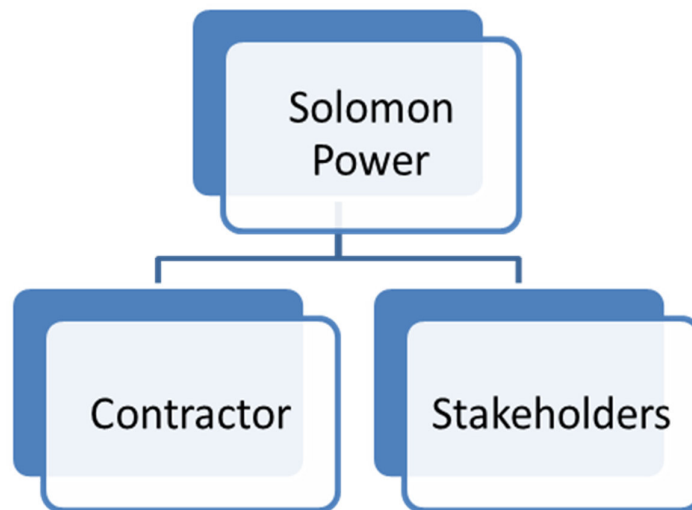
The Project was classified by ADB as Environmental Category B. An Initial Environment Examination (IEE) Report was completed in 2016 for the five project sites to comply with the ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS, 2009) and is equivalent to Public Environment Report (PER) under the SIG Environment Act 1998.

The Resettlement Plan was formulated to be consistent with ADB SPS, Safeguard Requirement 2 on Involuntary Resettlement and the Solomon Islands Land and Titles Act, which govern rights and processes for land access in April 2016.

1.2. Institutional Arrangement

The overall organizational structure for environmental and social management for the project is shown below.

Figure 1 Solomon Power's Organisational Structure



1.2.1. Solomon Power (SP)

The overall management of all monitoring tasks comes under the SP. This covers all aspects of required activities including coordination with other agencies that have national responsibilities over some of the tasks. The company is responsible for general project execution and with day-to-day project management activities, as well as monitoring and reporting.

SP, through the capital works division is the key contact for the project. The division is responsible for the delivery of a capital program aimed at expanding and developing SP's position to meet future demands and challenges and is supported by all other SP divisions to ensure reliable, efficient and safe provision of energy. Consultancy firms were engaged by SP to support UXO, Geo-Tec, Topographic surveys and safeguards works for the project.

1.2.2. Civil/Electrical Contractor

The project is an Engineer, Procure and Construct (EPC) contract. Contract signing was completed in December 2018. The contractor is responsible for implementing all environmental, health and safety actions in the EMP. This include the production of site specific environment management plans (SEMP) s for each site as part of the Contractor Environment Management Plan (CEMP) for the project and recruitment of an environmental safety officer (ESO) and a deputy ESO whose responsibilities includes:

- Coordinating with Solomon Power for updating the EMP;
- Produce site specific EMPs for each site as part of the CEMP;
- Engage a suitable organization to undertake STIs/HIV/AIDS/Malaria/Dengue briefings and awareness raising amongst the contractor's employees.
- Contractor complies with the clauses in the contract and bidding documents in respect of environment, health and safety;
- Ensuring the contractor does not commence construction activities until requisite approvals have been received from ECD, provincial authorities, SP and Mine and Energy Division (MED);
- Participating in monitoring with Solomon Power to ensure environmental social management activities are reported as required;
- Produce monthly environment and social monitoring reports to SP and
- Facilitating consultation with the affected stakeholders and ensuring smooth implementation of the project.

1.2.3. Environment & Conservation Division (ECD)

As the national agency responsible for environment and conservation, the ECD was involved in various aspects of the EMP. This include formal approval in 2016 for the project's IEE. Under the consent condition, ECD was tasked to assist in auditing the implementation and compliance to the EMP.

1.2.4. Provincial Government

The provincial government manages development occurring on provincial boundaries. Their roles include issuing approvals and permits. SP and the contractor are responsible for liaising with provincial planning divisions to ensure relevant permits are issued for each project.

1.2.5. Royal Solomon Islands Police Force

Solomon Islands was a battle ground during World War 2 (WW2). It is important contractor immediately cordon off the area, arrange the evacuation of nearby residences and inform the RSIPF of a find.

1.2.6. Communities and Residents

According to the PPTA IEE, it was assumed to be less than 500 people or 90 household. Majority were those living near project sites or along hauling routes. The communication plan provides an overall strategy which sets out a mechanism to which the Solomon Power and other relevant agencies, primary beneficiaries, communities and other stakeholders (such as civil society organizations) can generate and receive project information in a timely fashion, exchange views, ideas and suggestions with regard to project policy, planning, project scoping, design and implementation including monitoring. Community elders and chiefs are required to facilitate discussion with their tribes on easement for distribution lines. Provide support to SP on GRM issues, identifying landowners, signing the MOU and ensuring smooth implementation of the project.

1.3. Purpose of report

This report provides project updates for the period of January to June 2019. It is prepared in line with the project administration manual and ADB SPS.

2. ACTIVITIES IN THE PERIOD AND MONITORING RESULTS

The procurement arrangement is Engineer, Procure and Construct (EPC) contract. The bidding process a single stage two envelope bidding process. The contract was awarded to CBS Power Solution and official signing of contract occurred in December 2018. Detail design for the Munda Solar Hybrid Project was completed and approved in February 2019.

2.1. Consultations

A summary of the consultation outcomes are shown in the table below.

Table 1: Consultations

Date	Stakeholders	Subproject	Comments
June 2019	Affected People	Kirakira	An inventory of non-lands assets was conducted including a census survey of affected people.
June 2019	Agriculture Extension officer	Kirakira	Compensation payments will be verified and approved by Agriculture Extension Office in Kirakira.
April	MID	Munda	SP discuss Munda cross road trenching with MID. Following the discussion and meetings an MOU between MID and SP signed.

April	Commissioner of Lands	Lata	Lata is currently being pursued with the Commissioner of Lands (COL) however an agreement is yet to be reached with SIBC. According to SIBC management, the company is awaiting legal advice from their Lawyer before responding to SP.
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2.2. Preparatory work

Activities	Status	Comments
UXO Surveys	UXO surveys were completed for both Munda and Tulagi sites. No UXO clearances required for Malu'u, Kirakira and Lata.	UXO were encountered at Munda.
Geo Tec Studies	Geo-Tec studies were completed for all sites except for Lata in Temotu Province by Astro Surveyors and Engineering Consultants	Lata pending. SP yet to acquire land.
Fencing and Topographic Survey	Fencing completed for Munda	Tulagi and Kirakira planned for September 2019
Acquisition	Land acquisition completed for Munda, Tulagi, Kirakira and Maluu.	Lata land pending. SIBC is awaiting advice from lawyers before responding to SP.

2.3. Construction

Project Site	Activities
Munda	Construction commenced on February 2019.

3. Implementation of Environment Safeguards

3.1. Development Consent

ECD issued development consent for the project following submission of the initial environment examination in 2016. Consent granted in February 2017 (See annex 2). SP had integrated the

requirements of the IEE/PER and consent conditions into the bid documents. SP and the contractor have complied to the consent conditions.

3.2. Safeguards Specialist

A consultant was engaged by SP recently in mid-December 2018 to manage safeguards work pursued under the capital works department. The TOR includes:

- Preparation of screening reports, proposal applications, Environment Social Management Plans and Public Environmental Reports for subprojects as required to meet requirements of the Environment Act 1998 and ADB SPS;
- Arrange public consultation to advise affected communities of the scope and scheduling of the subprojects;
- Arrange for EMP to be attach to Bid Document;
- Arrange for reports to be sent to the MECDM and ADB for evaluation. Following approval by the MECDM and the issuing of permits/approvals advise the SP and ADB of the approval;
- Evaluate and approve the SEMP and CEMP prepared by the contractors as a condition of the contract;
- Undertake regular site visits to independently monitor the contractor's compliance with the SEMP and CEMP.

3.3. Site Specific EMPs and CEMP

Following the signing of contract, CBS Power Solution the contractor conduct site visits and commence drafting of SEMP for each site as part of the CEMP. ADB and SP reviewed the CEMP and revert comments back to the contractor in April 2019. The contractor was advised to resubmit CEMP based on the detail design for each site. Since, there are no major changes made to the concept designs, the Munda SEMP was approved.

3.4. Monitoring

The project team carried out inspections including monitoring for Munda Solar Hybrid. The contractor was advised on every site meeting to be consistent with safety and environment management protocols and compliances to the SEMP and CEMP. There are no major environmental and social issues/concerns except for management of the GRM register. The contractor was asked to develop a GRM register and ensure grievances are properly recorded.

4. Implementation of Social Safeguards

4.1. Land's officer

Lands officer commence work in May 2019. The TOR include:

- Facilitate land acquisition processes for sites identified by the capital works division;
- Develop a Survey and Valuation plan for all the sites requiring acquisition;
- Ensuring all land are fully acquired and registered according to the Lands and Titles Act;
- Facilitation the registration process of all unregistered and newly acquired land;
- Ensuring a smooth transfer of title to SP;

- Inventory and costing of Non- Land assets; and
- Consultation and Census on Affected Person.

4.2. Land Acquisition

All sites for the project were acquired except for Lata. The table below provides updates of SP land tenure status.

4.3. Resettlement Plan

The PMU is scheduled to complete the update version of the RP in September 2019.

Table 2: Land Tenure Status

Project site with land acquisition requirement	Solomon Power Parcel	Area (ha)	Grantor/Leesor	Status	Premium	Rent per year
Munda (New Georgia Is. Western Province)	120-001-5	2.4998	Commissioner of Lands	Granted in Feb 2018	\$221,860.00	\$21, 186
Malu'u	134-002-89	0.2999	Commissioner of Lands	Granted in Feb 2018	\$4,022.45	\$402.00
Tulagi	181-003-239,	0.1425	Commissioner of Lands	Granted in May-2019	\$21,390.00	\$2,139.00
	181-003-240	0.1002	Commissioner of Lands	Granted in May 2019	\$15,030.00	\$1,503.00
	181-003-021	0.467	Commissioner of Lands	Granted in Mar-2018	\$81,021.00	\$8,102.00
Kirakira	252-001-9	0.3184	Premier, Makira/Ulawa Assembly	Granted in Oct-2017	\$23,104.00	\$1,848.32
	252-001-10	0.5299	Premier, Makira/Ulawa Assembly	Granted in Oct-2017	\$34,598.00	\$2,767.84
	252-001-11	0.4898	Premier, Makira/Ulawa Assembly	Granted in Oct-2017	\$ 28,252.00	\$2,260.00
	252-001-12	0.1489	Premier, Makira/Ulawa Assembly	Granted in Oct-2017	\$11,912.00	\$952.96
	252-001-13	0.1331	Premier, Makira/Ulawa Assembly	Granted in Oct-2017	\$10,648.00	\$851.84
	252-001-41	0.1729	Premier, Makira/Ulawa Assembly	Granted in Nov-2017	\$13,832.00	\$1,106.56

	252-001-42	0.1928	Premier, Makira/Ulawa Assembly	Granted in Nov-2017	\$15,424.00	\$1,233.92
	252-001-43	0.414	Premier, Makira/Ulawa Assembly	Granted in Nov-2017	\$28,840.00	\$2,307.20
Lata	Solomon Power yet to acquire land (Lot No: 268-002-0012-008)	0.789	Commissioner of Lands	Commissioner of lands has endorsed SP application. Negotiation with SIBC in progress.	TBC	TBC
ROW for Power Distribution Lines	The roads are already owned by the provinces		NA	All distribution lines are located on provincial lands except for Makira where the transmission pass through a private land. MOU with the owners completed.	NA	NA
Totals		6.6982			\$509,933.45	\$25,474.64

4.4. MOU

MOU between SP and MID regarding cross road trenching in Munda signed. Lata MOA does not eventuate and is subject to further negotiation with COL.

4.5. Gender initiatives

Gender specialist position formally advertised in February 2019. Following evaluation of the applications, four candidates were selected for interview. The selected candidate turn down the offer for the gender position including the second and the third candidates. The fourth candidates does not have enough experience on gender issues. A re-advertisement of the gender position was discussed and will soon rolled out. Gender awareness for Solomon Power previously planned rescheduled awaiting the specialist.

Solomon Power recruitment policy is equal opportunities for all people. Current disintegration of workers by gender in Solomon Power is eighty one (81) percent men and nineteen (19) percent women.

4.6. Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

SP understands the need to update the GRM to suit the context in each project site. SP GRM is summarized below.

- Affected People (AP) are in the first place to discuss their complaint directly with the Contractor's Project Engineer (PE) and entered in a registry. For straightforward complaints, the PE can make an on-the-spot determination to resolve the issue.
- For more complicated complaints, the PE forward the complaint to the SP Management. The Management has a maximum of seven days to resolve the complaint and convey a decision to the AP. The AP may if so desired, discuss the complaint directly with the SP Management. If the complaint of the AP is dismissed, the AP would be informed of their rights in taking it to the next step.
- AP may take the complaint to the Permanent Secretary (PS) in the MECDM who would appoint the Director of the ECD to review the complaint. The PS and Director have 15 days to make a determination.
- Once it is dismissed, the AP has the option to resort to national judicial system if they are not satisfied with the resolution at his/her own cost.

There are no formal complaints to SP regarding the project at this stage.

5. Summary of Safeguards Planned Activities

Activities	Date
Social Safeguards	
All title transfer completed (Lata)	November 2019

(Pending awaiting SIBC lawyers advise)	
Inventory and costing of Assets (land officer)	August 2019
Consultation and Census on Affected Person (land specialist)	August 2019
Update of RP report (land specialist)	Early September 2019
Environment Safeguards	
SEMPs for Kirakira, Maluu, and Tulagi	August 2019
SEMPs and CEMP SP review and approval	August 2019
Semi Annual Report July and December 2019	January 2020

Annex 1: MOU between MID and SP for road trenching



SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

AND

SOLOMON POWER

MAY 2019

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This **Memorandum of Agreement** (hereinafter referred to as “**Agreement**”) is entered into this 16th day of May 2019, at Honiara, Guadalcanal, by and between:

MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, with headquarter address located at Kukum Highway, Honiara, Solomon Islands, as represented by its Permanent Secretary, Stephen Maesiola (hereinafter called “**MID**”);

-And-

Solomon Islands Electricity Authority trading as **Solomon Power** with office address located at Ranadi Road, Prince Phillip Highway, Honiara, Solomon Islands, as represented by its Acting Chief Executive Officer, Martin Sam (hereinafter called “**Solomon Power**”);

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Solomon Power is seeking permission to excavate parts from Bosua (Munda Solar Site) to Kokegolo and road crossing (hereinafter called the “**Works**”);

WHEREAS, MID hereby allows Solomon Power to perform the Works in the specified road sites;

NOW THEREFORE, above premises considered, the Parties hereby commit themselves to perform their respective obligations under this Agreement:

I. Obligations of Solomon Power

1. MID Works Standards

Solomon Power will ensure that contractors engaged to perform the Works follow MID’s *Quality and Specifications for Road Maintenance 2013*;

On completion of the Works, Solomon Power will ensure that the road conditions are restored by its contractors into its original condition as they found it; in connection with this, restoration of road to its original condition must be included in the scope of works and bill of quantities;

In the restoration of the road into its original condition, Solomon Power will provide in their works contracts a clause pertaining to *Defects Liability Period* for a mandatory period of 12 months from completion of the works. The clause will provide that contractors are responsible for rectification of any defects found during the 12-month period at its own cost. If contractors failed to rectify the defects, MID will hold Solomon Power responsible for rectifying the defects at its (Solomon Power’s) cost and expense.

2. Avoidance of Interference

Solomon Power will ensure that traffic control measures are in place at all times to ensure the safety of both pedestrians and vehicular traffic, including the safety of contractor's workers, is not compromised;

Solomon Power will ensure that they do not interfere unnecessarily and improperly with the convenience of the public, or the access to and use and occupation of all roads and footpaths, irrespective of whether they are public or in possession of MID or others;

Solomon Power will ensure that traffic warning signs, lights, and alerts are erected in the right places in accordance with MID's *Traffic Management Guidelines*;

3. Responsibility and Accountability

Solomon Power and/or its contractors are jointly and severally responsible for the Works. Solomon Power will indemnify and hold MID harmless against and from all damages, losses and expenses (including legal fees and expenses) resulting from their negligence;

4. Working Hours

Solomon Power will perform its Works during the time period 9.00 am to 4.00 pm for weekdays and normal working hours (8.00 am to 5.00 pm) for weekends.

II Obligations of MID

1. Authority to Inspect Works

MID, its officers and personnel, reserves the right to inspect the Works performed by Solomon Power's contractors at any time in the exercise of its regulatory powers and functions;

2. Authority to Stop Work

In the exercise of its regulatory power and functions, MID, its officers and personnel, has the authority to instruct Solomon Power's contractors to stop work at any time if in their judgement MID's standards, requirements, and instructions have not been followed or satisfied;

I. Modifications; Disputes

1. Modification

The Parties may modify any part of this Agreement, in writing, by mutual agreement provided that any modification is strictly within or consistent with its *original scope, intents and purposes*.

2. Disputes

Disputes between the Parties, if any, shall be discussed and resolved amicably and expediently between and among themselves. Any and all parties shall exhaust all administrative remedies to resolve the dispute.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be signed in their names on the day and place above written.

**MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE
DEVELOPMENT**


Stephen Maesiola

Permanent Secretary, MIND



SOLOMON POWER



Martin Sam
Chief Executive Office (Ag)

Annex 2: Development Consent

Form 5

SECTIONS 22(3)(a) and 24(3)(a) DEVELOPMENT CONSENT

Pursuant to an application for development dated 3 February, 2017 this DEVELOPMENT CONSENT is issued to SOLOMON ISLANDS ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY to undertake the approved prescribed development in terms of section 22 of the Environment Act.

The approved prescribed development is SOLAR FARM and is located at MALITU (Malaita), MUNDA (Western), KIRAKIRA (Makira), LATA (Temotu) & TULAGU (Central).

The following conditions shall APPLY in addition to the conditions prescribed in these Regulations and in the Act.

1. This Development Consent is valid until such time as the abovementioned approved prescribed development is completed.
2. The holder of this Development Consent shall not undertake or cause to be undertaken any other development other than that.
3. This Development Consent is non-transferable.
4. The holder of this Development Consent, its agent, servants or officers shall permit the Director or Inspectors unhindered entry to any premises or location in which the prescribed development is situated and shall provide any assistance as the Director or Inspector may require.
5. The Director may at any time, vary or remove any conditions or restriction to this consent by notice in writing served on the holder of this consent.
6. The development proponent shall pay the prescribed consent fee on being granted the development consent.
7. The holder shall conduct the approved operations under the development consent only within the area of land specified herein.
8. The holder shall conduct the approved operations under the consent in a manner that complies with the conditions of this consent, the Environmental Management Plan, the Act and subsidiary legislation made under the Act and any safeguards defined herein.
9. The holder of consent must not directly or indirectly release wastewater or hazardous contaminants including hydrocarbons, fuel and oil to any watercourse, waterway or marine environment.
10. When establishing campsites, the holder of the consent must ensure that area and duration of disturbance to land, vegetation and watercourse is minimized.
11. The holder of consent must ensure areas of ecological, cultural or scientific importance such as rivers, streams, lagoons and wetlands on which local communities are dependant for their livelihood and socioeconomic wellbeing are protected unless no other feasible alternative options exist.
12. The holder of consent must ensure barriers of appropriate specifications are in place around areas of cultural and ecological importance or environmentally sensitive areas, to local communities including rivers, streams, gardens and tambu sites.