

Integrated island and ocean management in Central Islands Province, Solomon Islands, for biodiversity, livelihoods and wellbeing outcomes

Consultancy to provide technical advice to inform holistic watershed management plans that address biodiversity protection, climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction and health promotion

BACKGROUND

The Wildlife Conservation Society program in Solomon Islands (WCS Solomon Islands) has received a contract from the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to implement key components of Activity 2.1.7: *Integrated Island and Ocean Management in Central Province, Solomon Islands*, under the European Union (EU)–funded Pacific Biodiversity and Sustainable Land-Seascapes (Pacific BioScapes) Programme.

WCS’s engagement under Pacific BioScapes in Solomon Islands focuses on two primary components:

1. Support for provincial marine spatial planning and the establishment of marine conservation areas; and
2. Support for holistic, integrated watershed management in high-risk watersheds of the Ngella Island Group, Central Islands Province.

Under Objective 2.1, WCS seeks to engage a Consultant with technical expertise in public health and the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) sectors. The Consultant will coordinate with relevant provincial and national government agencies to gather information on WASH infrastructure, health statistics, and related development activities. This information will inform the development of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) plans for priority watersheds.

WCS will focus watershed EbA engagement with communities from the larger Ngella Islands, ensuring free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC). Working alongside community water safety, sanitation, and natural resource management committees, WCS will facilitate the development of village-level Water and Sanitation Safety Plans (WSSPs), embedding these within broader watershed EbA planning processes. WCS will also provide governance training to support effective implementation of both WSSPs and EbA plans.

Under Objective 2.2, following coordination with national public health and WASH agencies and completion of the WSSP process with five communities in high-risk watersheds, WCS will support the implementation of priority nature-based solutions (NbS) and WASH interventions. This will include sourcing materials to improve water and sanitation systems and, where appropriate, contracting service providers to undertake required works.

TERM OF AGREEMENT:

From date of signature to 30 June 2026.

SCOPE OF WORK

The Consultant will work closely with WCS Solomon Islands to undertake the following:

1. Coordination and Data Collection

Engage with relevant national and provincial public health, WASH, and development agencies to collect information and data on health risks in Central Islands Province, with a particular focus on the Ngella Island Group.

Deliverables:

- A consolidated database of relevant health risk data;
- Attendance lists from coordination meetings;
- A summary report outlining key public health and WASH priorities for Central Islands Province.

2. Health Systems Surveillance Review

Identify and assess existing national-level health surveillance mechanisms related to water-related diseases, and analyse gaps, limitations, and opportunities for strengthening data collection and response systems.

In reviewing national health surveillance mechanisms related to water-related diseases, the Consultant may engage with selected provincial health authorities to better understand implementation realities and data flows at sub-national levels.

Deliverables:

- A report detailing existing health systems surveillance mechanisms for water-related diseases and identifying key gaps and recommendations.