

## PRINCIPLES OF CBRM IN SOLOMON ISLANDS

### 1. Roles and responsibilities

- a) MFMR and MECDM are the lead agencies responsible for CBRM in Solomon Islands.
- b) Organisations working with communities to implement CBRM should consult these ministries to ensure alignment with current national strategies.
- c) Organizations should provide both ministries with information about intended workplans and target communities and sites.
- d) All NGOs should work towards having MoUs or mutually acceptable agreements with MFMR or MECDM.
- e) Organizations should ensure reporting of project progress back to all responsible bodies (MFMR, SILMMA, donors, province, communities).

### 2. Relations between stakeholders – partners should ensure

- a) that communities are clear on the intended goals, responsibilities and likely consequences and that information is shared appropriately and regularly. This may be covered in a written agreement between community and project. Communities will be involved in project design wherever possible.
- b) that broad and inclusive participation of all stakeholders is facilitated at the community level (women, youth, churches, resource owners, etc) - the bottom up approach.
- c) consultation and appropriate involvement of provincial government, appropriate national ministries and NGOs in collaborative partnerships.
- d) that resources such as information, skills, personnel, gear, publications and reports are shared as much as possible to all levels. Communities should have improved access to information.
- e) that existing networks (e.g. SILMMA) are utilized where they exist. Networking is a good mechanism for achieving resource sharing and assisting MFMR and MECDM to liaise with different stakeholders.

### 3. Management approach should ensure that

- a) people, their aspirations and livelihoods are a central focus
- b) external and broader issues, risks and long term implications including sustainability are considered
- c) capacity building at all levels plays a central role
- d) mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation (internal and external) are defined
- e) special consideration of land and marine tenure as well traditional and customary values is made
- f) management process is flexible and adaptive – experiences and lessons learned should inform and improve management on a continual basis
- g) management / action plan should be documented and contain minimum agreed information
- h) due regard and support for the present and future legal framework is made
- i) if possible, fair distribution of CBRM projects in all provinces

### 4. A general “best practice” guideline for a CBRM process in Solomon Islands

1. Community request / genuine expression of interest
2. Consult all stakeholders at national, provincial and local level
3. Effective community awareness and project clarification\*
4. Community based problem and situation assessments
5. Participatory management and action planning resulting in a clear and simple management/action plan
6. Implementation (and monitoring) of the action plan
7. Adaptive management = monitoring, reporting and plan review
8. Long term, sustainable / exit strategy

#### \* Points for effective community awareness

- Literacy may be a barrier
- Exchange visits and hearing from other communities may be most effective
- Ascertain the preferred language for materials and discussions in the target community
- Be clear who you are targeting, ensure it is the right people for the project
- Must be a continuing process
- Appropriate timing and place
- Awareness for education/information is different from awareness as part of enforcement.