



**INSTITUTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY FOR THE SOLOMON ISLANDS CTI-CFF
NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Issue date: 25th August 2026

Closing date: 18th September 2026

BACKGROUND

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) is an international non-government organisation committed to working with communities, government, and other partners to safeguard Solomon Islands' biodiversity and ensure the sustainable management of natural resources. A critical focus of our work is protecting Solomon Islands globally significant, diverse and resilient coral reefs and associated ecosystems. The nation's coral reef ecosystems are critical to biodiversity, the economy and the livelihoods of its people. However, Solomon Islands' coral reefs face unprecedented threats from climate change and local pressures, including unsustainable fishing, coastal habitat destruction and unsustainable land management leading to pollution runoff.

As part of Solomon Islands' implementation of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF), a National Coordinating Committee (NCC) was established and is co-chaired by the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Management (MECDM) and the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR). This government-endorsed multi-stakeholder platform serves as a central mechanism for coordinating and driving fisheries, coral reef, and food security conservation and management efforts in Solomon Islands through the national and regional CTI-CFF Plans of Action. The Solomon Islands CTI-CFF National Coordinating Committee (NCC) serves as the National Hub under the Coral Reef Rescue Project, providing a central platform for stakeholder engagement, coordination, and adaptive management. Through regular meetings and reflection processes, the NCC provides a forum for reviewing progress, strengthening coordination, sharing lessons and informing national priorities and implementation.

This consultancy, funded through the GEF-7 Coral Reef Rescue Project, will support the institutionalization of the NCC as the country's nationally owned and government-led multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism for coral reef governance. The consultant will assess the current institutional arrangements, identify options for long-term sustainability, and develop an implementation roadmap to support the coordinated implementation of the CTI-CFF National Plan of Action (NPOA), including the National Action Plan for Coral Reefs (NAP), which is annexed to and provides a complementary implementation framework for the NPOA.

The consultant will work closely with WCS Solomon Islands to develop this sustainability strategy for the NCC.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the consultancy is to:

- Develop a practical Institutional Sustainability Strategy for the Solomon Islands NCC.
- Recommend institutional, governance and legal arrangements required to embed the NCC within existing national coordination mechanisms.
- Identify sustainable financing, partnership and resource mobilisation options for the long-term operation of the NCC and coordinated implementation of the CTI-CFF National Plan of Action (NPOA) and National Action Plan for Coral Reefs (NAP)
- Develop a phased implementation roadmap for transitioning the NCC from a project-supported platform into a nationally owned and government-led coordination mechanism.

SCOPE OF WORK

The consultant will conduct the following tasks:

Task 1: Institutional Assessment and Review of Good Practice

The consultant will undertake a comprehensive assessment of the Solomon Islands National Coordinating Committee (NCC) for Coral Reef Conservation and Management to determine its current institutional status, effectiveness, and long-term sustainability needs. The assessment will review the NCC's governance arrangements, institutional mandate, membership structure, decision-making processes, coordination mechanisms, secretariat functions, reporting systems, and resource requirements. The consultant will identify institutional strengths, gaps, operational challenges, and opportunities for improvement, taking into account NCC's responsibility for coordinating implementation of the NPOA. As part of this task, the consultant will also review relevant national, regional, and international models of multi-stakeholder environmental governance and coordination mechanisms to identify best practices and lessons that can be adapted to the Solomon Islands context, with particular attention to institutional governance, financing, coordination, and long-term sustainability.

The assessment will include consultations with MECDM, MFMR, NCC members and other relevant government agencies, civil society organisations, development partners, research organisations and other relevant stakeholders. These consultations should identify stakeholder perspectives on the NCC's future functions, institutional arrangements, governance, coordination, financing and resource requirements

Task 2: Development of the NCC's Institutional Sustainability Strategy

Drawing on the findings of the institutional assessment, the consultant will develop a comprehensive Institutional Sustainability Strategy for the NCC. The strategy will provide

practical recommendations for institutionalising the NCC as the country's permanent multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism for coral reef conservation and management. The strategy should include recommendations on governance arrangements, institutional structure, leadership and secretariat functions, membership, technical working groups, decision-making processes, reporting and accountability mechanisms, stakeholder engagement, knowledge management, communications, and monitoring and evaluation systems. The consultant will also develop a sustainable financing and resource mobilisation strategy that identifies realistic options for long-term financial and technical support, including government budget allocations, donor investments, partnerships, trust funds, and other sustainable financing mechanisms to support implementation of the National Plan of Action. The strategy should estimate the indicative annual resources required for the effective operation of the NCC and prioritise financing options based on their feasibility, sustainability and suitability to the Solomon Islands context

Task 3: Validation, Implementation Roadmap and Finalisation

The consultant will prepare a practical Implementation Roadmap outlining the actions required to operationalise and institutionalise the NCC over the short, medium, and long term. The roadmap should identify priority activities, responsible agencies, implementation timelines, indicative resource requirements, potential risks, and key performance indicators to monitor progress. The consultant will present the draft Institutional Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Roadmap to the NCC, and other key stakeholders through validation workshops facilitated through WCS. Following stakeholder consultations, the consultant will incorporate feedback and submit a final Institutional Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Roadmap that reflects stakeholder inputs and provides a clear pathway for establishing the NCC as a sustainable, government-led coordination mechanism for coral reef conservation and management in Solomon Islands.

DELIVERABLES

The consultant is expected to deliver the following:

	Item	Estimated timeframe
1.	Institutional Assessment and Review Report • Gap analysis • Governance assessment • Financing assessment • Stakeholder analysis	4 weeks after contract signing
2	Draft Sustainability and Institutionalization Strategy including: • Governance framework • Financing strategy • Implementation arrangements and roadmap	8 weeks after contract signing

	Monitoring framework	
3.	Present review findings and validation	As scheduled
4	Submit final report and sustainability strategy based on stakeholder feedback	2 weeks after the presentation

TIMELINE

The consultancy work will ideally start in October 2026 and be completed by March 2027.

Requirements and qualifications

The consultant will have the following minimum experience and qualifications:

- Advanced degree (Masters or higher) in Public Policy, Governance, Environmental Management, Marine Science, Natural Resource Management, Institutional Development, Public Administration, Development Studies or a related discipline.
- At least 10 years' experience in institutional strengthening, governance reform, policy development or organisational development.
- Demonstrated experience developing institutional sustainability strategies, governance frameworks or organisational strengthening plans.
- Proven experience facilitating multi-stakeholder consultation processes involving government, NGOs, development partners and community stakeholders.
- Demonstrated understanding of environmental governance and natural resource management in Pacific Island countries.
- Excellent analytical, report writing and facilitation skills

Highly Desirable: Demonstrated understanding in one or more of the following areas will be highly regarded: the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs and Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF), coral reef conservation and governance, marine spatial planning, integrated coastal management, biodiversity conservation, multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms or national coordinating committees, environmental and sustainable financing, institutional strengthening and reform, public sector governance and government systems in Solomon Islands or the Pacific, customary governance systems and community-based natural resource management, results-based management, and organisational development or change management.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following must be submitted:

1. Brief technical proposal outlining the consultant's understanding of the assignment, proposed approach and methodology, indicative workplan, and previous experience relevant to the consultancy (maximum 3 pages).
2. Curriculum Vitae

3. Financial proposal outlining a detailed cost breakdown, including:
- Consultancy fees, stating the daily rate and total number of working days and total cost.
 - Travel costs, if any, as a separate line item. All proposed travel costs must be included within the total consultancy budget.

All travel requires prior approval by WCS Solomon Islands and will be reimbursed based on actual costs, supported by receipts and relevant documents.

Submitted rates are deemed to include all costs, insurances, taxes, fees, expenses, liabilities, obligations, risk and other things necessary for the performance of the Requirement. Any charge not stated in the Proposal as being additional, will not be allowed as a charge against any transaction under any resultant Contract. All rates and prices submitted by Proposers shall be in US dollars.

All proposal documents should be emailed directly to dkalamasaru@wcs.org by **18th September 2026**. Late submissions will not be considered.