

Using Ridges to Reef Conservation
Planning in addressing the Goals of
the Coral Triangle in the
Communities in Solomon Islands

Willie Atu

The Nature Conservancy

Solomon Islands

Solomon Islands



Coral Triangle is a Political Agenda

**APEC Meeting (Sydney, Australia)
2007**



Manado Summit, Indonesia 2009



*“ We believe also in the inter-generational aspect of CTI – that these resources are available to our children and our grandchildren after we have gone from the surface of Mother Earth... Let us ensure that it will always be the livelihood of our people – past, present and future – that will motivate us and energize us to implement the ideals of this new-found entity. Let not the greed of selfishness and corruption divert our attention from the noble intentions of CTI. **CTI is no longer an idea. CTI is no longer a concept. CTI is reality in the CT6 countries.**”*

*Statement at CTI Summit by Hon. Dr. Derek Sikua
Prime Minister of Solomon Islands*

LOCAL NEWS

the Pacific region. He said development cooperation and effective

experiences of African states during the side line session.

cooperation with international partners, member nations of the coral triangle initiative are crucial

marine and coastal resources themselves and the different cultures and ap

Solomon Islands in due course, Mr. Dr Sikua said.

Parliament hears about CTI

By EDDIE OSIFELO
THE Coral Triangle is life.

MINISTER for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology, John Moffat Fugui highlighted this when he tabled the Solomon Islands National Plan of Action on Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security for Parliament to resolve itself into a committee of whole house to consider it yesterday.

New Guinea and Timor-Leste working together to sustain extraordinary marine and coastal resources by addressing crucial issues such as food security, climate change and marine biodiversity.

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community based resource management, which consistent with National Coalition for Rural Advancement (NCRA) Government (NCRA) policy in terms of raising awareness to rural communities importance of natural resources and becoming responsible custodian of natural environment.

He said it was consistent with National Development Policy on environmental holistic way so to climate change ability halt degradation of ecosystem damaged

compliments the existing programmes and projects that are implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.

Programme Partnership with MECDM, SICHE and UNDP involving a certificate on environment studies programmes.

Opposition support CTI action plan

THE Opposition Group has declared full support for Solomon Islands National Action Plan on the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) for the maintenance of marine resources in the Coral Triangle region and urged the Government to

Sogavare warns on CTI challenge

EDDIE OSIFELO

MEMBER of Parliament for Choiseul, Manasseh Sogavare warns the country on the challenges it may face from the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI). The Coral Triangle Initiative is a multilateral partnership of countries namely Solomon Islands, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste working together to sustain extraordinary marine and coastal resources by addressing crucial issues such as food security, climate change and marine biodiversity.

Minister for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology, John Moffat Fugui yesterday tabled the Solomon Islands National Plan of Action on Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security for Parliament to resolve itself into a committee of whole house to consider it yesterday.

The common goal and policy priority of National Plan of Action is that: "Solomon Islands sustainably manages marine and coastal resources to ensure Food Security, sustainable economic development, biodiversity conservation and adaptation to emerg-

ing threats through Community Based Resource Management approaches supported by Government agencies and partners.

Sogavare said the challenges to the country or to the government to be more precise come in three fronts.

"The first as I just discussed comes from the possibility of misunderstanding by our people on the real objective of our membership of the CTI," he said.

"The second front of our challenges comes from how we relate to the regional commitment as far as our national obligation to the specific strategies agreed

with the member countries of the CTI is concern; especially how we localize the regional commitment.

"The third challenge for us to pursue an economic development strategy that will slowly ease the pressure on our heavy reliance on natural resources to sustain the economy; and to support a credible public investment programme," the former Prime Minister who attended the first Coral Triangle Leaders' Summit in Manado, Indonesia said.

Sogavare had consented that Solomon Islands be part of the Coral Triangle Initiative.

"We have been complacent for too long and may be carried away with our rich resource endowment and have become very careless," he said.

"As a matter of fact, at the planning level our membership of the CTI gives us a wonderful to rethink our strategies.

"Opportunities will open and opening in sectors like tourism, agriculture, sustainable large scale inshore fisheries development, rural livestock development so forth. I cannot think of a better and more appropriate time to do that than now. We would be simply stupid to leave that for tomorrow," Mr Sogavare said.

aging marine and coastal resources to ensure food security, sustainable eco-

The Goals of the Coral Triangle

- Priority Seascapes
- Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)
- Marine Protected Areas
- Climate Change
- Threatened Species

Coral Triangle at the National Level

Solomon Islands National Plan of Action (NPoA)

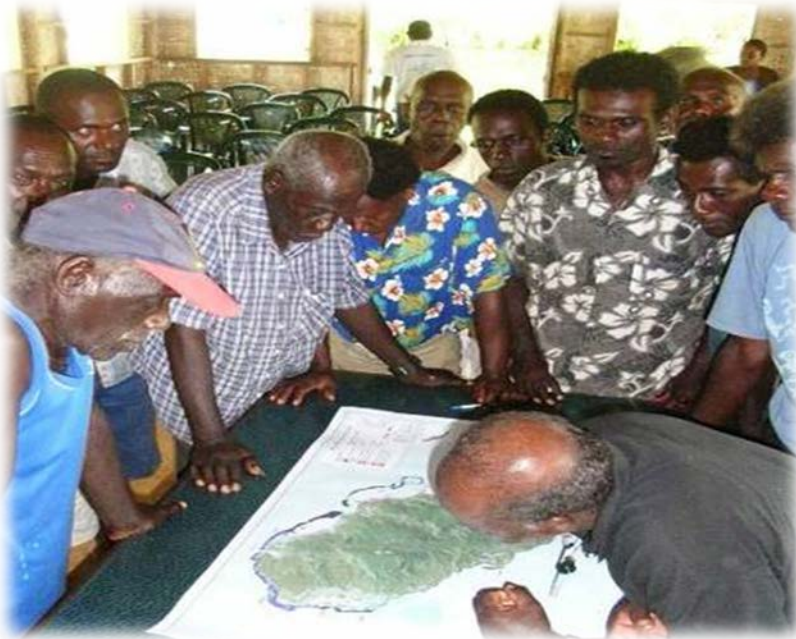
- **Goal:** Solomon Islands sustainably manages marine and coastal resources to ensure food security, sustainable economic development, biodiversity conservation and adaptation to emerging threats through community based resource management approaches supported by government agencies and other partners.
- **Targets:** 50% of Solomon Island coastal, watershed and inshore area under improved management through CBRM and ICM approaches by 2015.



*The Premier/Mayor Environment Roundtable
Gizo Western Province, 2011*

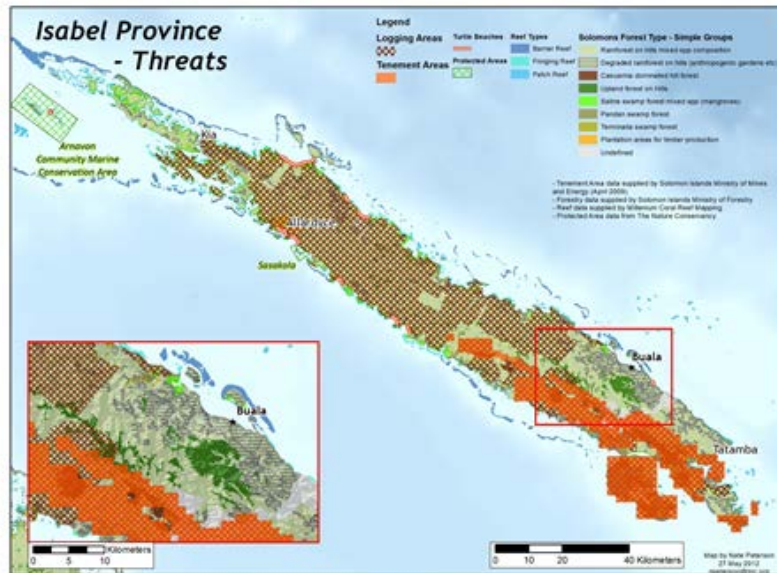
How will we get there? How will
we know if we have been
successful?

How will we get there? Our Approach - Ridges to Reef Conservation Planning in Choiseul & Isabel Provinces (Participatory Mapping)

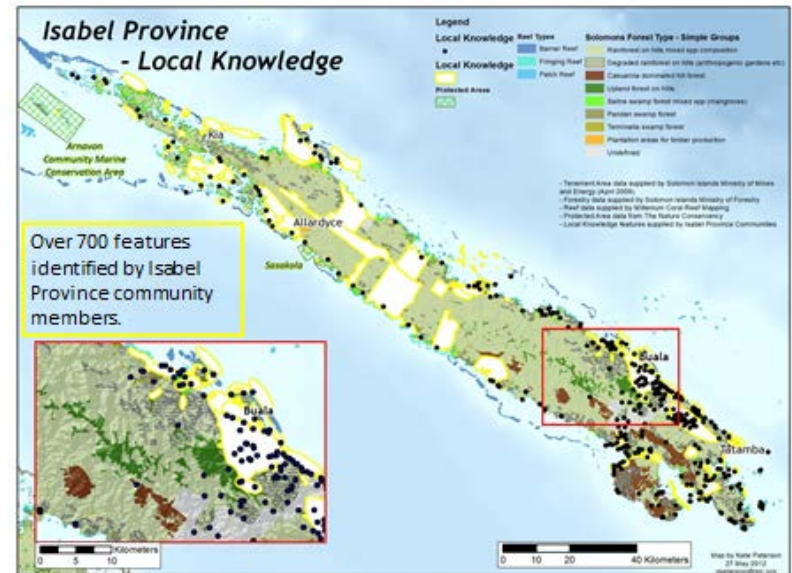


Our Approach – Ridges to Reefs Conservation Planning

Threats/opportunities

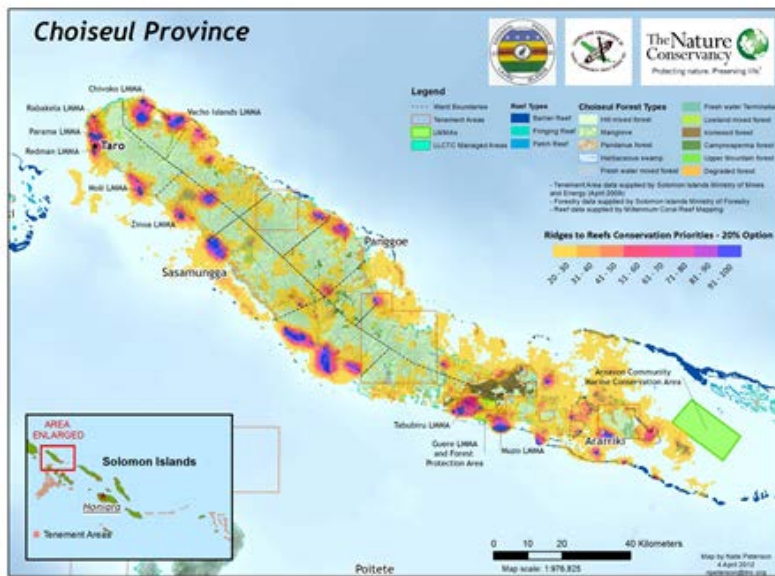


Local/Traditional Knowledge

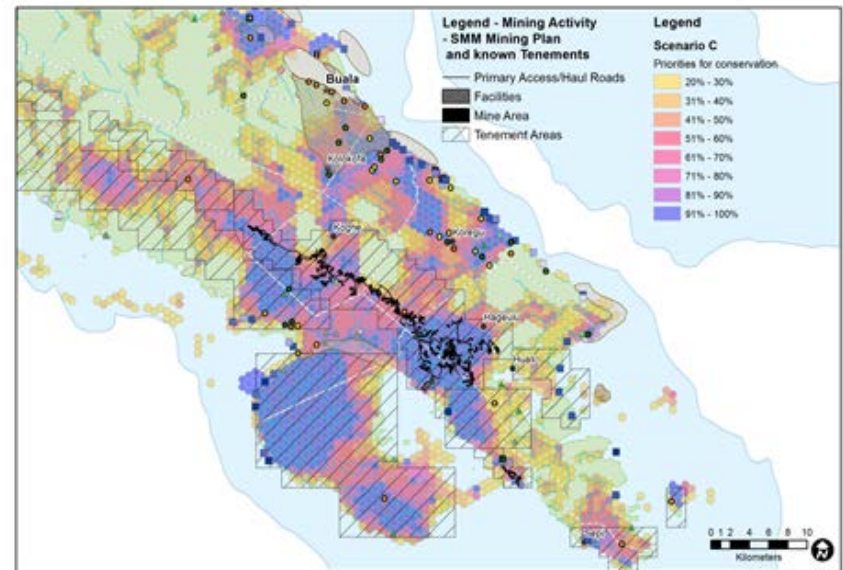


Targets/Threats/Decisions

Choiseul Province

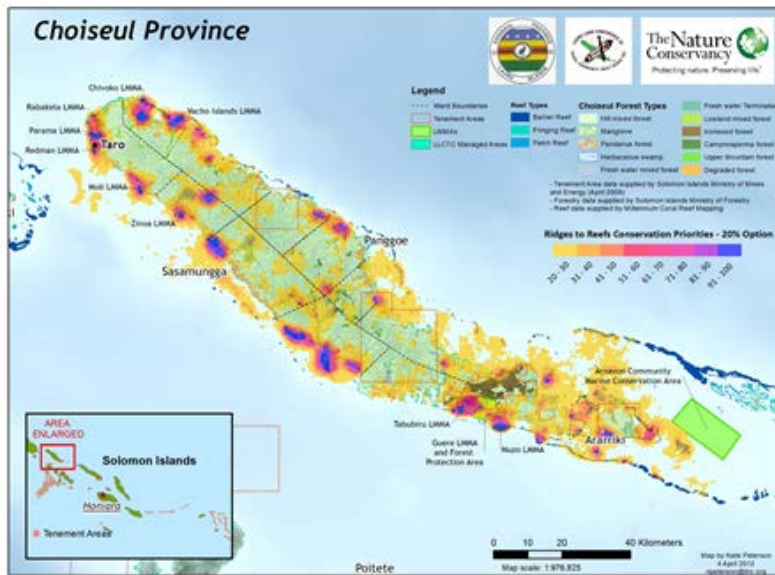


Isabel Province

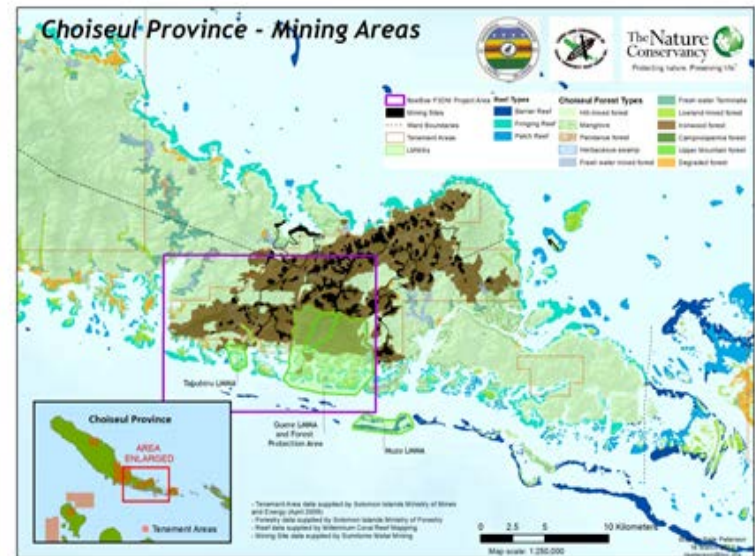


Target areas/Threats/Decisions

Choiseul Province



A greater proportion of the rare and endemic ironwood species (*Xanthostemon melanoxylon*) that is found only in southern Choiseul and southern Isabel needs to be protected.



SI National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (2014-2018) - NBSAP

By 2020, at least 17% of the terrestrial and inland water and 10% of coastal and marine areas of SI, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services are conserved through effectively management regimes through an ecologically representative and well connected system of Protected Area is established, integrated into wider landscapes and seascapes based initiatives (based on Aichi target)

Conclusion

- Appreciation for the '*value of a place*' – culturally and biodiversity.
- Provincial Level – Makes the Provincial Government look organized – attract development partners. Use the conservation plan as a template for development planning process.
- Addresses Ridges to Reef Connectivity - '*focuses beyond species and sites*'
- *Scaling Up of Knowledge and Geography* – threats on ecosystems linked to livelihood – requests from Malaita and Western Provinces – enhances partnership.
- Cultural Seascapes/Landscape Approach- Helps people to appreciate holistic approach to conservation work that we are doing – making critical decisions.