



# Community Economic Development Solomon Islands

## Who We Are

**World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice.**

Inspired by our Christian values, World Vision is dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

World Vision has more than 30 years of experience in community development in Solomon Islands. World Vision works with children, families, government, communities and other partners to improve lives and combat poverty.

## Where We Work

**HONIARA  
MALAITA  
MAKIRA  
TEMOTU**

**5 Communities**  
**30 Communities**  
**15 Communities**  
**15 Communities**



**79%** of Solomon Islands' population depend on subsistence agriculture

**23%** of Solomon Islands' population live below the poverty line

Source: World Bank: Databank Statistics 2012



Photo: Jae Frew/World Vision Solomon Islands

## Economic Development in Solomon Islands

The majority of Solomon Islands' population depends on semi-subsistence agriculture and fishing.<sup>1</sup> Due to farmers' reliance on traditional methods, quantities of local produce are low; as a result household income is limited. Remote island locations have limited access to transportation and a lack of awareness of potential markets or improved agricultural and fishing techniques. With few opportunities to enhance the value of goods, families are not exposed to the possibility of financial alternatives.

## Our Producer Group and Savings & Lending Projects

World Vision's goal is to develop economically sustainable and resilient households. Producer Group assist communities by increasing the income of group members through improved sustainable production, processing, and market access. Savings and loan schemes provide an opportunity for members to have improved financial stability, in areas where mainstream banking is limited. Savings Group members learn how the scheme operates and how to keep money circulating within the group, they can also borrow for essentials such as school fees, health costs or special events. The projects also provide training and support in financial planning and budgeting.



Photo: Jae Frew/World Vision Solomon Islands

Source: World Bank, UNDP, 2012



Photo: Rolland Gito/World Vision Solomon Islands

### **Community Economic Development Project - Makira & South Malaita**

This project aims to reduce poverty by improving economic conditions for vulnerable communities. It encourages community-based saving through the establishment of Savings groups and helps set up Producer Groups to increase income. This project is supported by the Australian Government and World Vision Australia, and operates until June 2016.

### **Community Economic Development Project - East Malaita**

This project aims to increase sustainable incomes and economic resilience through the establishment of Savings Groups and Producer Groups. It is supported by the New Zealand Government and runs until June 2018.

### **Honiara Youth Development, Employment and Small Enterprise**

This project aims to build the capacity of youth who are unemployed and have left formal education. It will train youth in the development of small businesses, develop partnerships and institutional networks to improve employment opportunities and equip youth with job seeking skills. It is supported by the Australian Government.

### **Pacific Financial Inclusion Program**

A Pacific-wide program to help low income households gain access quality and affordable financial services. PFIP funds the savings club pilot for communities in South Malaita. Funding is from United Nation Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).

### **Our Key Partners and Stakeholders**

- Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Commodity Export Marketing Authority
- Honiara City Council
- Kastom Garden Association
- Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
- Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
- New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme (PFIP)
- Provincial Governments of Makira-Ulawa and Malaita Central and Guadalcanal
- Solomon Islands Communities
- Solomon Islands Credit Union Limited
- Solomon Islands Small Business Enterprise
- United Nations Capital Development Fund
- United Nations Development Program
- World Fish Centre
- Other Non-Government Organisations

### **Funding**

World Vision receives funding from private donors, businesses, foundations and government grants. Corporations or government agencies also donate gifts-in-kind such as food, commodities, clothing and school supplies to resource education and other projects.

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**Learn More:** [www.wvi.org/solomon-islands](http://www.wvi.org/solomon-islands)  **WorldVisionSI**

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