

SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR CORAL REEF CONSERVATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Issue date: 1st August 2025

Closing date and time: Close of business 4pm, 15th August 2025.

Background

The GEF funded Coral Reef Rescue: Resilient Coral Reefs, Resilient Communities (GEF CRR) is a multistakeholder project that aims to safeguard globally significant coral reef ecosystems in the face of climate change and human induced threats. Solomon Islands is home to some of the most biodiverse coral reef ecosystems in the world, however they currently face unprecedented threats from climate change and local pressures including unsustainable fishing, coastal habitat destruction and unsustainable land management and pollution.

In response to, and to abate these threats, the Solomon Islands Coral Reef Rescue National Hub for coral reef conservation has been established to serve as a vital platform for stakeholder engagement, fostering collaboration, strategic co-planning, and driving coral reef conservation efforts across the country. The National Hub is established through the Coral Triangle Initiative – National Coordinating Committee (CTI-NCC) and is co-chaired by the Ministry of Environment Climate Change and Disaster Management and the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources.

To support the National Hub, deliver conservation outcomes for Solomon Islands coral reefs, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), as the National Technical Facilitator for the GEF CRR project, is seeking a consultant to develop the Solomon Islands National Action Plan for Coral Reef Conservation. The national action plan will align with regional frameworks such as the Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan and national frameworks including the Solomon Islands Coral Triangle Initiative National Plan of Action, National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan, National Oceans Policy and Community-based Resource Management Strategy.

Objectives

The objective of the consultancy is to develop a collaborative, inclusive, and evidence-based National Action Plan for Coral Reef Conservation in Solomon Islands that:

- Sets out national priorities, targets, and strategies for coral reef conservation and sustainable management.
- Strengthens cross-sectoral coordination and governance.
- Supports implementation through a clear monitoring, financing, and institutional framework.
- Aligns with community visions for coral reef ecosystem, customary marine tenure systems and promotes community-based management.

Scope of Work

The consultant will undertake the following:

1. Visioning and Goal Setting.

Develop a joint overarching vision and strategic goals to achieve the vision through inclusive, collaborative and gender sensitive approaches with National Hub members and informed by:

- Community visions for coral reef conservation (reports provided by WCS)
- National Action Plan consultation report (WCS)
- The threats and opportunities analysis for coral reefs (report provided by WCS)
- Cost-benefit analysis (report to be provided by WCS)

2. Strategic Planning

Facilitate stakeholders to identify strategic objectives, interventions, actions, operational modalities, and resource requirements to enable the realisation of the shared vision. The actions identified should seek to:

- Address the drivers and underlying causes of threats to coral reefs.
- Focus on synergistic interventions that combine the efforts and outcomes of policies, management, and practices between sectors and across all stakeholders.

3. Opportunities and barriers

Review relevant national policies, strategies and plans related to coral reef conservation and identify opportunities and barriers for the integration of coral reef conservation. This should consider:

- Solomon Islands' legal and policy framework relating to coral reef conservation.
- Synergistic opportunities aimed at combining efforts and outcomes between sectors.
- Reducing situations where the impacts of one sector negates the efforts of another sector.
- Customary marine tenure and rights of resource owners

4. Action Plan

Consolidate and write up the National Action Plan for the Conservation of Coral Reefs in Solomon Island. The Action Plan should include:

- Vision, goals, objectives, targets
- Overview of status and threats to coral reefs in Solomon Islands
- Existing policy and initiatives
- Priority actions and responsibilities
- Institutional structures, processes, and resources to operationalise the plan.
- Monitoring, evaluation, and learning framework

A draft Action Plan will be presented to the National Hub for review and input, prior to being finalised.

Stakeholder engagement and validation

The consultant will work closely with WCS Solomon Islands and the Solomon Islands National Hub. All tasks are to be undertaken through collaborative and gender inclusive approaches with National Hub members to ensure that processes are inclusive and fair, allowing for equal voice

and opportunity to all stakeholders – particularly the women, men and youth that are dependent on climate-resilient coral reefs in Solomon Islands.

The arrangements of workshops and stakeholder engagement should be undertaken in collaboration with the WCS CRR team (workshop costs for National Hub members and other relevant stakeholders will be covered directly by WCS).

Qualifications and Experience

- Advanced degree in marine science, natural resource management, policy, or a related field.
- Minimum 10 years of experience in marine conservation, policy development, or program design.
- Demonstrated experience facilitating multi-stakeholder processes in Solomon Islands.
- Knowledge of customary marine tenure systems and community-based approaches in Solomon Islands.
- Excellent writing, facilitation, and communication skills.

Deliverables

The consultant is expected to deliver the following:

	Item	Delivery Month
1.	Workplan and proposed approach to undertake the activities for WCS review	08/2025
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit report from visioning and goal setting workshop. • Submit report on the strategic planning workshop. • Submit report on the review of opportunities and barriers to integrate coral reef conservation. 	09/2025
3.	Present draft Action Plan to TWG for review	10/2025
4.	Draft Action Plan for review by National Hub	11/2025
5.	Finalised National Action Plan incorporating inputs and changes from NH.	12/2025

Timeline

The consultancy will ideally start in September 2025 and be completed by December 2025. A detailed schedule of activities will be finalised upon signing of the contract.

Submission requirements

The following must be submitted as part of the expression of interest:

1. Brief technical statement outlining previous experience relevant to the scope of work (one to two pages). Proposers are encouraged to submit examples of previous work or links.
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. Short financial proposal



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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. WCS Solomon Islands will cover the cost of holding required National Hub and Technical working group meetings in Honiara, including travel costs for required National Hub members and relevant stakeholders. 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 cmanepolo@wcs.org by the closing date. Late submissions will not be considered.