

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Organization Legal Name:	Solomon Islands Environmental Lawyers Association
Project Title:	Re-Launching Solomon Islands Environmental Law Association
Grant Number:	65856
CEPF Region:	East Melanesian Islands
Strategic Direction:	4 Increase local, national and regional capacity to conserve biodiversity through catalyzing civil society partnerships
Grant Amount:	\$79,995.00
Project Dates:	June 01, 2015 - December 31, 2018
Date of Report:	June 06, 2019

Implementation Partners

List each partner and explain how they were involved in the project

Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology.
Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
Environmental Defense Office
Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership
Solomon Islands Bar Association
Landowners Advocacy Legal Service Unit

Conservation Impacts

Summarize the overall impact of your project, describing how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

The overall results/impacts of the project are as follows ;

- 1. *SIELA is established and has a membership base of approximately 72 members that comprise of lawyers, non-lawyers and students.***
- 2. *SIELA has an effective internal governance system, hence have Governance policies and a Financial policies and procedures manual***

3. SIELA has facilitated a number of trainings and workshops, hence has strong networks with professionals and students in the environmental field as well as growing relationships with communities' in provincial areas.

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
1. To be a leading national environmental professional network.	During the three years of project implementation, SIELA developed its professional network to national partners; Ministry of Environmental, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) and Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR) and community partners with lead agencies such as Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership (SICCP). Its network has only been for information dissemination, but through its efforts to date it is not as yet the lead national environmental professional network.
2. To have strengthened the capacity of environmental professionals in Solomon Islands, through its membership-base and stakeholders, to improve development, implementation and enforcement of environmental law through training, information-sharing, advocacy and networking activities	SIELA has accomplished this Impact through the following project activities: 1. Environmental law trainings - a. Legal Policies Training for Solomon Islands National University (SINU) student (see Attachment 1: RSIP Training Report) b. Enforcement and Compliance Training for Enforcement Training (see Attachment 2: Enforcement and Compliance Training Report) c. Legal Training for Honiara City Council (see Attachment 3: HCC Training Report) d. Legal Training for Solomon Islands Rangers Association (see Attachment 4: SIRA Training Report) 2. Information sharing – a. SIELA attending Marovo trip with SICCP (see Attachment 5: SICCP_SIELA Marovo Trip Report) b. SIELA presentation at SINU (see Picture #1: SINU Presentation) c. SIELA attending three World Environmental Day events (see Picture #2: SIELA Participation at WED) d. SIELA attend National Symposium e. SIELA attend World Conservation Congress (see Attachment 6: SIELA_WCC Trip Report) 3. Advocacy and networking activities – a. SIELA meeting with Solomon Islands Bar Association b. SIELA meeting with MECDM
3. To be a sustainable and growing organization (in size and capacity) that has strong networks with professionals and students in the environmental field as well as growing relationships with communities in provincial areas.	SIELA did accomplish a membership base of students and professional that are studying and work in the environmental field. Workshops and Training sessions have been conducted by SIELA for the members, with an opportunity too to grow relationships with communities in provincial areas. Upon completion of this project, SIELA has attained some degree of

	sustainability and with the surge of interest by practitioners in the field of environment the Organisation is gradually growing.
4. SIELA to have strong internal government systems.	SIELA has developed strong internal governance throughout the duration of this project; a. SIELA Project Coordinator (then) attended a MYOB Training and begun work with MYOB. (see Attachment 7: MYOB Completion Cert) b. SIELA has a Work Policies and Procedures document (see Attachment 8: SIELA Work Policies and Procedure Document) c. SIELA has a Financial Policies and Procedures Manual (see Attachment 9: SIELA Financial Policies and Procedures Manual)


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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
1 "By the end of 6-months, SIELA will have in place a full time coordinator, and an equipped and fully functional office in Honiara for its activities."	Accomplished. SIELA was awarded this Grant in March 2015, and by November 2015 a Project Coordinator was in place to work in an equipped and fully functional office. Office was and still is within the Solomon Islands Public Solicitors Office
10 By the end of 12-months, SIELA will have consulted at least 6 NGOs or businesses (preferably some of each) and 3 Government Ministries operating in the environmental sector about issues, gaps and opportunities for SIELA to contribute in	This activity was accomplished in 2016 – 2017. SIELA have consulted at least 4 NGOs (WorldFish, The Nature Conservancy, Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership, Worldwide Fund for Nature). These are the only four NGOs operating in the environmental sector and 3 Government Ministries: MECDM, MFMR and Ministry of Police and Justice.
11 By the end of March 2015, SIELA will have prepared a discussion paper for its Green Council and members to consider. Green Council member, general members and stakeholders will be asked to provide feedback	This activity was accomplished. It was in July 2015, when the Strategic Plan was the discussion paper for the Green Council and members to consider.
12 By the end of 2015, SIELA will have a strategic plan for the following approximately two years which reflects the results of its member survey and stakeholder consultations and any other lessons learned in its first two years of operation. This strategic plan will assist SIELA in seeking further funding for the future	This activity was accomplished. It was in July 2015, facilitated by Emily Long (LALSU Volunteer) when the Strategic Plan was completed. The Strategic Plan is for three years, and the Plan has assisted SIELA in seeking further funding for the future. (see Attachment 13: SIELA Strategic Plan)
2 By December 2015, SIELA will have developed at least one workplace policy for its employees and volunteers	This activity was delayed. And it was until October 2016, when SIELA have developed its Work policy document for employees and volunteers.
3 "By December 2015, SIELA will have reviewed its constitution to identify any	This activity is delayed. And it was until June – August 2018, when the SIELA Constitution was reviewed by the

regulations and/or guidelines identified as necessary and will have implemented at least 50% of these recommendations."	SIELA Part Time Coordinator. It was identified during this review, that there will be at least 50% of these recommendations which will be endorsed at the an AGM in 2019.
4 By the end of 2016, SIELA will have facilitated and coordinated at least two AGMs for its members and held at least six Green Council meetings	By 2016, SIELA has completed one AGM for its members and have held at least six Green Council meetings. The AGM in 2016 provided updates on SIELA's developments to the membership and interested persons and the Green Council meetings have provided a platform for the Board to discuss the progress of SIELA, and source for future partnerships, collaborations and a source of funding.
5 "By the end of six months, SIELA will have improved its organisational profile by establishing an online web presence (e.g. facebook) for information sharing, outreach and advocacy for members and the general public. This will be regularly updated and monitored by a SIELA member and/or employee"	This activity was delayed, but accomplished. By, 2016 SIELA has a Facebook page for information sharing, outreach and advocacy. (see link) @solomonislandsenvironmentallawassociation on Facebook
6 "By the end of 2016, SIELA will have improved its organisational profile by promoting its activities through print-media, by publishing at least three press releases about its activities"	This activity was accomplished. By 2016, SIELA has published three newspaper articles through the national papers (Solomon Star & Island Sun). (see Attachments: Paper Articles x3)
7 "By the end of 2016, SIELA will have at least 50 members, forming a diverse and multi-disciplinary network comprising members from government, private legal practice, private businesses, non-governmental organisations, academia and students."	This activity was accomplished. By end of 2016, SIELA have at least 50 members that represent a multi-disciplinary network (Government, Private legal practice, Non-government, academia & students).
8 By the end of 2015, SIELA will have conducted a capacity/training needs survey/assessment of its members.	This activity was accomplished however delayed. By 2016, SIELA Project coordinator conducted a capacity/training needs survey/assessment.
9 "By the end of 2016, SIELA will have organised at least one identified training program or at least two lectures and/or seminars and/or forums for its members and stakeholders."	This activity was accomplished. By end of 2016, SIELA has organised and undertook a training with the Enforcement Agencies (see Attachment #2), and one seminar at the Solomon Islands National University.

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

The success towards achieving the short-term impacts of this Project is as follows;



- SIELA has broadened its network through the membership base, and also making connections with key stakeholders in the environmental sector such as the Government Ministries, LALSU and Non-government Organisations.

The challenges towards achieving the short term impacts are;

- SIELA Green Council consists of experts who have their respective jobs, so to bring them together at meetings can be challenging.

- Donor reporting on time has been challenging, therefore to have funds in time to implement activities can delay.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

There were no unexpected impacts (positive or negative) that happened during the course of the Project.

Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
10	SIELA is taking on a potential role in the Protected Area Act Process, working closely with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM).	10.1	JULY AMENDMENT 2017 Establish a link with MECDM as the lead facilitator in the PAA 2010.	This activity was completed. SIELA Chairperson did conduct a session with MECDM staff to seek the possibility of SIELA to take on a lead facilitator role in the PAA 2010.
4	Identify training needs of members and relevant stakeholders.	4.3	JULY AMENDMENT 2017 Part Time Lawyer is engaged to undertake Training sessions within the SIELA Membership and beyond.	This activity was accomplished. A Part Time Lawyer was engaged in May – August 2018. This personal undertook the following roles; 1. Assisted Green Council in the Legal Policies and Procedures training for the Honiara City Council. 2. Review the SIELA Constitution (see Contract of Part Time Coordinator)
6	Achieve medium-term financial sustainability JULY AMENDMENT 2017 SIELA conducts a Financial Audit at the end of the SIELA FY Financial Year.	6.2	JULY AMENDMENT 2017 Financial Audit will be conducted to verify improved financial management for SIELA.	An Audit was completed at the close of this Grant, and the Audit Report will be attached
6	Achieve	6.3	JULY	A Fundraising Strategy for SIELA was completed with

	medium-term financial sustainability JULY AMENDMENT 2017 SIELA conducts a Financial Audit at the end of the SIELA FY Financial Year.		AMENDMENT 2017 Develop a Fundraising Strategy for SIELA	technical assistance from EDO (NSW). Attached with this Report is SIELA's Financial Strategy.
9	Monitor organizational capacity of SIELA JULY AMENDMENT 2017	9.2	JULY AMENDMENT 2017 Compliance with Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) social safeguard policies, monitoring and reported	SIELA did comply to the CEPF Social Safeguard Policies and Monitoring.
9	Monitor organizational capacity of SIELA JULY AMENDMENT 2017	9.3	JULY AMENDMENT 2017 Demonstrated increase in organizational capacity of SIELA, demonstrated by an Evaluation to Assess Compliance as stated in the Manual Procedure.	As per an evaluation conducted on SIELA's capacity to date (see final CSTT - to show an increase). There is evidence of a demonstrated increase in the organisational capacity of SIELA.
10	SIELA is taking on a potential role in the Protected Area Act Process,	10.2	JULY AMENDMENT 2017 SIELA performs its role in the PAA	This activity was accomplished. SIELA did undertake an active role in the PAA 2010 with Zaira Community in the Western part of the Solomon Islands. This activity did involve a series of sessions, where the community completed Templates 1 - 10 of the PAA 2010 in

	working closely with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM).		2010.	partnership with SICCP. See attached are the field trip reports.
11	JULY AMENDMENT 2017 The “Green Council” receives at least x2 Leadership and Governance Training so they are equipped with the skills and knowledge set to undertake their primary role in excelling the Strategic Direction of SIELA.	11.1	JULY AMENDMENT 2017 Green council receives at least two (2) Governance and leadership training	Green Council did complete this activity, and it was evident that SIELA completed at least (2) Governance and Leadership Training. One training was with Global Leadership (Australia) and another with Development Services Exchange Solomon Islands.
1	Establish SIELA as a basic, functioning organisation. Merge the role of the project coordinator and lawyer.	1.1	Employment contract and terms of reference for new administrator/ coordinator	A Coordinator was recruited for the period November 2015 - January 2018. Ms. Lawrence primary roles was to lead the implementation of this project, assist Green Council with meetings and workshops, maintain the membership base of SIELA and working closely with the Green Council source for new funding, establish/develop new partners and collaborations. See Attachment #1_PC Contract
1	Establish SIELA as a basic, functioning organisation. Merge the role of the project coordinator and lawyer.	1.2	Coordinator contact details at SIELA office space and office inventory	SIELA office space and office inventory was in an secured space next to the Public Solicitors Office, at the Lili Clothings' Building in Honiara.
1	Establish SIELA as a basic, functioning	1.3	Part time coordinator / lawyer	Activity accomplished.A Part Time Coordinator lawyer was recruited in May – August 2018. This Coordinator completed the two activities;

	organisation. Merge the role of the project coordinator and lawyer.		(merging both roles of Coordinator & lawyer) to facilitate at least one workshop and revise the SIELA constitution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - facilitated at the Legal Policies and Procedures Training for the Honiara City Council (See Attachment #2_Group Photo of HCC Training] - Revised the SIELA Constitution.
2	Strengthen internal governance of SIELA	2.1	Report from trainer or certificate of completion of training activities undertaken by coordinator	The Project Coordinator completed this activity and confirmed with a Certificate that she attended the SISBEC MYOB Training.
2	Strengthen internal governance of SIELA	2.2	Report summarising adopted financial management practices	During a Green Council meeting, the Project Coordinator confirmed adopting the Financial management practices.
2	Strengthen internal governance of SIELA	2.3	Regular Minutes /Reports of AGM and Green Council meetings	Completed. During the project implementation, there were __ Green Council meetings and one AGM. See attached are the AGM (2016) Minutes: Attachment #12a and the Green Council Meetings
2	Strengthen internal governance of SIELA	2.4	Record of recommendations for Constitutional changes (if any)	See attached is the revised Constitution, as proof of the record of recommendations for Constitutional changes. (See Attachment 3: SIELA Revised Constitution)
2	Strengthen internal governance of SIELA	2.5	Record of approved/endorsed SIELA regulations by Council and members (if any)	See attached is SIELA Governance documents; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work Policies and Procedures (Attachment 4) 2. SIELA Financial Policies and Procedures (Attachment 5)
2	Strengthen internal	2.6	Endorsed employee	Completed. See attached is the SIELA Work Policies and Procedures document (Attachment 4)

	governance of SIELA		/workplace policies	
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary membership base of at least 50-members	3.1	Demonstrable website/social media profile showing regular updates and 'posts'	Completed. EDO (NSW) assisted SIELA and a website page was developed. This page is yet to be finalized and launched, therefore there is no proof to show regular updates. Meanwhile, a Facebook page was developed and to show are regular updates and 'posts'
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary membership base of at least 50-members	3.2	Membership registry record	Completed. There is a record of the membership registry record as of January 2018.
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary membership base of at least 50-members	3.3	Report on member-participation	Completed. See attached is Report on the SIELA Membership.
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary membership base of at least 50-members	3.4	Copies of communications and any Training or awareness, materials published	Awareness materials that have been developed during project implementation are as follows; 1. Organizational Banner 2. T- Shirts 3. SIELA Brochure
7	Build an engaged, multidisciplinary membership base of at least 50-members"	7.1	Monitor changes in environmental laws or policies and update members	This activity was conducted as part of the trainings/workshops that SIELA facilitated. However, there was no direct communication with the Solomon Islands Law Reform Commission.
8	Develop a strategic plan that reflects the interests of members and stakeholders	8.1	Endorsed SIELA Strategic plan	Completed. See attached is the SIELA Strategic Plan
9	Monitor organizational capacity of SIELA JULY	9.1	Strengthened organizational capacity of SIELA, as	This activity was completed. The Civil Society Tracking Tool is as attached.

	AMENDMENT 2017		evidenced by comparison of civil society tracking tool scores at project start and end	
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary membership base of at least 50-members	3.5	Brochure about SIELA for distribution	Completed. There is a Brochure for SIELA, that has been disseminated to the members and the wider audience of SIELA: See Attachment #7_Brochure
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary membership base of at least 50-members	3.6	Report documenting launch event, including records of any new members who joined at event	The launch event has been completed, and a Report has been completed with evidence of new members and continuing members for SIELA. See Attachment #8_Launch Report
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary membership base of at least 50-members	3.7	Three published press-releases	During project implementation, there have been at least three published press releases of SIELA activities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SIELA Honiara City Council Training (Attachment #9) 2. SIELA Enforcement Compliance Training (Attachment # 10) 3. SIELA Crime Manual Training with RSIP (Attachment #11) 3. SIELA Environmental Crime Manual Training for RSIP
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary membership base of at least 50-members	3.8	Create opportunities for interested people to join SIELA	During project implementation, through awareness and advocacy sessions held these has created opportunities for people to join SIELA. It is evident as shown in the increase of members since.
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary membership base of at least 50-members	3.9	Logo for use on all communications	Activity completed. There is a SIELA logo for all communications.
3	Build an engaged, multi-disciplinary	3.10	Inventory and examples of basic	Activity accomplished. There is an inventory and examples list (see attached) of SIELA's merchandise. (see Attachment #6: SIELA Inventory List)

	membership base of at least 50-members		merchandise	
4	Identify training needs of members and relevant stakeholders.	4.1	Report of results of membership survey concerning training needs	Completed. There is a Report of results of membership survey concerning their Training needs. See Attachment #13.
4	Identify training needs of members and relevant stakeholders.	4.2	Reports summarising at least one training event or two lectures and/or forums (depending upon identified member wishes), including records of attendance	This activity was accomplished. By end of 2016, SIELA has organised and undertook a training with the Enforcement Agencies (see Attachment #2), and one seminar at the Solomon Islands National University.
5	Build relationships with and capacity of SIELA to engage with members, professionals, communities and stakeholders in other provinces	5.1	Report of activities and outcomes one pilot engagement trip to a province	A pilot engagement trip was conducted to the Western part of the Solomon Islands. Errinah Lawrence, the Coordinator accompanied the SICCP Team on this trip. See attached is the Field Trip Report.
6	Achieve medium-term financial sustainability JULY AMENDMENT 2017 SIELA conducts a Financial Audit at the end of the	6.1	Project plans	This activity is Completed. The project was rolled out as planned, and amendments were completed by the close of the project.

	SIELA FY Financial Year.			
12	Contract a Part Time Lawyer who will work closely with the Project Coordinator under the guidance of the Green Council on the implementation of the awareness and advocacy sessions within the community based resource management Network.	12.1	Part time lawyer/coordinator to undertake a revision of the SIELA constitution	Part Time Lawyer/Coordinator did undertake this activity which involved a revision of the SIELA Constitution. See attached is the revised Constitution.

Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

The products that have resulted from this project is the Governance Policies for the Organization and the Financial Policies and Procedures Manual

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

PROJECT DESIGN:

The lessons learnt were as follows;

- There was no baseline information obtained on Solomon Islands Environmental legal sector, so activities of this project did not really reflect the gaps/needs of legal sector.

- There were no initial consultations with relevant stakeholders/partners of SIELA, hence some activities were not too relevant at some point.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

- Green Council members had their respective schedules so to maintain the interest in the Association was challenging.

- To gauge the interest of the Law professionals in the project implementation is challenging, because of their busy schedules.

- The departure of the Project Coordinator ¾ way through the project, slowed the implementation of the final activities of this Project.

Sustainability / Replication

Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

SIELA was able to participate at activities at the community, provincial and national level, where the wider community were introduced the environmental related laws. SIELA facilitated trainings for key stakeholders such as RSIP & the Honiara City Council has broadened SIELA scope to work with partner beyond the environmental sector.

Safeguards

If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards

This Project is a Capacity Grant so there was no required social, environmental or pest management safeguards actions required.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF

Though the challenging, SIELA is a growing Organisation. With this Capacity Grant, it is evident that SIELA now has a membership base and has broadened its network throughout the Solomon Islands, and at the regional level. There is opportunity for such an entity to fill in the gap in environmental law, hence be active in the Protected Area Act process, providing recommendations/inputs to law reforms and most importantly be that environmental entity to assess developments affecting Solomon Islands natural surroundings.

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

Total additional funding (US\$)

\$0.00

Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

1. Please include your full contact details (Name, Organization, Mailing address, Telephone number, E-mail address) below

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