

Summary of the activities in the first Phase of the APFSCBP Project by the National Coordinator, 27 November 2008.

1. On 12-15 August 2008, the National Coordinator of the Project, Joses Tuhanuku held consultative meetings with the following stake holders in the Western Province.

- The Deputy Premier, the Provincial Secretary and the senior Forestry Officer of the Western Province.
- Jackson Piasi, one of the leaders of Kolombangara Traditional land owners, specifically, from the Sunguvanga Land Owning group.
- The management of KFPL
- The workers of KFPL

2. In those meetings, discussions were centered around the following issues:

- A proposed three day workshop to be held at the Gizo for all stakes holders to be followed by one day conference.
- The purpose of the work shop was for the stakeholders to look into the proposal of putting together a partnership between Kolombangara traditional landowners and KFPL.
- In the proposed partnership, funds should be sort to help capacity building the traditional landowners of Kolomobangara to work toward selling their timber products to overseas markets through KFPL which is already trading under certification status.

In all the above consultations, stakeholders, without exception, endorsed that the planned activities should proceed.

3. In September 2008 the following activities took place.

- On 22-23 September, the two day Workshop for all stakeholders took place at Gizo, Western Province.
- The resource persons for the work shop were, James Gray, Australian Association of Forest Industries, Joses Tuhanuku, National Coordinator of the Project, Simon Le Gassicke, General Manager, KFPL and Tony Kagovai, General Secretary, SINUW.
- On 24 September the one day conference was convened purposefully, in order for the traditional land owners of Kolomobangara and the management of KFPL to determine the fate of the proposed partnership, after all related issues were discussed and accurately understood by both parties, during the two day work shop.

4. At the end of the one day conference, the verdict by the traditional land owners of Kolomobangara and the management of KFPL was two fold:

- To work establishing the Partnership.
- To request Forest Works of Australia to assist in sourcing out funding for the project.

5. On 29-30 September 2008. Joses Tuhanuku and James Grey were joined by Sarah Fitzpatrick and Bob Smith of Forest Works, Australia, in high level talks in Honiara. The group met the following.

- The Minister for Forestry, his PS and other officials of the Ministry.
- The head of AUSAID in the Australian High Commission and other officials.
- The heads of the AUSAID Forestry Project and the EU Sustainable Forestry Project.
- The Secretary and one of the directors of the Solomon Islands Forestry Association.

6. In the evening of Monday 29 September Bob Smith gave a public talk at the Mendana Hotel on Climate Change.

7. On the 17 October 2008, the National Coordinator of the Project held another consultation meeting with the Executive Committee of the Sunguvanga Land Owning Group at Gizo Hotel.

At the conclusion, the Executive of Sunguvanga Land Owning Group recommended that the following areas of activities be considered for inclusion in the second phase of the Project.

7.1 Management Plans

That the long term, medium term and short term management plans for Kolombangara traditional land owners to include:

- Certification Process
- Reforestation/replanting of logged areas.
- Plantation management

7.2 Capacity Building

That the following specific areas be included in any Capacity building Programme, designed for the land owners.

- Strengthen and expand any existing administrative infrastructure, increase office equipments and staff.
- Organise training for land owners, both locally and overseas.
- Identify and recruit technical advisers, source out overseas volunteers, where and whenever necessary
- Arrange regular programme of stake holders and consultative meetings.
- Organise regular workshops for stakeholders.
- Carry out public awareness programme on the Project.
- Provide sawmilling facilities, tractor/trucks, chainsaws and out boat motors for community to be used for commercial purposes.
- Provide housing, especially for personnel who may not be from the community.