Brief report of the Initial SWoCK project Awareness and Consultation Trip

Date of Travel: 15th – 19th /08/011
Date of Report: 20th /08/011
Location: Makira Provincial Head Quarter and Aununu
constituency
Travelling Officer:
Jacob Zikuli –SwoCK Project Manager
Barnabas Tahunipue – Senior MET Officer (Instrumentation)

Objective of the Trip

1. to conduct an initial awareness and consultation with relevant provincial government
leaders, administrators, heads of division and non-governmental stakeholders in Makira
province on the implementation of the SWoCK project.

2. Undertake an initial contact trip to south Makira region (Haununu Ward) to identify
community focal people and AWS site assessment.

Introduction

The Makira region awareness and consultation trip took four days. The trip provides an
opportunity for the project management officer and MET Senior officer (Instrumentation) to
meet and explain to the provincial government leaders the SWoCK project. The trip also provide
an opportunity for the SWoCK and Senior MET officer to travel to the target remote project sites
of south Makira for an initial contact with community leaders on the project concept and assess
the relevant location for AWS equipment installation.

Awareness and Consultation activity brief.

Below are key activities undertaken during the awareness and consultation trip in Makira
province.

• courtesy call at the Provincial Secretary and Premier explaining the purpose of the trip
including proposing awareness time, venue and stake holders to be invited for the
programme awareness,
• individual consultations with heads of division,
• Awareness presentation with provincial government executives,
• Project site assessment, awareness and consultations with community leaders and agriculture Senior field assistant officer
• Identifying and defining costs of other practical issues in the implementation of the project activities in target areas (i.e. Fuel cost, OBM hire, accommodations) etc. from provincial centre to target wards.

During the trip, provincial government executive members and heads of divisions were contacted. Community focal person and leaders were also contacted in two villages. A brief awareness was also conducted for few community leaders on the concept of the project, how it will be implemented and who will be involved. Expectations and roles of communities in terms of supporting the implementation of the project were also explained to community leaders during the site consultation trip. The awareness and consultation also helps positioning the project well with local governments and those that will directly be involved in the implementation of the project.

The awareness trip was successfully conducted. With the help of the Provincial Secretary (acting) Mr. Mosses, the executive secretary Mr. Daniel Nahusu and the Makira Ulawa Premier Mr. Thomas Weape all the executive members were notified and mobilized for the meeting. Whilst several leaders were met and consulted, a series of events such as the provincial government officers’ trainings, workshops and SISE national exam conducted by IPAM, World Vision and Ministry of education during the same week had interrupted the participation of other important heads of division and stake holders for the awareness.

A brief minute of each consultation/awareness and schedules are provided in the attached Annex.

The location identified as suitable for AWS installation. (Tetere Village)
Annex 1
Schedules and Minutes of each consultation/awareness with Makira Provincial Leaders and stake Holders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15th /08/011</td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Depart for Makira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Curtsey call at provincial headquarter. Conduct initial arrangement and discussion for the awareness and consultations with the PS acting. Discussion with the Chief Agriculture Officer Identify practical costs in the implementation of the project in target sites</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th /08/011</td>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Curtsey calls at the provincial headquarter. Discussion with the Premier Mr. Thomas Weape and the executive secretary Mr. Daniel Nahusu on the project concept. Discussion with the PGSP international advisor Ms. Anush Kocarjana Discussion with the Provincial Fisheries Minister Mr. Clement Rohurua</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Conduct awareness presentation to provincial government Executive</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th /08/09</td>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Trip to Project sites (Aununu Ward) Awareness with community leaders on proposed food security programme</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Identify site for installation of AWS equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th /08/011</td>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Observed Akoma Farmers association Copra mill</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Return trip to KiraKira</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th /08/011</td>
<td></td>
<td>Return trip to Honiara</td>
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Minutes of Consultations and Awareness

15th /08/011

*Courtesy call at the Premier’s Office.*

A brief meeting with the Provincial Secretary (acting) Mr. Moses Haganitoto, Makira Ulawa province upon arrival. The purpose of the trip was explained. Unfortunately, the premier was not available during the meeting with the acting PS as he attended the opening of the IPAM training for provincial government workers.

Arrangement for the initial awareness and consultation was discussed with the PS. A notice to all provincial assembly executive members including premier to attend the awareness was issued by the acting PS. Due to the opening of the IPAM training on Monday, provincial leaders project awareness is scheduled on Tuesday 17th at the provincial headquarters conference room.

*Brief discussion with the Chief Agriculture Officer Mr. Robert Makoi*

The chief agriculture officer appreciates the food security initiatives programme by the ministry of environment and UNDP. Feels the programme will support and maximize rural agriculture activities undertaken by the agriculture division in the province. Climate change is now becoming an issue which had impacted on rural agriculture activities, particularly food quality and quantity. The chief agriculture officer identifies lack of innovative approaches and adequate programmes in the past to address climate change impacts. Issues highlight in the discussion and may need consideration are:

- Lack of logistic support equipment / facilities for the agriculture division to carry out their activities effectively.
- Only 1 OBM and boat owned by the division to carry out their activities in twenty wards.
- Agriculture usually works closely with other programmes and division’s to deliver services for rural farmers in remote villages, for example, RDP. Current implemented programme with farmers is CLIP- Cocoa Livelihood Programme.
- Agriculture office space still a problem. Province yet to address this issue. Placement of Provincial Environmental Officer in the province may need to consider budgetary support to cater for office set up and equipment if possible.

*Practical costs and Issues on project activity implementation in the target areas (from provincial center to target wards).*

Costs that may be involve during the implementation of activities in target sites are identified. This will help future field trips to specific sites when carrying out planned activities. The following costs are identified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fuel Cost</td>
<td>SBD19.00 (KiraKira - Aununu RTN 160 ltrs),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top up mix 2 stroke oil</td>
<td>SBD80.00 per liter</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBM Hire cost</td>
<td>SBD600.00 per day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>maximum SBD1000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>SBD100.00 - SBD500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Accommodation</td>
<td>SBD50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop Venue rural</td>
<td>SBD100 - 300 per day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Workshop Catering groups  SBD5,000.00 fixed amount. Catering group to provide food, eating utensils, etc.

Community focal people for Aununu ward:
Chairman Leader community – Mr. Dominic Nohori
Community Nurse Aid – Mss. Annie
Senior Assistant Field Officer – Peter
School Headmaster – Mr. Albert Shadrack

Communication:
contact with these people can be done via HF Radio, Aununu and Akoma. Alternatively, the agriculture division of Makira can be contacted to reach communities and focal people.

16th /08/011
Discussion with Makira/Ulawa Premier Mr. Thomas Weape and the executive secretary Mr. Daniel Nahusu.

A courtesy call to the premier and his executive secretary was conducted on Tuesday Morning. The project concept was briefed and the purpose of the trip was also explained. A letter issued by the Permanent secretary MECDM to the provincial secretary and Premier was received prior to the project team’s trip. Heads of division and executive assembly members have been briefed on the letter. During the meeting, the Premier stresses his support towards the proposed programme especially the idea of collaborating with Agriculture division in the province. Highlights of the meeting:

- Premier stresses the need to build the capacity of agriculture division through such programme. In the past agriculture division has not been effectively carrying out their duties to support rural farmers and maximize agriculture productions.
- Lack of appropriate and innovative approaches to address recent climate change also hindered the roles of agriculture officers in remote villages to support rural farmers.
- Formation of Provincial Climate Change Steering Committee (PCCSC) will help provincial government monitor climate change related activities undertaken at provincial level by government and NGOs.
- Establishment of a Provincial Based Environment Officer is a good for effective coordination of this activity at community and provincial level. Also officer can coordinate the function of the PCCSC.

Meeting with the PGSP International Advisor. (Mss. Anush)

Three main focus of PGSP programme in Makira:
- Capacity building for provincial government workers. Understanding and expanding the roles of provincial government workers,
- Supporting provincial government budgeting and development activities to ensure capacity of PG in infrastructure development
- Ensure effectiveness and transparency of the provincial government, in terms of finance, mechanism and procedures, resources and training, infrastructure, monitoring and evaluations.
Discussion with the Provincial Fisheries Minister Mr. Clement Rohurua

The Minister for Fisheries was consulted on any initiatives by Makira Ulawa provincial government especially fisheries programmes. Following issues were discussed.

- South Makira has been identified for sea weed farming because of its coastal geography land scape with good harbor and bay.
- Sea weed farming for south Makira (Wards 19 – 20) have been initiated by previous government and now new government will continue the idea.
- The Provincial Development plan for fisheries is to establish one fisheries Centre for Santa Ana.
- Current, fisheries Centre in the province is not functioning as expected due to mismanagement of funds by responsible officers and lack of proper equipment and logistics

Awareness presentation with provincial government Executives.

A general awareness on the project concept was conducted for the Makira Ulawa provincial government executive members on Tuesday afternoon. The awareness was conducted at the Provincial Government Conference room. The presentation focuses on the objectives of the SWoCK project, how and where it will be implemented, and who will be involved in the implementation of the project. Emphasised during the presentation also is expectations from provincial government leaders and divisions in supporting this project during its term. The Senior Officer MET (Instrumentation) Mr. Barnabas Tahupue made a brief explanation of the role of SIMS in this project and the importance of installing the AWS in the project sites.

Comments were raised after the awareness presentation.

- Member comments on the need to utilised funds for rural communities activities as much as possible other than spending most funds on management and administration level
- Comments were raised on the selection of current target sites and if possible ask project management to consider populated areas of Makira province as one site to target.
- Members appreciate the fact that Solomon Islands is fortunate to get the funding to address food security, however, wants to encourage local knowledge and experiences on food security and adaptation activities.
- Comments were also raised on the plan after five years of this programme. What would the government do to continue supporting rural communities in this initiative?
- The female provincial member comments on the need to consider traditional knowledge on food preservation to be encouraged for young generation through this project.
- Premier emphasised the need to quickly establish the Provincial Climate Change Steering Committee. It was agreed that premier and executive to take the lead, however, the SWoCK project management team to prepare ToR for Establishing such committee.

Executive members attending the awareness

Makira Ulawa Premier Honorable Thomas Weape
Executive Secretary Honorable Daniel Nahusu
Minister for Fisheries Honorable Clement Rohurua
Minister of Trade and Commerce Honorable Nester Marahoro
Minister for community Governance and Social Service Honorable Martin Karani
Minister of Works Honorable Daniel Aetangia
Minister of Finance Honorable Kevin Haga
Minister for Education Honorable Fred Vasui
Minister for Health Honorable Henry Taro

17th /08/011

Awareness and consultation with Community Leaders (Tetere Village – Aununu Ward)

Project Manager and MET Senior Officer (Instrumentation) travel to Aununu ward for AWS site assessments and awareness with communities. The Senior Assistant Field Officer stationed at Akoma was also picked and accompanied the team to the target village. Following leaders were met.

- Village Chairman Leader – Mr Dominic Nohori
- Sports Chairman – Mr Willie Atoia
- Rural Health Worker – Mss Annie
- School Chairman – Arthur Puruka
- School Headmaster – Albert Shadrack
- Senior Assistant Field Officer (Agriculture) – Mr Peter

The Project Manager presents a brief awareness of the project stressing the reason for such government initiatives and how it will be implemented. Partners participating in the implementation of the project were also mentioned. The Senior MET Officer (Instrumentation Mr Barnabas explained the important of AWS equipment and the role it will contribute to this programme in the long term. The Village Chairman welcomes the government initiative and looks forward to collaborate with partners in the implementation of this project. Issues raised during the awareness:

- It is important to organise a community awareness explaining to community members the importance of the AWS Equipment prior to its instalment.
- Effective communication should be established with communities to regular update communities on the weather information.

The team including the school chairman observed the sites for an AWS equipment instalment. The school headmaster assured the project Manager and MET Senior Officer the safety of the equipment and land issue once the equipment is installed in the school area.

18th /08/011

Observe Akoma Farmers association

A model for community initiatives in piloting group agriculture activities was set up at Akoma Village. Akoma farmers have formed an association and have established their own copra milling machine. The association is currently milling copra and supplying oil products to Honiara soap Factory. Funds raised from this activity support community livelihood needs. The association has emphasized gender in its operation. The participation of women has been very positive since their involvement. Women were given space in decision making and other operation roles of the whole association’s copra milling.

Akoma Women taking leading roles in copra milling production