

## Enhancing the Management of Protected Areas in the Mt. Maetambe and Kolombangara River Corridors

### Type of priority area

Terrestrial Protected Area

Indigenous and Community  
Conserved Area (ICCA)

### Primary objective

Governance

Management Effectiveness

Livelihoods

### Target groups

Local Communities

Indigenous Peoples

### Main activity focus

Management Plan


Illegal Activities


Threatened Species

 **Duration**  
01.06.2021 – 31.05.2022

 **Type of grant & budget**  
Rapid Response Grant | 37,193\$

 **Location**  
Solomon Islands, Pacific

 **Protected & Conserved Areas**  
Sirebe Protected Area  
Sipora Protected Area

 **WDPA ID**  
555703525; 555703526

 **BIOPAMA RRIS Link**  
<http://rris.biopama.org/ct/country/sb>

 **Key Conservation Landscape**  
Forest Conservation Area & Tribal Forest  
Conservation Area

### Project Lead

Natural Resources Development Fund (NRDF)

### Description of the project:

The project has four main components to its objectives:

1. It will aim to bridge the period of no-income for the conservation work due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This will be accomplished by supporting rangers with salaries, ensuring they are able to continue with their work as guardians of the protected areas and reduce any illegal logging that may be occurring in the protected areas.
2. The project will strengthen the capacity of the management by providing additional training on Protected Area Management and Law Enforcement for the rangers and Protected Area management committee members.
3. Investing in the purchase of a canoe and outboard engine to transport rangers to the protected areas will ensure that they are able to monitor the protected areas appropriately.
4. Lastly, the project will assist in the completion of two small permanent compounds for rangers to reside in. This will help with adequate management and monitoring of the areas but also aid in establishing and maintaining their presence in the areas.





#### Diagnostic Tools Used

Protected Area ACT 2010 and the Protected Area Regulations 2012 in which the two protected areas are registered under as legally protected.



#### The BIOPAMA AC Objective(s) Addressed

Increased resilience to major shocks and recovery of the protected and conserved areas including sustainable and innovative funding planning.



#### Priority Need Addressed

Forests in the Mt. Maetambe and Kolombangara River Corridors are under high threat from large-scale commercial logging activities. Surrounding many of the protected areas are active logging activities. Furthermore, illegal trespassing by logging companies into the protected areas is common. To help ensure that the protected area boundaries are respected, rangers need to do weekly boundary surveys to monitor the movement of the logging companies. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conservation project in both areas came to a standstill. The expected income from PES crediting could not commence due to postponed and delayed validation and verification audits. This project is specifically designed to help the Protected Area management committees to bridge the period of non-income and to mitigate the current logging threats in the area. Besides helping the rangers to carry out patrols and surveys, the project will also contribute towards building small accommodations for rangers within the protected areas so that they may stay within the protected area for longer periods of time, as well as increase their presence.



#### The change the project implementation will bring for the protected areas

- The Rangers and Protected Area Management committee members will have increased capacity and be empowered from the trainings provided under the project to carry out their work.
- The huts and the engine will provide access to the Protected Areas for more effective and stronger safekeeping of the Protected area against illegal activity and trespassers, specifically logging and mining companies.
- The livelihoods of the Ranger families and the tribe will be improved by the wage opportunity and other associated incomes connected with the implementation of the project.
- The project will show case to other neighbouring tribes how gender equity can be demonstrated through the inclusion of women in integral aspects of implementing the project.
- Tribal people will improve their connection to their land and be one of the first ones in the country to be declared under the Protected Areas Act 2010.

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BIOPAMA assists the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries to address their priorities for improved management and governance of biodiversity and natural resources. BIOPAMA provides a variety of tools, services and funding to conservation actors in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. The BIOPAMA grant-making facility is managed by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and supports projects on the ground to strengthen the management and governance of protected and conserved areas, with a total budget of 21 million Euros.

