

## CEPF Final Project Completion Report

<b>Organization Legal Name:</b>	World Wide Fund for Nature - Solomon Islands
<b>Project Title:</b>	Adopting a Ridges to Reef Planning Framework on the islands of Ghizo and Kolombangara in the Solomon Islands (Phase 2)
<b>Grant Number:</b>	65964
<b>CEPF Region:</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>	\$105,050.00
<b>Project Dates:</b>	July 01, 2016 - March 31, 2018
<b>Date of Report:</b>	June 01, 2018

### Implementation Partners

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

**WWF has established partnership with local CSOs, Non-Government environmental organizations and Government stakeholders in this project. These partnerships were made concrete following direct and indirect involvement of these organizations in the activities of the project. Listed below are some of the organizations that have supported WWF in the implementation. Local Partners: Ghizo Environment Livelihood Conservation Association, Kolombangara Island Biodiversity Conservation Association Ecological Solution Solomon Islands, the Western Provincial Government, Church Organizations, and Local Media group.**

**GELCA and KIBCA got involved in the project through their engagement in awareness raising, leading in facilitating community consultations and supporting the participatory resource mapping exercises. ESSI is WWF's lead implementing partner organisations. They have assisted WWF with technical expertise in this R2R conservation strategy. The Western Provincial Government and other Line ministries from the Solomon Islands Government were consulted to support and recognize the overall R2R Conservation Plan Document as a Framework for planning, decision making regarding the use of natural resources and also policy development.**

### Conservation Impacts

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

**As a result of the increased awareness and the actual implementation of phase 2, the capacities of WWF and implementing partners and stakeholders have increased and there is a better understanding on the importance of the resource mapping work, the holistic approach to conservation, and the significance of the conservation plan document as a framework for decision making and planning within Western Province.**

**The collaborative effort has also strengthened WWF's relationship with local communities, CSOs, partner NGOs, Western Provincial Government and also other Government Stakeholders.**

**This initiative has also promoted conservation and cooperation for integrated actions among local stakeholders including the local key resource people from the communities around both islands. It also brought forth the realization on the need for more conservation efforts in the terrestrial environment to support current marine resources management initiatives in various sites on both Ghizo and Kolombangara islands.**

**The mapping work also;**

- **Assisted people to realize how their marine resources conservation/management efforts are undermined by incompatible land based development activities such as commercial logging and mining. Similarly, local resource owners enhanced their cognizance on factors causing fragmentations of natural ecosystems such as forests, the interconnectivity between the terrestrial and marine environments, diminution of ecological services and values, and how the reduction in ecological goods and services will negatively impact human wellbeing and livelihood.**
- **Increased awareness and capacity building amongst stakeholders and community groups on the important roles that resource management play in natural resource conservation, community wellbeing, livelihood and the natural systems' resiliency against climate change associated threats and those that arise due to the proliferation in human needs and wants**

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beyond 2020, to have increased informed and improved decision making over the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in the Western Province, and to link this to Solomon Islands National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP) and to other relevant national commitments including Solomon Islands' Coral Triangle Initiative National Plan of Action.</li> </ul>	<p>The development of the conservation plan document builds a framework for planning and decision making concerning conservation and sustainable development for these two islands. This increases the ability of the Western Provincial Government and resource owners to make sound decisions that support in achieving NBSAP strategic priority 2 and also contribute to achieving what is envisioned under the SI Coral Triangle Initiative National Plan of Action, which emphasizes more on people centered natural resource management and conservation planning. The support and recognition gained from key government stakeholders, partner NGOs (church groups included) and CSOs have indicated the likelihood that the</p>

	conservation plan document will be effectively utilized as a planning framework by 2020 and beyond.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beyond 2020, to have increased stakeholder and partnership collaboration in working toward long term marine and terrestrial management with informed and transparent decision making pertaining to resource use and sustainable development on Kolombangara and Ghizo Island.</li> </ul>	The initial phase of this project was focused on increasing education, awareness and capacity building on R2R conservation planning. The majority of the planned long-term impacts will not be realized until after an implementation phase. It is therefore anticipated that continued R2R work in Western Province will work towards achieving stated long-term impacts. However, early steps in progressing towards long-term impacts were made during this introductory phase where support of key stakeholders were gained for a more integrated conservation approach; awareness amongst key stakeholders on the benefits and utility of such an approach has increased; and capacity has been built, enabling key stakeholders to be more involved in future R2R activities that will aim to achieve more lasting impacts.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2020, key marine and terrestrial habitats in Ghizo &amp; Kolombangara islands are protected and under effective management through the implementation of Ridges to Reef conservation planning in the Western Province.</li> </ul>	With the conservation plan document in place, natural terrestrial and marine habitats on Kolombangara and Ghizo island are now placed be in a better position for effective protection and management. This will not be realized until after an implementation phase.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2020, through the implementation of a comprehensive ridge to reef conservation plans the communities of Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands are benefiting from increased food security, income and livelihoods.</li> </ul>	This phase only involves planning for better use of natural resources, and promotion of sustainable development, thus implementation of a comprehensive ridges to reef conservation plan will only be achievable once an opportunity for an implementing phase is granted. At this stage the positive impacts of better conservation planning is not tangible in people's food security, income and livelihood.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2020, to have increased resilience of communities and natural habitats to climate change and its cascading environmental impacts, through the implementation of R2R Conservation Plans, for Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands, and ultimately for all of the communities in the Western Province.</li> </ul>	Early steps in progressing towards long-term impacts were made during this introductory phase: support of key stakeholders was gained for a more integrated conservation approach; awareness amongst key stakeholders on the benefits and utility of such an approach has increased; and capacity has been built, enabling key stakeholders to be more involved in future R2R activities that will aim to achieve more lasting impacts such as increasing the resilience of local communities and natural habitats to climate change and so forth.

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2017 there is an action plan developed on the level of collaboration</li> </ul>	No action plan was developed in this phase. It was envisioned that based on the conservation plan

<p>and partnership with key stakeholders at the community, Government, local NGO's (KIBCA, GELCA, ESSI, SICCP, NRDF, TDA) and Industry organizations and with International NGO's (TNC, WordFish, WCS, AMNH (level that will result in the increased level of awareness, understanding and practice of the R2R approach for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands.</p>	<p>document produced, stakeholders would discuss to collaboratively draw up an action plan for implementation in phase 3 of the project should there be an opportunity for continuation. Had this been done, key stakeholders at all levels would escalate their understanding, awareness and practice of the R2R approach on Ghizo and Kolombangara.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2017, there are sufficient data sets and resource maps available to guide community leaders and resource owners of Ghizo and Kolombangara towards the applying of the R2R approach in their plans and ultimately the sustainable use of their natural resources.</li> </ul>	<p>Resource maps along with datasets of threats and ecological values were made available shortly after the participatory resource mapping exercises. All these were incorporated into the Conservation Plan document which is now available to be used as a guide for natural resource use on both focus islands. KIBCA as a leading CSO for biodiversity protection on the island of Kolombangara, is preparing to utilize the information found in the conservation document to guide conservation efforts and natural resource use on the island. Ghizo would do likewise should there be an opportunity.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2017, there is an increased level of awareness of the R2R approach for the community members in the 11 villages of Ghizo island and Gizo town and the 9 major settlements and 85 villages of Kolombangara Island as a result of the capacity building provided by KIBCA and GELCA which will result in the better understanding of the connectivity of the marine and terrestrial ecosystems and also the better management of these systems.</li> </ul>	<p>Through the series of awareness raising activities on both islands, the local community people have since increased their level awareness and knowledge on the R2R conservation concept, and similarly the connectivity between natural systems in the marine and terrestrial environment and the ecosystem services that the natural environment is providing for them. They also have a greater understanding on the role their environment plays in supporting livelihoods, foods security, and essential services for human well being. Thus they are now in a position to better manage their environment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By end of 2017, indirect and direct beneficiaries from the R2R project on Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands are documented for monitoring.</li> </ul>	<p>Direct and indirect benefits of project activities have been documented as WWF team keeps record of participants in awareness sessions, workshops and training on both islands.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By the completion of Phase 2, GELCA has the capacity and is functioning as a reliable local NGO, with the ability to self-fundraise and successfully conduct work activities on behalf of other NGOs to Ghizo communities and donors satisfaction.</li> </ul>	<p>GELCA is still a long way to function as an NGO since they lack commitment and capacity to be one although they have over years received a number of capacity building from WWF, and various stakeholders and partners within WWF's network. The capacity amongst GELCA youths have greatly increased through their direct involvement in activities carried out in this phase of the project. So despite the challenge with commitment from members, GELCA now have a greater ability to take the lead in advocacy and processes of</p>

	implementing the Conservation plan for Ghizo Island.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By the completion of Phase 2, have increased knowledge of R2R conservation strategies and support among national and provincial government departments, industry representatives, and communities for the development of R2R Conservation Plans (anticipated for Phase 3) for both Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands.</li> </ul>	Increased involvement of government stakeholders in all capacity building workshops and awareness activities in the initial and current project phase have greatly increased the stakeholders understanding and knowledge on this integrated conservation approach and has also drawn much support among relevant Western Provincial and national government stakeholders. Government stakeholders have expressed their support towards this conservation planning on Ghizo and Kolombangara in writing and other stakeholders have done likewise verbally and practically.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By the last quarter of Phase 2, 2017, WWF to be fully engaged with key partners and supporting stakeholders, and developed an action plan to guide future R2R planning (Phase 3 –R2R Conservation Plans creation and implementation for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands), progressing towards achieving the project’s long-term goals.</li> </ul>	Full engagement with key implementing partners was evident since the start of this project phase. WWF's primary project stakeholders would have already cemented a plan for the implementation phase to achieve long term goals had an opportunity was given for phase 3.

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

**Successes**

- **Despite modifications made to timeframes due to delay in implementing a couple of key activities in this phase 2, WWF staff managed to carry out all activities successfully and deliverables were achieved. This is accredited to WWF’s staff strong adaptive management capabilities.**
- **Awareness conducted were deemed successful as stakeholders, partners, local community and the general public have increased their knowledge and understanding on the interconnectedness of the terrestrial and marine environments.**
- **WWF has received extensive support from partners and stakeholders towards the R2R conservation planning as a management strategy for the two islands and already other islands have expressed their interest to replicate this conservation management approach on their islands. The Western Provincial Government has expressed their support and recognition towards the R2R conservation planning document through the provincial Environment Department in writing. Other relevant government stakeholders have done likewise.**
- **Relationship with partners and stakeholders and local CSOs on Kolombangara and Ghizo were strengthened further through the collaborative effort. This strong working relationship has enabled WWF team to successfully conduct project activities. The close working partnership with KIBCA and GELCA has enabled WWF to build and enhanced the capacity of KIBCA rangers and GELCA community facilitators to better support their local communities in any conservation planning.**

- WWF with the support of key partner organization, the Ecological Solution Solomon Islands (ESSI), have successfully launched the R2R report for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands

#### Challenges

Various obstacles and challenges experienced have resulted in WWF team not able to implement project and achieve project activities in the planned timeframe.

- Scheduling around the availability of partners and community groups caused delays and interruptions to planned project timeframes. The delay in the printing of awareness materials to be used by local facilitators for messaging presented an obstacle to conduct community consultations within the proposed timeframes. Creation of the final resource maps were also delayed due to the busy schedule of the hired GIS consultant. This resulted in WWF team having to spend more time going back and forth correspondences with the consultant to have the data finalized to produce the anticipated maps.
- Working with inter-provincial partners has been and continuous to be a challenge for WWF. The various government departments demonstrated only limited support during the course of implementation, however, government support was only limited to certain relevant departments within the Western Provincial Departments.
- Weather is another factor that greatly impacts the implementation of project activities as travel to most communities is usually done by boat. However, with number of years working in this area, WWF staff has highly developed adaptive management skills and were therefore still able to carry out all project activities to achieve project outcomes.
- As WWF consists of a small team, it is a challenge to manage the various coinciding projects. Often project timeframes are conflicting, resulting in overworked staff.
- Misunderstandings between resource owners and WWF over the practice of payment for sitting allowance during participatory mapping exercises was experienced during preliminary resource mapping on Kolombangara. This misunderstanding dragged the activity to commence at the proposed start time. However, with the support of KIBCA rangers, that issue was sorted out and the activity achieved its proposed outcome.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

In the duration of the project, several factors have been developed such as cooperation between GELCA and KIBCA as there were sharing of information, challenges and lessons learnt. Information sharing outside of the R2R concept is also observed. KIBCA to some level also shared their experiences and the processes they had taken to strengthen their local organization to get to where it is now with regards to their attempts to promote the protection of their islands' biodiversity and sustainable development.

The conservation plan document produced has been identified by KIBCA as a breakthrough to support the current "Integrated Forest Management" initiative that is currently in the pipeline to be piloted on Kolombangara Island. The successful development of the conservation plan document has created a sense of satisfaction and readiness for KIBCA to take on the proposed natural reserve at the 400m contour, and other development aspirations.

As this phase of the project is focused on community consultations and resource mapping exercises to produce conservation plan reports for the islands of Ghizo and Kolombangara, no unexpected

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**negative impacts were observed. Other island communities have also expressed their interests for this work to be replicated on their islands.**

## Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	R2R Phase 2 planning conducted, communications /awareness material developed, stakeholder support documented in the revised stakeholder registry, and capacity building (train-the-training) workshop for KIBCA and GELCA completed	1.1	By end of August, 2017 start-up planning meetings conducted, communication materials for this phase drafted and sent to Fiji for printing, and activity work plans and work service agreements for KIBCA and GELCA completed and signed.	Start up planning meeting for KIBCA was achieved in August 2016 in Honiara. It was attended by KIBCA's co'ordinator, WWFSI staff and ESSI staff. The planning session resulted in the finalization of activity work plans and schedules. To which it was agreed on by KIBCA's coordinator. The development of communication materials for this phase and work service agreements for both GELCA and KIBCA did not eventuate within the planned project time frame but was achieved later on. More time was spent to incorporate messages for both phases (I& II), and also the time taken by WWF's communication team to review and insert WWF branding on the materials also contributed to the delay.
1	R2R Phase 2 planning conducted, communications /awareness material developed, stakeholder support documented in the revised stakeholder registry, and capacity building (train-the-training) workshop for KIBCA and GELCA	1.2	By September 2016, stakeholders engagement meeting conducted (attendance recorded), official signed supporting documentation from stakeholders and partners collected and documented in the revised R2R Registry.	Stakeholder engagement meeting was not conducted within the scheduled time frame due to the busy schedules of the various stakeholders in the current registry. Official emails were sent by the WWFSI partnership development officer in the previous stakeholder registry. With only a few responses to emails sent, WWFSI opted to have the stakeholder meeting at the end of Q5.



	completed			
1	R2R Phase 2 planning conducted, communications /awareness material developed, stakeholder support documented in the revised stakeholder registry, and capacity building (train-the-training) workshop for KIBCA and GELCA completed	1.3	By November 2016, phase 2 R2R communications materials are printed and ready for distribution to the communities.	The printing of awareness materials (pamphlet) for phase I and phase II messaging were developed with the support of ESSI and sent to WWF's communication team Fiji for printing. However, the printing process was delayed so the activity was not achieved on time as scheduled. Despite that, WWFSI team adapted to roughly meet the planned time frame by distributing the draft printing copy of the awareness pamphlet to the local community facilitators to be used during the community consultations.
1	R2R Phase 2 planning conducted, communications /awareness material developed, stakeholder support documented in the revised stakeholder registry, and capacity building (train-the-training) workshop for KIBCA and GELCA completed	1.4	By early December 2016, Train the Trainer workshop completed, with GELCA and KIBCA capable and in agreement with work plans to conduct community consultations, carrying out R2R advocacy and engagement for the participatory mapping activities	A total of two "train the trainers" workshop were conducted as scheduled and were facilitated with the support of ESSI. These training workshops were attended by ten identified local community facilitators; five of which represented KIBCA, and five represented GELCA (two executive members included). GELCA and KIBCA were given a TOR each for the work they were expected to conduct in communities on the two islands followed by copies of their work service agreements that were developed to guide the tasks they were expected to perform. These agreements were signed by KIBCA's coordinator and the chairman of GELCA's association during the final train the trainers workshop which was held in Ghizo in February, 2017. In the agreements, the terms and conditions of their contract together with their work plans for community consultations were specified.
2	Participatory	2.1	By October	Contracting of a GIS consultant did not occur as planned

	mapping workshops for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands completed, producing comprehensive resource maps and datasets of threats, values and opportunities within the marine and terrestrial environments of Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands.		2016 (Q2), a signed contract and work-plan for the GIS Specialist is completed.	because community consultations on both islands were delayed and WWF team was slow to make the decision over whom to hire. However, that did not deter the team to achieve the outcome for this activity as anticipated. Consultations were held with a professional GIS specialist who was later contracted to create blank maps and resource maps for both islands.
2	Participatory mapping workshops for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands completed, producing comprehensive resource maps and datasets of threats, values and opportunities within the marine and terrestrial environments of Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands.	2.2	By Mid-February 2017, KIBCA and GELCA complete all community consultations on Kolombangara and Ghizo, identify key leaders to attend participatory mapping workshops, collect and record beneficiary data for both islands, and submit field reports to WWF	Community consultations on both the islands were delayed so it was not achieved until April 2017. The slow progress in printing the awareness materials caused this delay so team eventually went ahead to conduct the consultations using the draft printing copy of the awareness material to advocate for the project in the communities.
2	Participatory mapping	2.3	By March 2017 (Q3), the GIS	Blank maps were developed, ten copies printed and used as discussion maps during the participatory resource

	workshops for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands completed, producing comprehensive resource maps and datasets of threats, values and opportunities within the marine and terrestrial environments of Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands.		contractor, in consultation with WWF have produced blank and discussion maps of Ghizo and Kolombangara Island(s) required for the participatory mapping workshop(s) and sent to be printed.	mapping workshops for both Ghizo and Kolombangara. Although not accomplished as scheduled, all anticipated output and outcome were successfully achieved.
2	Participatory mapping workshops for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands completed, producing comprehensive resource maps and datasets of threats, values and opportunities within the marine and terrestrial environments of Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands.	2.4	By the end of April 2017 (Q4), the two initial participatory mapping workshops, held in Gizo, for Ghizo and Kolombangara are completed, and data compiled for the creation of R2R resource maps.	Participatory mapping workshops were held on Kolombangara and Ghizo island respectively. A total of 33 key resource people representing the communities around Kolombangara attended the Participatory mapping workshop held on Kolombangara. Similarly, a total of 10 key resource people from communities on Ghizo island participated on Ghizo participatory resource mapping. Map data from these mapping workshops were compiled in a database and had been transferred to the GIS specialist to produce the anticipated resource maps. Map data includes; datasets of threats and KBAs identified by the key resource people on both the islands.
2	Participatory mapping workshops for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands	2.5	By mid May 2017, all relevant data for the resource maps, is	Supported by ESSI, KIBCA and GELCA, all relevant map data for both Kolombangara & Ghizo islands' resource maps were gathered in April 2017. This data has been compiled into a spread sheet and transferred to the GIS specialist for map creation. Since the achievement of this activity, WWF has been and will continue to provide the

	completed, producing comprehensive resource maps and datasets of threats, values and opportunities within the marine and terrestrial environments of Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands.		sourced and available for data analysis and resource map creation activities (GIS specialist work with WWF to source any further data required).	necessary support needed by the GIS specialist to assist him with the development of the resource maps. Both maps are near completion.
2	Participatory mapping workshops for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands completed, producing comprehensive resource maps and datasets of threats, values and opportunities within the marine and terrestrial environments of Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands.	2.6	By mid-June 2017 (Q4), data analyses/digitization/remapping work is complete and draft resource maps and data tables are available for review; and all GIS capacity building activities have been carried out.	Map data analysis/digitization/remapping work was successfully conducted with the support of a GIS specialists whom WWF has contracted based on his wide experience and past work on Ghizo. This task was accomplished at the end of Q5. However, from time to time WWF team has been in contact with the consultant; providing additional required information needed for the completion of these resource maps. Resource maps for Ghizo and Kolombangara islands together with data sets of threats and values were successfully analysed and were added to form part of the conservation plan report for both islands.
2	Participatory mapping workshops for Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands completed, producing comprehensive resource maps	2.7	By mid-September 2017 (Q5), the two follow-up mapping workshops are completed, and all resource maps are ready to	A total of two follow up resource mapping workshops were held in Q5; two on Kolombangara and the other two on Ghizo island for all key resource people on both islands to verify the details of their ecological features and threats on their respective maps. On Kolombangara island, a total of 35 key resource people attended the workshop, while on Ghizo island 12 people participated in the workshop. Two comprehensive resource maps with corresponding data sets of threats, values and opportunities within the marine and terrestrial

	and datasets of threats, values and opportunities within the marine and terrestrial environments of Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands.		be included in the R2R report(s).	environments of Kolombangara and Ghizo Islands were verified during the workshop. All of these were sent to the contracted GIS specialist. Maps were then incorporated into the R2R conservation report.
3	Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands Ridge to Reef Conservation Planning Reports complete, official launched of reports conducted, and advocacy and support for R2R Conservation from high-level national and provincial government gained.	3.1	By the end of September 2017 (Q5), the first drafts of the R2R Conservation Planning Report(s) for Ghizo and Kolombangara are complete, and ready to circulate to stakeholders for review and comment.	The first draft of the conservation reports for both Ghizo and Kolombangara islands were completed with the support of ESSI. WWF responsible staff worked on a couple of sections of the report and a staff from ESSI on other sections. The draft report was made complete within the requested extension period and was then circulated to all WWF staff, ESSI staff, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR), Ministry of Environment Conservation , Disaster Management & Meteorology (MECDM), Ministry of Forestry & Research, and other partner NGOs for review and comments before it was finalized and sent to WWF's communications team in Fiji for final review.
3	Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands Ridge to Reef Conservation Planning Reports complete, official launched of reports conducted, and advocacy and support for R2R Conservation from high-level national and provincial government	3.2	By the first week of October 2017 (Q6), the two draft R2R report(s) have been distributed to stakeholders for review (WWF staff to send draft reports via email or directly).	This activity was not achieved as proposed due to the delay in finalizing and circulating the draft copy of the conservation plan report. With the support of ESSI, copies of the draft reached relevant stakeholders for review and comments via email.

	gained.			
3	Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands Ridge to Reef Conservation Planning Reports complete, official launched of reports conducted, and advocacy and support for R2R Conservation from high-level national and provincial government gained.	3.3	By the last week of October 2017 (Q6), the R2R advocacy and support generating government workshop in Honiara will be completed, and all supporting documentatio n will be collected.	A Govt Stakeholder workshop was conducted in Honiara with the support of ESSI. This was attended by representatives from top three priority Government stakeholders; Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR), Ministry of Forestry (MoF), and Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Disaster Management (MECDM). Other invitees did not turn up because of other commitments. No support documents were gathered during the meeting. Those present requested that draft copies of the conservation plan reports be circulated before they could express their support in writing. However, indepth awareness on the importance of this conservation plan reports for conservation and development were done to gauge their support towards the reports.
3	Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands Ridge to Reef Conservation Planning Reports complete, official launched of reports conducted, and advocacy and support for R2R Conservation from high-level national and provincial government gained.	3.4	By the first week in November 2017 (Q6) the final R2R Conservation Planning Report(s) for Ghizo and Kolombangara have been completed, printed and available for distribution during the launch and reception.	Completion of conservation plan report was not achieved as scheduled due to the delay in developing and finalizing of the resource maps. Team has asked for an extension of the due date for the project to capture the delay and this was approved. WWF with the support of ESSI completed the reports successfully on a later date.
3	Ghizo and Kolombangara Islands Ridge to Reef Conservation Planning Reports complete, official launched	3.5	By the end of November 2017 (Q6), the Phase 2 R2R Report(s) launch and reception has been	The launching of the conservation plan report for both islands was not completed and printed within the planned time frame as additional time was needed to allow the team to finalize the draft reports, and circulate it for reviews and comments. The finalize report was then sent to WWF's communication team in Fiji to add WWF branding and also to finalize the layout of the whole report. Therefore , the launching event and reception was

	of reports conducted, and advocacy and support for R2R Conservation from high-level national and provincial government gained.		conducted in Gizo.	done in March 2018 in Ghizo. Copies of the conservation plan report where WWF disseminate printed copies to all NGO partners , CSOs representatives and relevant government stakeholders from the provincial and national level.
4	R2R Action plan meeting for future R2R efforts (Phase 3 - the creation of the Ghizo and Kolombangara R2R conservation plans and implementation) carried out and reported on and all media coverage produced and in circulation	4.1	By December 2017 (Q6), the final stakeholder R2R Phase 3 discussion meeting conducted and Plan of Action reported in CEPF final report.	LOI for phase 3 did not went through as anticipated , thus WWF feel discussions for a follow up project for implementation is not an urgency at this stage. This deliverable was proposedly a prelude for phase 3 of our R2R project that is why it comes in as part of the phase 2 activities and deliverables. However, since our LOI for phase 3 did not succeed, there are no reasons to progress with it at this stage.
4	R2R Action plan meeting for future R2R efforts (Phase 3 - the creation of the Ghizo and Kolombangara R2R conservation plans and implementation) carried out and reported on and all media coverage produced and in circulation	4.2	By the first week of December 2017, the final media release stories for the WWF/CEPF website or local newspaper article are in circulation on the websites/news papers.	This activity is being delayed for March when the reports would be made ready for printing and distribution to all stakeholders. Media release stories will be forwarded in along with this report as media person invited to cover the launching event did not turn up. Responsible WWF staff will finalize it and send for circulation.
5	Monitoring and	5.1	By end of	Already, all compliance report documents have

	reporting completed, in compliance with CEPF policies and priorities.		December 2016 and end June 2017, 6 monthly reports on compliance with the CEPF safeguard policies, with accompanied WWF safeguard compliance documentation (e.g. participant lists, stakeholder support documents) completed and submitted to CEPF	continuously been submitted during progress reporting periods. Safeguard compliance documents for phase 2, Q1 and Q2 were submitted along with the progress report for Q2 and similarly all other safeguard compliance documents since the start of Q3 was also attached with progress reports. Stakeholder support document is attached to this final report.
5	Monitoring and reporting completed, in compliance with CEPF policies and priorities.	5.2	By the end of September 2016, WWF stakeholders grievance process in compliance with CEPF safeguard policy complete and submitted to CEPF and distributed to community members and stakeholders and monitored and documented	There were no safeguard issues encountered during this reporting period as all mapping workshops went smoothly with no disputes or conflicts. At the initial engagement of local communities and CSO, there was an awareness on the stakeholders grievance process which WWF has developed in compliance with CEPF safeguard policy. The process is a formulated in the best simple format for all community stakeholders and WWF also to understand and be able to utilize it once need be.
5	Monitoring and reporting completed, in	5.3	By the end of October 2016, a beneficiaries	Beneficiaries database is completed. This was achieved following WWF's commitment to keep track of participants to every organized activities in this phase II



	compliance with CEPF policies and priorities.		database/survey template is complete, with data collected throughout the project and results (data) included in yearly project report and final report for CEPF global indicators monitored and reported.	
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Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

**This project aims to facilitate the development of conservation plan document for the islands of Ghizo and Kolombangara.**

**WWF has utilized local community facilitators and rangers to take lead in doing community consultations and additional awareness on the R2R conservation approach, thus making it easier for community consultations to be conducted in the local communities and also the identifications of key resource people. Apart from that the participatory resource mapping exercises facilitated also promotes discussions amongst community representatives regarding conservation efforts and existing threats to ecological features. Local youths were also utilized in dramatizing R2R messages during big celebrations in Ghizo such as the Coral triangle day.**

**Close collaborative efforts of WWF, ESSI, GELCA and KIBCA with significant support from relevant Western Provincial and National Government departments was one of the primary factors that contributes to the successful results achieved.**

**The approaches have supported WWF along with key implementing partner, ESSI to gather reliable data that contributes to the development of the Conservation Plan document for both Kolombangara and Ghizo islands.**

## **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

In the course of implementing this project phase, there were several lessons learnt;

1. Interruptions and delays to project timelines are inevitable when implementing in local Solomon Islands communities. Therefore all possible factors that often affect the timing should also be considered when developing project timeline. Similarly, timing of contracted external consultants to perform certain tasks often affects project timeframes as well when they try to juggle projects' task with all their other tasks. Grace period should also be included to account for unforeseen delays.
2. Adaptive management and staff flexibility is crucial in ensuring that project outcomes are achieved despite obstacles.
3. Communities around Ghizo and Kolombangara were very receptive of this integrated approach to resource conservation. Most of their conservation efforts focus in the marine environment, thus little knowledge on the connection of the marine and terrestrial environment were obvious. The involvement of local community facilitators have helped them realized the importance of working in collaboration to make ideas come to reality.
4. The relationship with partner NGOs and government stakeholders aims to strengthen project results and expand conservation network to local communities, however, practically, the commitment of western provincial government is very minimal as they are not consistent in providing viable support. Up to the launching of the conservation plan report, support from western provincial government was practically limited. Maybe the conservation reports will assist them with planning and draw their focus towards conservation initiatives in the province.
5. The provincial environment department lacks technical capacity and human resource capacity to primarily focus on sustainable development and conservation of resources.
6. It is still overwhelmingly evident that NGOs and other groups are working in isolation of each other more often than not. Despite aiming to achieve similar goals and results, the amount of cooperation between implementing partners is much lower than expected. However the conservation plan document may provide a long overdue opportunity for different NGOs and partners to work together more effectively.


## **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.

### **Successes**

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- WWF has built good working relations with Civil Society Organisations, relevant National and Western Provincial government departments, and partner NGOs through the implementation of this project. For example; the involvement of ESSI in building further WWF staff 's capacity to implement



this phase II of the R2R project, the relationship between these two organizations have strengthened further and this has consequently allowed WWF and ESSI to collaboratively work in other areas apart from this project. Because of these relationships, WWF has been able to successfully address some of the Phase 2 sustainability initiatives by supporting each other where possible and ensuring that the project activities and donor requirements are met.

- WWF SI has enhanced capacity of local communities groups, KIBCA and GELCA through their engagement in train the trainers workshops. The workshops have enabled the local facilitators from the two local organizations to take lead in community consultations and facilitation of the participatory resource mapping exercises. Those involved now have the knowledge to take lead in some aspect of future R2R work and advocacy work for sustainable development in the islands.

-With continued engagements with KIBCA and GELCA on the R2R methodology, in future R2R work, there is potential for these groups to replicate R2R conservation strategy in other areas of the Western Province. Additionally, with the opportunity to continue to the next R2R implementation phase, there is great promise for this approach to be replicated in other parts of the Western Province and to achieve its project and conservation sustainability objectives.

#### Challenges

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There are always external assumptions or risks that impact project sustainability when implementing various projects, especially in the Pacific Melanesian regions, and while working with communities and governments. This R2R project is heavily linked to community participation and involvement which in turn generate challenges that influence planned activities and the success of achieving sustainability goals. For example, some frequent challenges and risk WWF SI staff experience while working with communities in the Solomon Islands include, internal community and religious disputes, death in a community which means time is set aside for mourning, and unfavorable weather and sea conditions. Fortunately WWF SI staffs are highly skilled at applying adaptive management, identifying other possible approaches which ensure the continuations of activities are successfully managed.

Achieving project sustainability and replication of project results, after completion of projects, is recognized as a major challenge throughout the Melanesian region. However, achieving long-term sustainability of an integrated R2R conservation plan has yet to be actualized and determine. With future opportunity to carry out R2R conservation plans within the Solomon Western Province, the sustainability indicators will start to be realized and measurable.

Furthermore, achieving long-term sustainable impacts will require federal and provincial support (legislative and financial) after the completion of a R2R conservation strategy for the Kolombangara and Ghizo Island. To achieve CEPFs long-term sustainability goals, Solomon Island government will need to continue to support and build capacity of community and partner groups (KIBCA, GELCA) so that they are more equipped to carry out the R2R efforts, to achieve sustainable terrestrial and marine resource management practices for the Western Province.

## 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

No adverse social and environment impacts were experienced during the course of implementation. WWF has been working with local indigenous people in this locality for quite sometimes , thus have over the years gained sufficient experience and knowlegde on the local politics. With the support of GELCA and KIBCA in community consultations, adverse impacts on indigenous people were not experienced.

## Additional Comments/Recommendations

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

- As stakeholders gained more knowledge regarding the R2R process and approach, many island communities who were not part of the CEPF KBA would like this strategy to be implemented in their areas to maintain or improve the status of the key ecological features found in both their terrestrial and marine environment. As such, continous support is necessary to raise awareness on the R2R work amongst important stakeholders in Western Province to ensure that the value of R2R conservation planning is understood. Priority focus for the initial R2R plan should include increasing the national and provincial government high-level support through further opportunities of engagement.

The next phase should strive to implement the Conservation Plan Document on Ghizo islands at least to a certain height where sustainability goals can realized. Key stakeholders and partners should begin discussions on how the R2R Plans can be implemented and governed to ensure longevity and achievement of sustainability goals.

## 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)*



**Not applicable**

### **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](http://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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