

## CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

<b>Organization's Legal Name:</b>	Wildlife Conservation Society HQ
<b>Project Title:</b>	Protecting the Upland Forests of Kolombangara in Solomon Islands
<b>Grant Number:</b>	CEPF-103948
<b>Hotspot:</b>	East Melanesian Islands
<b>Strategic Direction:</b>	1 Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas under-served by current conservation efforts
<b>Grant Amount:</b>	\$216,322.33
<b>Project Dates:</b>	June 01, 2018 - January 31, 2022
<b>Date of Report:</b>	February 24, 2022

### IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS):

- Program oversight and administration
- Training support to KIBCA on financial management systems
- Training support to KIBCA rangers on protocols for community engagement and managing safeguards
- Technical support for management plan development

Kolombangara Island Biodiversity Conservation Association (KIBCA):

- Direct engagement with landowning tribal groups through consultations on protected area establishment
- Kolombangara Island stakeholder coordination

### CONSERVATION IMPACTS

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
By May 2020 and beyond, customary landowners of Kolombangara are incentivized to comply with management rules and participate in associated conservation initiatives due to equitably accessed, tangible and perceived well-being benefits directly	Through this project, landowners now feel empowered to make decisions about the sustainable management of their forests and forest resources and are appreciative of this opportunity. They are well-positioned to receive tourist revenue through ecoguide touring and hosting, as a result of training under this grant.

<b>Impact Description</b>	<b>Impact Summary</b>
associated with formal designation of the Kolombangara Upland Forest protected area	

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

<b>Impact Description</b>	<b>Impact Summary</b>
By October 2018, KIBCA program management staff will be compliant with best practices for financial management and accountability and will be capable of delivering accurate financial and narrative reports on time.	WCS carried out financial systems management training with KIBCA in May 2019. They now have the proper systems in place to enable accountable and efficient program management. Subsequently, the WCS Fiji/Solomon Islands Finance Director provided support and mentoring to the KIBCA Coordinator and Finance Manager financial management to ensure compliance with donor and organizational policies and effective management of the CEPF subgrant.
By May 2020, KIBCA staff will be more effective in designing and implementing conservation action, as evidenced by their ability to create and follow program management tracking spreadsheets, successfully completed activities and deliverables under their sub-grant award on time, and strengthened partnerships with other agencies.	Our WCS Solomon Island Program Manager provided ongoing support and mentoring to the KIBCA Coordinator and Project Officer on project management to ensure effective delivery of activities under this grant. KIBCA submitted all narrative reports to WCS on time and are more frequently communicating with WCS staff regarding their workplan.
By May 2020, at least 6500 hectares of primary forest within the Kolombangara Upland Forest KBA on land under customary tenure will be formally protected	Although we have not yet achieved formal protection of the Kolombangara Upland Forest, the landowning tribes are committing to protect 5,850 hectares over 400 m and an additional 5,973 hectares below 400 m, for a total of 11,823 hectares.
By May 2019, over 400 residents of the 41 villages with ownership of customary land in the Kolombangara Upland Forest KBA over 400 m have improved awareness of the values of their forest biodiversity and associated ecosystem services and are aware of threats to these resources	Informal meetings were held with landowners in customary villages and awareness presentations were made on the values of forest biodiversity and associated ecosystems services, as well as threats. This provided increased awareness to 2,933 people, including approximately 1,507 males and 1,426 females.
By May 2020, KIBCA and Kolombangara residents operating ecolodges are trained to handle increased volumes of ecotourists, which provides incentives to long-term engagement in conservation	Fourteen residents of Kolombangara (3 males, 11 females) were trained in customer service, housekeeping, hygiene, cash management, and waste management, according to national tourism standards. Eleven KIBCA rangers and associates (9 males, 2 females) were trained in tour guiding skills using a new manual developed through this project.

### **Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?**

The project was interrupted and challenged by numerous events during the grant term, as reported in the six-monthly narrative reports. An initial challenge was the governance fracture within KLTF, reported in January 2019, which required the project partners to adapt plans for inclusion of KLTF as a project oversight body. A second challenge arose due to political interruptions during the lead up to the general election in 2019, during which time

project activities were paused while some tensions arose between KIBCA and KFPL and later resolved. There were additional challenges related to potential overlap in project scope between the CEPF project activities and those under the Global Environment Facility-funded Integrated Forest Management Project implemented by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). This required multiple discussions between WCS, KIBCA and FAO to clarify that WCS and KIBCA would continue to take the lead on protected area establishment within the customary lands of Kolombangara Island. Finally, there were unexpected impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. At the request of CEPF, we paused project activities in April 2020, even though there was no community transmission of COVID-19 in Solomon Islands at that time. We were only able to resume when there was a transition of CEPF Program Officers and we received approval to re-engage in field activities.

## **PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES**

### **Overall results of the project:**

The largest impact of the project has been the sustained improvement in KIBCA's capacity for program and financial systems management. Significant effort was invested in assessing capacity development needs and providing training and ongoing mentoring. As part of the preparation to build capacity of KIBCA staff in preparation for them to receive a sub-award from CEPF funding, WCS contracted Morris & Sojnocki to undertake an initial review of KIBCA's financial management systems, staff capacity and training needs, which was completed by November 2018 (Activity 2.1.3; Deliverable 2.1). WCS Global Finance team were engaged to develop a training curriculum focused on areas identified for improvement. WCS also updated the KIBCA Management Policy manual, incorporating feedback received from CEPF staff (Deliverable 2.2). In May 2019, WCS carried out training for KIBCA staff (1 male, 1 female) on the prepared curriculum (Deliverable 2.3). Topics covered included: review of changes to the manual; financial policies; book-keeping and record maintenance; procurement; maintaining assets; and grants management and reporting. WCS developed templates for KIBCA book-keeping and record maintenance, as well as a list of account codes, which they used in their CEPF financial reporting to WCS under the sub-award signed on August 31, 2020 (Deliverable 2.5). A second contract was provided to Morris & Sojnocki to reassess KIBCA's capacity following the training. In their evaluation report submitted in July 2019, they noted marked improvement (Deliverable 2.4).

Following execution of the sub-award, WCS also contracted accountants from Kolombangara Forest Products Ltd (KFPL), a Forest Stewardship Council certified logging operation on Kolombangara, to provide ongoing oversight of KIBCA's expenditures under this project. KFPL provided monthly reports to WCS on the state of KIBCA's financial management from September 2020 (Deliverable 2.6). During the period of implementation of the sub-award, the WCS Finance Director also had regular communication (through calls and emails) with the KIBCA management team to provide ongoing mentoring support. At the close of their contract, KFPL staff noted that "KIBCA is really doing well with management of funds." The contract from KFPL also enabled KIBCA and KFPL to forge closer relationships, which is critical as both are important institutions for the preservation of Kolombangara's island biodiversity. KIBCA's improved capacity was evident in their reassessment through the Civil Society Tracking Tool, wherein their score increased from 46 to 58.5.

WCS also helped to rebuild KIBCA's capacity for community engagement. With CEPF funding, KIBCA advertised and hired a full-time Project Officer to provide oversight to the protected area project and six rangers to lead community engagement. WCS supported KIBCA to develop a Community Engagement Protocol (Deliverable 3.3) and provided training in September 2020 on its contents to KIBCA staff and rangers prior to the start of formal consultations with landowners on protected area development. The training also

included a discussion of risks identified through the initial gender assessment (Deliverable 4.6), as well as how to communicate the project grievance mechanism (Activity 3.3.1).

Formal landowner consultations were initiated in October 2020. Prior to that and in accordance with government policy, formal tribal consultations were advertised with at least 30 days' notice through advertisements posted in the national newspapers (Island Sun, Solomon Star) and in villages on customary land (Activity 4.2.1). KIBCA rangers made scoping villages to each location where consultations would be held (Activity 4.2.2). Prior to the first tribal consultation, a partners' coordination meeting was held in Gizo, with representatives from KIBCA, WCS, Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership (SICCP), Ecological Solutions-Solomon Islands, Natural Resources Development Foundation (who have established protected areas in other parts of the country), Kolombangara Island Council of Chiefs and Kolombangara Landowners Trust Foundation (KLTF). In October 2020, the KIBCA Executive Committee endorsed the KIBCA protected area consultation program and work plan.

As an outcome of the formal tribal consultations, all groups except for the Ke-Viuru and Igoana clans expressed full support for the protected area. The Ke-Viuru and Igoana clans requested to hold further meetings at their villages for discussion, given low turnout to the meeting. A consultation was also held with Kolombangara landowners in the capital, Honiara. The Honiara-based landowners accepted the protected area proposal in principle, subject to the approval the tribes and communities living on Kolombangara Island.

There were some delays in revisiting landowners to advance formal consultations due to the need to obtain a project no-cost extension and to negotiate moving the management of cofinancing from Rainforest Trust from SICCP to WCS. Once landowner consultations got underway, staff from the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) suggested a radical change in approach during a meeting of the provisional management committee on September 30, 2021 (Activity 4.4.1). Agnetha Vave-Karamui of MECDM recommended to proceed with consultation and management plan development individually with separate tribes, based on learning and experience from protected area establishment on the islands of Choiseul and Malaita in Solomon Islands. KIBCA staff went right to work to establish separate provisional management committees (PMCs) for six landowning tribal groups willing to move forward with protected area development on their customary land. In November 2021, KIBCA facilitated a training for the office bearers (Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary) for PMCs from five tribes. A representative from MECDM was present to provide information on the content of the Solomon Islands Protected Areas Act and roles and responsibilities of PMC members with respect to protected area management. Ferguson Vaghi, the KIBCA Coordinator, presented the project grievance mechanism, as well as the fundamentals of land use planning and zoning. KIBCA staff met separately with representatives of the Lolobo tribe, who were not present at the November 2021 introductory meeting. KIBCA has allocated staff to work alongside the PMCs of each tribe to take forward the development of their respective management plans, and they have had follow-up meetings with each tribe.

In mid-January 2022, Solomon Islands began experiencing community transmission of COVID-19 for the first time. Subsequently, there has been widespread community transmission around the country, including in Western Province, and consultations have been put on pause. KIBCA staff are focusing on management plan development with the PMCs through remote communication in order to try to submit protected area application for up to seven landowning tribes (covering at least 11,823 ha of the Kolombangara Upland Forest Key Biodiversity Area) by the end of September 2022.

As landowner consultations progressed, WCS worked to provide support to KIBCA staff and Kolombangara Island residents to improve their capacity to host tourists. WCS contracted Solomon Host to carry out eco-tourism oriented hospitality training in April 2021 for 14 community residents (3 males, 11 females) of Kolombangara (Activities 5.3.1 and 5.3.2). Each participant received a certificate signed by the Permanent Secretary of Culture and Tourism and the Chairman of Tourism Solomons Board. WCS also contracted a consultant, Bjorn Svensson, to develop materials for ecoguide training and a handbook to support capacity building for ecotourism. The handbook was finalized (see products section below) and used to facilitate tour guide training for nine males and two females in December 2021.

**Results for each deliverable:**

<b>Component</b>		<b>Deliverable</b>		
<b>#</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Results for Deliverable</b>
1.0	Secure project endorsement from stakeholders	1.1	Powerpoint presentation describing feedback from scoping consultations and proposed project by June 2018	A powerpoint presentation was created showing: (1) feedback from the 2016-2017 scoping consultations; (2) a suggested roadmap for protected area development; and (3) the project grievance mechanism. The presentation was shown and the grievance mechanisms was endorsed at the KIBCA Executive Committee meeting on 16 August 2018 and at the Kolombangara stakeholder roundtable on 27 August 2018. The presentation was submitted with our January 2019 narrative report.
1.0	Secure project endorsement from stakeholders	1.2	Draft consent letter template by June 2018	Consent letters were signed on 27 August 2018 by Kolombangara stakeholders. They were uploaded with our January 2019 narrative report.
2.0	KIBCA institutional project and financial management strengthening	2.1	Report on assessment of KIBCA financial systems and training needs by August 2018	An assessment of KIBCA's financial management systems and capacity was completed by Morris & Sojnocki in November 2018 and uploaded with our January 2019 report.
2.0	KIBCA institutional project and financial management strengthening	2.2	Financial policies and procedures manual delivered to KIBCA by July 2018	WCS Global Finance staff reviewed and updated the KIBCA Management Policy manual, with particular attention to sections on management of finances. The draft was reviewed by CEPF staff, whose comments were incorporated into the final version, including coupled appendices that were endorsed by the KIBCA Executive Board in

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				July 2019. The manual was uploaded with our July 2019 report.
2.0	KIBCA institutional project and financial management strengthening	2.3	KIBCA administrative staff trained in financial management and compliance with CEPF and other donor procedures by September 2018	WCS carried out training for 2 KIBCA staff (1 male, 1 female) between May 8 and 10, 2019, in Munda. Topics covered included: review of changes to the manual; financial policies; book-keeping and record maintenance; procurement; assets maintenance; and grants management and recording. WCS developed templates for KIBCA book-keeping and records maintenance, as well as a list of account codes.
2.0	KIBCA institutional project and financial management strengthening	2.4	Report on KIBCA response to audit findings by November 2018	Morris & Sojnocki staff visited KIBCA staff in Ringgi on Kolombangara between June 5 and 6, 2019 to assess changes in their competencies as a result of the training. As documented in their evaluation report (uploaded with our July 2019 report), KIBCA demonstrated improved understanding of and ability to abide by financial management controls.
2.0	KIBCA institutional project and financial management strengthening	2.5	Signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and subgrant agreement between WCS and KIBCA by September 2018	A MoU was signed between WCS and KIBCA on 31 August 2018 and provided to CEPF with our January 2019 report.
3.0	CEPF project management and monitoring	3.1	CEPF financial and programmatic reports submitted on time and accurately throughout the project	WCS submitted project narrative and financial reports on time.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
3.0	CEPF project management and monitoring	3.2	Safeguard policies for indigenous peoples and involuntary resettlement implemented, monitored and reported to CEPF every 6 months to ensure full compliance throughout the project	WCS regularly monitored risks under safeguards and submitted safeguard reports on time.
3.0	CEPF project management and monitoring	3.4	Baseline and final evaluation of civil society tracking tool and gender tracking tool applied for KIBCA and WCS and sent to CEPF by June 2018	Baseline and final evaluation of CSTT and GTT were applied for KIBCA and submitted to CEPF.
3.0	CEPF project management and monitoring	3.5	Final impact monitoring report completed at project close by July 2020	This report represents the final completion report deliverable.
4.0	Formalize protection of Kolombangara Upland Forest over 400 m on customary land	4.1	Report prepared by WCS on roadmap for legal gazettal of protected area by September 2018	The roadmap for protected area development was incorporated into the powerpoint presentation in 1.1 and used for the ranger training under Activity 4.6.3.
4.0	Formalize protection of Kolombangara Upland Forest over 400 m on customary land	4.2	Signed meeting minutes and attendance lists from meetings in all 41 participating villages associated with customary land over 400 m collated by KIBCA by May 2019	Meeting minutes and attendance lists were kept from formal landowners consultations and uploaded with our January 2021 report.
4.0	Formalize protection of Kolombangara Upland	4.4	Draft management plan and budget produced according	As of the close of project, provisional management committees from seven landowning tribal groups are developing

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
	Forest over 400 m on customary land		to MECDM guidelines by August 2019	separate but linked management plans through further ongoing funding from Rainforest Trust.
4.0	Formalize protection of Kolombangara Upland Forest over 400 m on customary land	4.5	Submitted application for protected area designation of Kolombangara Upland Forest by September 2019	Because we received complementary funding from Rainforest Trust, which was somewhat delayed in contracting through WCS, there is continued support through 2023 for protected area establishment and management. The current target milestone date for submission of the protected area applications to MECDM is September 2022, however, it is anticipated that this may be further set back due to the recent COVID surge in Solomon Islands from January 2022.
5.0	Initiate conversations around benefit sharing with a focus on small-scale ecotourism	5.1	Ecotourism development plan and marketing strategy for Kolombangara Upland Forest developed and designed around revenue from small-scale ecotourism and researcher visits by December 2019	Given that closure of international borders due to COVID-19 shut down all opportunities for international ecotourism, we reoriented this activity away from creating a business and marketing plan. Instead, we contracted Bjorn Svensson to produce a tour guide training manual and facilitate training with KIBCA rangers and associates.
5.0	Initiate conversations around benefit sharing with a focus on small-scale ecotourism	5.2	Marketing strategy developed by December 2019	Through evaluation of current unfavorable conditions for ecotourism in Solomon Islands, we adapted our workplan and chose not to invest time and resources into the development of a marketing strategy, as there was no market during project implementation. We used the resources allocated to this activity to support development of the tour guide training manual and associated training.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
5.0	Initiate conversations around benefit sharing with a focus on small-scale ecotourism	5.3	Report on outcomes of hospitality training and handbook of tourism standards delivered by May 2020	A report on outcomes of hospitality training by Solomon Host was completed and submitted to WCS. We did not request to Solomon Host to deliver a handbook on standards – but they did use national standards as part of their training. Instead, international best practice standards were included in the tour guide training manual.
1.0	Secure project endorsement from stakeholders	1.3	Endorsement of project and complaints system through written letters by bodies that represent landowners (KIBCA and KLTF) by July 2018 and other stakeholders by August 2018	A consent letter from KIBCA was provided and uploaded with our January 2019 narrative report. We did not proceed trying to obtain a letter from KLTF given a governance fracture in the organization, which was described in our January 2019 report.
3.0	CEPF project management and monitoring	3.3	KIBCA community engagement protocol developed and endorsed, inclusive of complaints system by July 2018	WCS worked with KIBCA to develop a community engagement protocol. KIBCA rangers were trained on the community engagement protocol and complaints system in September 2020, prior to the start of formal landowner consultations.
4.0	Formalize protection of Kolombangara Upland Forest over 400 m on customary land	4.3	Map of agreed proposed protected area boundary by June 2019	At a meeting on Kolombangara in September 2021, staff from the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) advised our project partnership to adapt our approach and proceed with consultation and management plan development individually with separate landowning tribes on Kolombangara Island. This has necessitated developing separate management plans for up to seven new

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				protected areas, which can then be linked through a single overarching management framework. The new proposed areas to be submitted as protected area applications covering up to 11,823 ha.
2.0	KIBCA institutional project and financial management strengthening	2.6	Report on assessment of KIBCA financial systems and compliance with donor procedures by March 2020	WCS contracted accountants from Kolombangara Forest Products Ltd to provide financial oversight of KIBCA's expenditures under this project. KFPL provided monthly reports to WCS on the state of KIBCA's financial management from September 2020.
4.0	Formalize protection of Kolombangara Upland Forest over 400 m on customary land	4.6	Gender assessment delivered on potential impacts of protected area establishment, discussed with communities and used to adapt formal consultation protocols by January 2019	A report on the gender assessment undertaken by local consultant Miri Taqu was delivered to WCS in January 2019 and used to inform risk monitoring indicators that we tracked through our safeguards monitoring during project implementation. The report was uploaded with our January 2019 narrative report.
4.0	Formalize protection of Kolombangara Upland Forest over 400 m on customary land	4.7	Report on outcomes of training provided to provisional management committee members delivered by March 2019	An email detailing the outcomes of the training was submitted by KIBCA to WCS.

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

The suggested citation for the tour guide manual is:

Svensson, B (2022) Tour guide training manual – Solomon Islands. Wildlife Conservation Society, Munda.

<https://doi.org/10.19121/2022.Report.43122>

It has been uploaded under Other Information.

## 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.			1	KIBCA
4.4	Number of conservationists that demonstrate strengthened capacity in conservation management, science and leadership.			9	9 KIBCA staff, including KIBCA Coordinator, KIBCA Finance Manager, KIBCA Project Officer, and 6 KIBCA rangers
5.1	Number of civil society organizations that actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.			2	WCS, KIBCA (note that WCS may be double counted if including work in PNG)
5.2	Number of domestic civil society organizations receiving CEPF grants that demonstrate more effective capacity to design and implement			1	

<b>Portfolio Indicator Number</b>	<b>Portfolio Indicator Description</b>	<b>Expected Numerical Contribution</b>	<b>Expected Contribution Description</b>	<b>Actual Numerical Contribution</b>	<b>Actual Contribution Description</b>
	conservation actions.				
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.			2	WCS, KIBCA (note WCS may be double counted if including work in PNG)
1	Hectares in a key biodiversity area (KBA) with new or strengthened protection and management.			11,823	5,850 ha above 400 m and 5,973 ha below 400 m to be included in protected area applications to be submitted by seven landowning tribal groups
2	At least 100,000 hectares within production landscapes are managed for biodiversity conservation or sustainable use.				
6	At least 40 civil society organizations, including at least 30 domestic organizations, actively participate in conservation actions guided by			2	WCS, KIBCA (note that WCS might be double counted if it is considered also for work in PNG)

<b>Portfolio Indicator Number</b>	<b>Portfolio Indicator Description</b>	<b>Expected Numerical Contribution</b>	<b>Expected Contribution Description</b>	<b>Actual Numerical Contribution</b>	<b>Actual Contribution Description</b>
	the ecosystem profile.				
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	
1.4	Conservation incentives (ecotourism, payments for ecosystem services, conservation agreements, etc.) demonstrated for at least 5 priority sites.			1	
1.5	Number of communities targeted by site-based projects that show tangible well-being benefits.			33	Improved awareness and empowerment of landowners in 33 communities on customary land on Kolombangara Island
2.1	Number of CEPF priority sites where ownership and tenure rights within				

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	customary lands have been mapped				
2.3	Number of partnerships catalyzed between civil society organizations and natural resource companies to promote sustainable development through better environmental and social practices.				

## 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
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\*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
Kolombangara Upland Forest	SLB10		11,823

## 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
18	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Financial management and record-keeping training (2.3.2): May 2019 (1 M/ 1 F)</li> <li>- KIBCA capacity training on community engagement, FPIC, and gender risks (4.6.3): September 2020 (5M / 4F)</li> <li>- Hospitality training (5.3.2): April 2021 (3 M / 11F)</li> <li>- Tour guide training (5.3.3): December 2021 (9 M/ 2 F)</li> </ul>

- Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits
0	0	

## Benefits to Communities

View the <b>characteristics</b> column below with the following corresponding codes:	View the <b>benefits</b> 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				
Kaza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	153	147										
Hapi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	26	24										
Vovohe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	26	24										
Nusatuva	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	41	39										
Hillview	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	31	29										
Ravai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	21	19										
Lodugoroma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	8	7										
Kuzi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	102	98										

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				
Kalibae	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	51	49										
Korare	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	41	39										
Hunda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	51	49										
Ireke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	41	39										
Humbere	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	51	49										
Kena	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	255	245										
Pine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	26	24										
Votuana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	6	4										
Ghatere	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	102	98										
Iriri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	77	73										
Pepele	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	5	3										
Taghoapa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	21	19										
Titiana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	51	49										
Poporo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	51	49										
Golezavaga	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	9	8										

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				
Padobuni	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	6	4										
Iriva	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	31	29										
Sandfly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	41	39										
Patpaele	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	26	24										
Isavera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	11	9										
Fiu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	8	7										
Varu 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	51	49										
Varu 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	51	49										
Nusamahiri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	31	29										
Sausame	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solomon Islands	5	3										

**Characteristics of "Other" Communities:**

**Policies, Laws and Regulations**

View the <b>topics</b> 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

**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

**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
Kolombangara tribal landowning groups	2021	Solomon Islands	Yes	KIBCA has developed a network of the eight Kolombangara tribal landowning groups who are interested to move forward to establish protected areas on their customary lands. These conservation areas can then be linked through a single overarching management framework, and KIBCA can provide capacity and mentoring support to management and monitoring implementation by each management committee.

## 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?
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## 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
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## LESSONS LEARNED

Before KIBCA initiated formal landowner consultations to provide consent to protected area establishment, the rangers made pre-consultation visits to each community to respond to clarify expectations, encourage landowner participation across gender and demographic groups, and explain proposed outcomes of the protected area. These pre-meetings were much appreciated by landowners to better understand the expected benefits of engagement.

Following the change in approach to protected area consultation at the recommendation of the Government, the landowners were very pleased that they had the opportunity to democratically nominate their provisional management committee (PMC) members at the tribal level. They considered gender inclusion during their selection. During the PMC training, PMC members and village leaders expressed appreciation to KIBCA as they had never previously experienced a workshop of this type where they felt like they were charged with the authority to plan for the future usage of their resources. They also commented that had this approach been better understood in the past, it is likely that less forest would have been lost to date.

## SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

The project experienced some noted successes.

- (1) With improved capacity, KIBCA now has the confidence to lead and manage other projects.
- (2) We enabled strengthened relationships between island institutions (e.g., between KIBCA and KFPL) that are important for ensuring island-wide sustainable development. During the project, we wanted to facilitate an island-wide planning session with KIBCA, KFPL, KICC and KLTF, but this was postponed indefinitely due to border closures associated with COVID-19 restrictions.

The project also experienced some unanticipated challenges not foreseen during project development:

- (1) KLTF is an important island institution established to receive and direct funding towards the well-being of Kolombangara landowners. KLTF was set up to receive funds from the KFPL leased estate. Unfortunately, there was a significant governance fracture in KLTF during the first year of the project, which meant that WCS and KIBCA were unable to work with them directly to advise on project implementation.
- (2) Over three years into the project, MECDM staff changed their recommendation for how protected area development should proceed. Initially, they endorsed the idea of submitting a single protected area application for the forests over 400 m on customary land. In late 2021, they suggested a changed approach to develop protected area submissions for each tribal landowning group. This approach will require more time and resources to develop separate management plans and to figure out how to coordinate implementation. However, ultimately, working with individual landowning groups is likely to result in more local ownership over the management of the forests.

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

In January 2020, there were concerns of about a potential illegal logging incursion by a logging company above the 400 m contour on the customary land of the Viuru tribe. The project supported staff and rangers from the KIBCA to visit the site with an Environment Officer from MECDM to verify the encroachment. As a result of the visit, logging activity ceased.

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

### ADDITIONAL FUNDING

<b>Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)</b>	\$335,765.00
<b>Breakdown of Additional Funding</b>	Co-financing from Rainforest Trust of US\$335,765: Personnel: \$200,201 Travel: \$16,163 Workshops & Trainings: \$41,041 Protected Area Management: \$5,119 Equipment & Supplies: \$26,414 Operational Costs: \$26,398 Infrastructure: \$4,893 Professional Services: \$14,016 Declaration: \$1,520

### 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.

Wildlife Conservation Society. [solomonislands@wcs.org](mailto:solomonislands@wcs.org)