SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation & Peace

SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL PEACEBUILDING POLICY

TO LEAD IS TO SERVE

Contents

Acronyms

1) ABG   -   Autonomous Bougainville Government
2) CPAD   -   Strengthening Capacities for Peace and Development
3) CRU   -   Constitutional Reform Unit
4) CSO   -   Civil Society Organisation
5) EPG   -   Eminent Persons Group
6) MNURP   -   Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace
7) MOA   -   Memorandum of Agreement
8) MOU   -   Memorandum of Understanding
9) NDS   -   National Development Strategy
10) NPP   -   National Peacebuilding Policy
11) RSIPF   -   Royal Solomon Islands Police Force
12) UNHS   -   United Nations Human Security

Acknowledgement

The Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace would like to acknowledge the following organisations and individuals who had contributed to the peacebuilding policy by way of workshop facilitation, drafting, editing, technical advice, and other inputs.

- Dr. Morgan Briggs from the school of Political Science and International Studies, University of Queensland, for putting together the initial peacebuilding policy draft upon which consultation were made, technical advice during the consultation, and editorial inputs drafts.

- Ms. Janet Murdoch and her team from the Strengthening Capacities for Peace and Development, United Nations Development Program (CPAD) Pacific Centre, Suva, Fiji, for the technical assistance in the facilitation of the consultation workshops, significant contributions in the drafts, providing editorial work, and technical advice.

- Fr. Patterson Ngalihesi from the Peace and Justice Commission, Anglican Church of Melanesia, Solomon Islands, for assembling the various editorials into the final draft

- The various peacebuilding stakeholders in Solomon Islands that had contributed significantly in the development of the peacebuilding policy during the consultation workshops

Glossary

Capacity Building

Conflict: 1. Conflict is a natural and normal and inevitable part of the human experience. 2. Conflict starts to turn negative when two or more individuals or groups/parties presume their interests or goals are incompatible express hostile attitudes, emotions and take adversarial actions that can cause the conflict to escalate as parties act to win or mitigate perceived interference or threats to their well-being. 3. Conflict is a symptom that something is not going well in a relationship and a signal to human beings to examine their relationships. 4. Conflict is a propeller for change. 5. Conflict in itself is neither bad nor good. It is our choice of how we deal with conflict that determines whether our experience of conflict is a good one or a bad one. People always have the power to choose to use adversarial and/or violent approaches to address conflict or constructive approaches such as dialogue, mediation or negotiation.

Conflict-sensitivity: 1. It is about developing an awareness of the context in which you operate, how your activities may affect that various relationships within that context and being aware of what you need to do to avoid having a negative impact and taking measures to maximise your positive impacts. Development assistance programmes or any kind of intervention has the potential to increase tensions and exacerbate conflict. They can create mistrust and disharmony. Inadequately planned projects can isolate some groups, overlook underlying root causes of poverty and contribute to violent conflict. Development should not contribute to conflict, but enable collaborative approaches to conflict resolution. These are the hallmarks of a conflict-sensitive approach to development.

Conflict Prevention: Refers to a variety of activities aimed at anticipating and averting the outbreak of conflict. Further it is "any structural or intercessory means to keep intrastate or interstate tension and disputes from escalating into significant violence and use of armed forces, to strengthen the capabilities of potential parties to violent conflict for resolving such disputes peacefully, and to progressively reduce the underlying problems that produce these issues and disputes." There are three categories of conflict prevention, according to the focus and scope:

Direct prevention (also referred to as "operational" or "light" prevention) aims at giving an immediate answer to an imminent crisis. The aim of prevention is then very sharp and specifically targets the reduction of violence between identified actors, in a rather short-term perspective. Examples of practical measures that can be implemented in direct prevention can be fact-finding, monitoring, negotiation, mediation and confidence- building. The Carnegie Commission classifies such measures into four broad categories, i.e. "early response" to "early warning"; preventive diplomacy (political, non-coercive measures); economic measures (sanctions, inducement, economic disputes resolution mechanisms) and; forceful measures.

Systemic prevention concerns issues that can be dealt with efficiently only collectively through global partnerships and frameworks on an international scale. Some examples includes illicit arms trade, drug trafficking, halting the spread of HIV/AIDS, environmental degradation, trade in conflict diamonds, and, similarly, the prosecution of war crimes and human rights violations, for example through the International Criminal Court.

Structural (or "deep") prevention involves a wider perspective, i.e. a larger scope of targets and actions over a longer time frame. Structural prevention does not only aim at reducing violence but also, if not above all, at addressing its root causes and the environment that gave birth to it. Here latent conflicts are dealt with and the final goal is to ensure human security, well-being and justice. The importance of gender issues is highlighted by United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325: women, peace and security and 1820: sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Conflict Resolution: 1. Implies to the deep-rooted sources of conflict are addressed and resolved and thus it is a more comprehensive term than <u>conflict management</u>. 2. It refers to activities aimed at ending violent conflict, assuring that behavior is no longer violent, attitudes are no longer hostile, and that the structural causes of conflict have been addressed. In its broader meaning, usually applied in practice to post-conflict situations, it addresses and solves the deep-rooted causes of conflict. 3. A process that transforms conflicts in an enduring manner rather than settling disputes or suppressing differences, by addressing basic human needs and building qualities of sustainable relationships between groups through creating structural mechanisms involving equality among identity groups, multi-culturalism/cultureless and federalism as appropriate to each situation. 4. Efforts to increase cooperation among parties to conflict and deepen their relationship by addressing the conditions that led to dispute, fostering positive attitudes and allaying mistrust through reconciliation initiatives, and building or strengthening the institutions and processes through which the parties interact. Conflict resolution can be used to reduce the chances of violence or to consolidate the cessation of violent conflict to prevent re-escalation. 5. The permanent solution of a conflict through the satisfaction of interest and needs of all parties rather than addressing symptoms of the conflict. Conflict resolution seeks to address roots causes. 6. Efforts to address the underlying causes of a conflict by finding common interests and overarching goals. It includes fostering positive attitudes and generating trust through reconciliation initiatives, and building or strengthening the institutions and processes through which the parties interact peacefully.

Conflict Transformation: Conflict transformation is based on the notion that 'conflict is normal in human relationships and that conflict is a motor for change'. It is 'a process of engaging with and transforming the relationships, interests, discourses and, if necessary, the very constitution of society that supports the continuation of violent conflict'. Thus, conflict transformation is a long-term process which takes place at various levels of society (the personal, the relational, the structural and the cultural) and which aims at transforming conflict through negotiation, the development of understanding and knowledge, and compromise.

Early Warning: 1.The systematic collection and analysis of information coming from areas of crises for the purpose of anticipating the escalation of violent conflict; the development of strategic response to these crises; and the presentation of options to critical actors for the purpose of decision making. 2. Seeks to forecast the outbreak of armed conflict or, at minimum, to detect the early escalation of violence, with the objective of preventing the outbreak or the further escalation of violence in order to save lives. 3. Cconsists of three steps: systematic collection of conflict-relevant data; information/analysis interpretation through (sectoral based) conflict indicators; and and a communication channel that opens the way for taking appropriate preventive action. 4. The process of collecting and analyzing information for the purpose of identifying and recommending strategic options for preventive measures prior to the outbreak of violent conflict. Early warning may be considered in the longer term (2-3 years' timeframe) before the outbreak of conflict.

Good Governance: The process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented)". In other words, dealing with governance involves the analysis of the processes and systems by which a specific society, or organisation, operates. Though government is one of the main actors of governance, it is far from being the only one; depending on the specific entity under study, other actors can include "influential land lords, cooperatives, NGOs, research institutes, religious leaders, finance institutions, political parties, the military, [… as well as the] media, lobbyists, international donors, multi-national corporations, etc." Moreover, governance applies to several contexts: corporate governance, international governance, and national, regional or local governance. Good governance is a form of governance that embodies eight specific characteristics, and can be seen as an ideal of governance. Good governance embodies processes that are "participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive, and [which follow] the rule of law."

Human Security: 1. Human security focuses on the protection of individuals, rather than defending the physical and political integrity of states from external military threats – the traditional goal of national security. Rather than the state as a primary securitizing object, human security reminds states of their noble role as responsible deliverer of multifaceted form of security for individual and their communities- safeguarding the vital core of human lives from critical and pervasive threats. 2. Safety from such chronic threats as hunger, disease, and repression, as well as protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life, whether in homes, jobs or communities. Such threats can exist at all levels of national income and development. 3. As multidimensional concepts, human security approach consists of seven interdependent and interconnected elements which must be comprehensively fulfilled to realise human security: economic, food, political, health, environmental, community and personal security. 4. Human security 'complements state security, enhances human rights and strengthens human development. It seeks to protect people against a broad range of threats to individuals and communities and, further, to empower them to act on their behalf.'

Human Security in the Pacific:

Economic Insecurity – Disempowerment of women, unemployment, impact of unequal trade relations;

Political Insecurity – weak governance, and corruption, exclusion of women from leadership all levels;

Environmental Insecurity – climate change and rising sea levels, impact of natural disasters and lack of preparedness for them;

Social Insecurity – Unplanned displacement, migration & immigration, squatter settlements, poor regulation of land ownership and tenure.

Justice: Is the concept of moral rightness based on ethics, rationality, law, natural law, religion, fairness, or equity along with the punishment of the breach of said ethics. Understandings of justice differ in different countries, due to cultural differences, shared history and mythology, religion and political system. Each countries culture creates values, which influence the notion of justice.

Types of Justice:

*Distributive Justice***:** Refers to the extent to which society's institutions ensure that benefits and burdens are distributed among society's members in ways that are fair and just or equitable. These benefits and burdens span all dimensions of social life and assume all forms, including income, economic wealth, political power, taxation, work obligations, education, shelter, health care, military service, community involvement and religious activities. Thus, justice arguments are often invoked in connection with minimum wage legislation, affirmative action policies, public education, and redistributive policies such as welfare. Also known as *economic justice*.

Restorative justice: Is a way of responding to criminal behaviour by balancing the needs of the community, the victims and the offenders. Restorative justice refers to a process for resolving crime by focusing on redressing the harm done to the victims, holding offenders accountable for their actions and, often also, engaging the community in the resolution of that conflict. Participation of the parties is an essential part of the process that emphasizes relationship building, reconciliation and the development of agreements around a desired outcome between victims and offender. Restorative justice processes can be adapted to various cultural contexts and the needs of different communities. Through them, the victim, the offender and the community regain some control over the process. Furthermore, the process itself can often transform the relationships between the community and the justice system as a whole.

*Retributive Justice***:** Retributive justice refers to the extent to which punishments are fair and just. In general, punishments are held to be just to the extent that they take into account relevant criteria such as the seriousness of the crime and the intent of the criminal, and discount irrelevant criteria such as race. Retributive justice is backward-looking. Punishment

is warranted as a response to a past event of injustice or wrongdoing. It acts to reinforce rules that have been broken and balance the scales of justice. Central to retributive justice are the notions of merit and desert. We think that people should receive what they deserve. Punishment removes the undeserved benefit by imposing a penalty that in some sense balances the harm inflicted by the offense. Proportionality requires that the level of punishment be scaled relative to the severity of the offending behaviour. However, this does not mean that the punishment has to be *equivalent* to the crime.

Kastom: Indigenous knowledge systems and practices, including customary law.

Peace: 1. The absence of physical violence or other methods that can produce direct or indirect harm like structural or cultural violence. 2. The wellbeing that results from the act of channelling conflict to a productive outcome. 3. The establishment of relationships that are sufficiently strong to withstand threats to stability. 4. A situation that makes possible the non-violent and creative channelling of conflict.

Peacebuilding: 1. Peacebuilding focuses on transforming relationships and structures in society to decrease the likelihood of future conflict. Thus, it is a transformation from violent to constructive relations and governance structures. It can take place at any stage in a country's development, regardless of whether the country is recuperating from violent conflict or not. 2. In countries recuperating from violent conflict, it often requires the reconciliation of differences, apology and forgiveness of past harm, and the establishment of a cooperative relationship between groups, replacing the adversarial or competitive relationship that used to exist. 3. It is also the long-term process of advancing human rights, normalizing relations, and building institutions that manage conflict without resort to violence. Peacebuilding can be applied to any sectors such as public health or creating inclusive access to education and opening up economic opportunity. 4. Peacebuilding is about establishing nonviolent modes of resolving conflicts in any sector. It also includes conflict prevention and conflict management to prevent the recurrence of violence or manage a crisis so that the violence does not escalate.

Social Cohesion: A cohesive society is one where people are protected against life risks, trust their neighbors, leadership structures and the institutions of the state and can work towards a better future for themselves and their families. Fostering social cohesion is about striving for greater inclusiveness, more civic participation and creating opportunities for upward mobility. It is the glue that holds society together. Social cohesion is built around three key values:

Social inclusion: the degree to which all citizens can participate on equal footing in the economic, social and political life, including whether people are protected in times of need

Social capital: the level of trust between people and institutions

Social mobility: the degree of equality of opportunity to get ahead.

Less cohesive societies tend to have greater levels of instability, conflict, violence and crime; because, in societies where individuals feel left without voice, representation or a sense of

belonging, they feel unbound by a social contract and thus less committed to advancing the common welfare. The lack of social cohesion weakens governance structure/systems, leadership and accountability mechanisms.

Tension/s: The term used to describe the period of violent conflict in Solomon Islands from 1998 to 2003.

Violence: 1. Consist of actions, words, attitudes, structures or systems that cause physical, psychological, social or environmental damage and/or prevent people from reaching their full human potential. 2. Violence is also seen as any emotional, verbal, physical, personal, interpersonal, psychological, institutional, or social-structural behaviour or condition that dominates, diminishes, dehumanizes or destroys ourselves or others. 4. Abuse of force. 5. Force used to make someone to do as dictated. Violence is motivated by fear, destructive anger, a sense of powerless, injustice, or the desire to control or dominate others.

Violent Conflict: A violent conflict involves at least two parties using physical force to resolve competing claims or interests. Violent conflicts may occur among individuals or groups. Violent conflicts become violent when at least one side applies force to resolve an issue. *Violent Conflict in the Pacific*: in recent history different forms of violent conflict have included: intra-state conflict, civil war, coups and riots. Sexual and gender based violence is included in this category.

Forward

From 1998 to 2003 Solomon Islands was plunged into chaos following the eruption of open violence between militant groups. The impact of the conflict on the state and its people was dramatic. The need to address the impacts of the conflict led to the establishment of the Department of National Reconciliation and Peace in 2002 which eventually became a separate ministry in 2007.

The mandate of the Ministry in addressing these impacts includes promoting national unity and sustainable peace through restorative and retributive justice including, reconciliation, rehabilitation and integration through partnership with its stakeholders. Over the years the mandate was expanded to include peacebuilding and conflict prevention programs. The strategies in the corporate plans were developed through the translation of the above mandate, government policy statements, and recommendations from various dialogue processes and workshops.

Although there have been significant progress and achievements in the implementation of peacebuilding plans; the fundamental challenge was the lack of effective coordination between the Ministry and its stakeholders. This has resulted in ineffective utilization and duplication of limited available resources. A need for a national peacebuilding policy was then realized.

I am grateful to introduce to you this National Peacebuilding Policy document and the NPPF with broad peacebuilding strategies, linkages to national and regional development frameworks, governance structure, implementation processes, objectives, coordination and implementation. These are the priority areas for the peacebuilding work in the upcoming years. The NPP translates the mandate of the Ministry of National Unity Reconciliation and Peace into a framework that is sensitive and strategically relevant to local context with the background of peacebuilding strategies and cooperate plans. It seeks to build a strong and prosperous peaceful Solomon Islands through effective coordination, social cohesion and capacity building. It recognized the mandate of the MNURP to rebuild communities is still far from over.

The Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace looks forward to working with all stakeholders towards a collective and coordinated implementation of this policy, to realise the objective of making Solomon Islands a strong, united, prosperous and peaceful country.

Lennis Rukale
Permanent Secretary MNURP

Introduction

Peacebuilding is about creating conditions and processes that minimize the negative effects of conflict and support long term peace. Peace is everybody's business, and generating peace after a period of violent conflict such as the ethnic tension experienced in Solomon Islands requires the effort of all sectors of society.

The Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace (MNURP) is tasked with post-conflict peacebuilding in Solomon Islands through a legal mandate in 2006. This mandate includes peace and reconciliation, post-conflict rehabilitation, truth and reconciliation programs, and national unity programs. In implementing this mandate significant progress has been achieved with the support of donor partners and local peacebuilding stakeholders.

To accomplish the MNURP mandate, one of the key strategies of the MNURP corporate plan is to develop a national peacebuilding policy and framework that coordinates all stakeholders. This national peace policy is the first of its kind in the Pacific region. To address the identified root causes of conflict in the Solomon Islands, this policy seeks to meld traditional and formal governance structures and mechanisms.

Many people have contributed to the development of this National Peace Policy. The policy brings together insights and analyses of local and international peace builders through meetings, workshops, consultations, research, evaluations and other policy documents in recent years.

Policy Principles and Values

The Solomon Islands National Peacebuilding Policy recognizes peacebuilding is everybody's business. Consolidating peace in Solomon Islands requires the active participation of all people and sectors of society. Peace does not happen automatically. It requires inclusive practices that ensure effective participation of all stakeholders and institutions. It is an underlying principle of this policy that peacebuilding is most effective when different people and actors work together. This NPF seeks to create synergies in peacebuilding efforts by strengthening collaboration and networking between the MNURP and all peace stakeholders. The core values that inform this policy are:

- **Mutual respect**: Respecting dignity of others is important. Mutual respect is crucial in human relationships and interactions. Mutual relationship enhances proper dialogue and conversation in conflict management and resolution without resorting to violence.

- **Good governance**: Good governance encourages best conduct in public affairs and institutions. Governance strengthening initiatives that are conflict sensitive, transparent and accountable are critical to sustainable peace.

- **Trustworthiness:** Trustworthiness is a moral value considered to be a virtue. A trustworthy person is someone that can be trusted with confidence and integrity. A person who is trustworthy cannot betray others. People can prove their trustworthiness by fulfilling assigned responsibilities with integrity. A trustworthy person is a person of integrity. People entrusted them with confidential information. This is the moral quality indispensable for peace-building.

- **Collaboration:** Collaboration is working with others to achieve the highest best. Collaboration is about team work, partnership and networking. Collaboration requires leadership, introspection of behaviour and communication. These methods specifically aim to increase the success of teams as they engage in collaborative problem solving. Effective peacebuilding can be measured by the broader quality of inter-sectoral collaboration.

- **Fairness for all:** Inequalities and power imbalances generate conflict and compromise peace. To avoid these risks, peace builders need to ensure such inequalities and imbalances must be harmonised. Peacebuilding processes should not discriminate against particular individuals or groups. Fairness for all is a call for justice at the centre of all peacebuilding activities. Additionally there is a need to support national unity and the common good over individual interests. Every person and organization has interests to defend. However, effective peacebuilding requires looking beyond these individual interests to national interests and broader group interests including the most marginalized. Equal participation by all those affected by problems so that the solutions found through consensus can better address the greater good.

- **Long term Perspective**: Building peace requires sustained engagement with sources of conflict over time. It requires both short-term management of emerging conflict as well as addressing underlying sources of conflict that will require long-term planning and strategizing.

- **Local Ownership**: Sustainable peace is peace is always home grown in society. Peace is a way of living. Local people need to be involved in determining the process of peacebuilding that best works for them. People from outside can be helpful and are often necessary to support the process, but peace can only be built by people whose desire is to live in peace. Peace building should not depend on monetary terms. The injection of donor funds for reconciliation and peacebuilding after the tensions monetized compensation and by extension created expectations that international community should pay for peacebuilding. Peace building efforts must promote the genuine empowerment of Solomon Islanders to assume control and decision over their peace building processes. This is the foundation for a sustainable, equitable and just peace.

- **Inclusive participation**: Peacebuilding requires the active participation of all people and sectors of Solomon Islands society. It requires inclusive participation of women, young people, older people, migrant communities and people from urban and rural areas. Equally important is the participation of diverse institutions such as the government, civil society, churches and international organizations.

- **Information Sharing:** Peacebuilding require careful conversations, ongoing sharing and exchange of information crucial for making peace. Peace-builders need to foster open communication and enable freedom of information for effective problem-solving.

- **Blending traditional and modern worlds:** Many of the root causes of conflict in Solomon Islands arise out of the different context people come from. The mixture of traditional and modern values and processes in a rapidly changing world is a crisis of itself. These changes generate new sources of potential conflict around land use, customary and international law, and socio-economic development. Dealing with these challenges requires new methodologies and approaches that would carefully cultivate the goodness both traditional and modern worlds offer the human society.

These core values underpin the collaborative actions undertaken to advance the implementation of this policy. They are meant to build mutual trust and create an enabling environment for coordination and collaboration.

This National Peacebuilding Policy seeks to build a united strong nation while at the same time diverse and peaceful Solomon Islands, in line with the National Development Strategy (NDS). The policy recognizes that the MNURP must play a key coordinating role in taking the Solomon Islands' peacebuilding agenda forward, but not its sole implementer. The policy seeks to promote synergies in peacebuilding efforts, strengthen collaboration and networking between the MNURP, churches and civil society organizations engaged in peacebuilding. It provides a common goal, defines a set of operating principles and establishes coordination mechanisms that will enable cohesiveness and complementarity in the approach to peacebuilding in Solomon Islands.

Policy Goal and Purpose

This National Peacebuilding Policy seeks to build a united, strong, prosperous and peaceful Solomon Islands, in line with the National Development Strategy (NDS). The policy recognizes that the MNURP must play a key coordinating role in taking the Solomon Islands' peacebuilding agenda forward, but is not its sole implementer. Thus, it seeks to promote synergies in peacebuilding efforts, strengthen collaboration, partnership and networking between the MNURP and all peacebuilding stakeholders including; churches and civil society organizations, traditional leadership, youth and women leaders. It provides a common goal, defines a set of operating principles and establishes coordination mechanisms that will enable cohesiveness and complementarity in the approach to peacebuilding. The policy was designed with root causes of the ethnic tension in mind and attempts to build and strengthen national identity, peace education and peaceful coexistence in Solomon Islands.

The policy responds to the challenges that have arisen in the 13 years after the ethnic tension and reflects on the need for the MNURP to redirect its efforts towards socio-economic development. This will advance national reconciliation and healing, facilitate longer term peacebuilding with special attention to state-building strategies. There is renewed recognition that to develop a culture of peace, more preventative action, mainstreaming conflict-sensitivity and peace education awareness activities will have to take place. In the light of the foregoing this Policy has three objectives.

Policy Objectives

1. Coordinate stakeholders and promote social cohesion through capacity building and development in conflict prevention and resolution.

2. Facilitate accountable, responsive and effective conflict management and transformation structures and mechanisms within government and traditional systems.

3. Carry out the mandate of the MNURP, and promote community rebuilding and revitalization.

Policy Objectives Defined

Objective One: Coordinate stakeholders and promote social cohesion through capacity building and development in conflict prevention and resolution.

The NPP envisages the development and strengthening of public capacity to change behavior by promoting respect and tolerance for diversity, peaceful coexistence, and national unity by drawing on traditional and religious values that support universal values of peace and strengthens social cohesion. The critical role of traditional, cultural and religious values and approaches to preventing and managing conflict are recognized within this policy. The policy, thus, foresees increasing public understanding of peace and national unity through: documentation of the role of tradition, culture and religion values in conflict prevention and management. It is expected that finding from this research will inform the development of a

peace and education curricula that will be contextualized for formal and informal education settings. This policy would support the mainstreaming of peace education into the country's educational curricula. The policy seeks to enhance youth and women involvement in peacebuilding by encouraging the development of peace, non-violence, social cohesion and tolerance campaigns design by citizen groups using media, social networks and other forms of community outreach.

Another priority under this objective is improving the capacities of government officials, traditional leaders and relevant civil society stakeholders to manage and regulate conflicts in a constructive and non-violent ways. The NPP recognizes the critical role that capacity building plays in the sustainable implementation of this policy. Training of various stakeholders[1] in relevant areas such as:

- Early warning, conflict analysis, root cause identification, cycles, maps, styles,
- Conflict resolution skills, such as dialogue, mediation and negotiation, shuttle diplomacy, power analysis
- Communication skills; active, authentic and empathetic listening and questions
- Attitudinal change: patience, tolerance, respect, fairness, trustworthiness, accountability, honesty, non-personalization of issues, consensus building
- Conflict-sensitive policy, program development, strategic planning facilitation peace outreach and advocacy design.
- Leadership strengthening and decision making
- Effective coordination, monitoring and evaluation

Regional and international technical assistance will be sought after to deliver various component of the capacity building strategy where deemed necessary by stakeholders. All training/educational interventions should embrace the principle of non-monetization of peacebuilding and the principle of fairness in the delivery of capacity building and trainings with equitable participation of government officials and civil society counterparts. A final priority under this objective is the promotion of inclusive and participatory decision-making through increased participation of CSOs, women and youth in decision making structures. The policy recognizes that this will need to be done in ways that ensures youths and women do not suffer any repercussions of hostile reaction(s) from members of the community.

Objective outcome

Effective coordination and monitoring roles by the MNURP, capacity building, proper team work and quality leadership among stake holders, increased respect for and tolerance of diversity, increased trust, better knowledge of and skills for addressing conflict non-violently and greater sense of national pride, diversity and identity.

Objective Two: Facilitate accountable, responsive and effective conflict management and transformation structures and mechanisms within governance and traditional systems.

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[1]Stakeholder includes MNURP and other government agencies, eminent persons, peacebuilding stakeholders in civil society, traditional, church, youth and women leaders and the media.

The second objective focuses on institutions of government and governance systems. It recognizes the need for conflict sensitive policy and program development at all levels of government. In particular, it target those institutions involved in land reform effort. The policy lays out a strategy for accomplishing the mainstreaming of conflict sensitive and program development, with appropriate accountability mechanisms, by first building awareness of the importance of using conflict sensitive and accountability tools, providing adequate training and following up the training with tailored technical assistance to ensure comprehensive and quality assistance.[2] In the process, early warning capacities and systems will be enhanced.

This policy also recognizes the critical role of traditional leadership structures and traditional conflict resolution mechanisms in resolving conflict. Thus, the NPPF seeks to strengthen governance structures at all levels by helping codify traditional/customary conflict management practices and strengthening legitimate, effective, and accessible conflict management mechanisms. The policy shall facilitate strengthen dialogue as a means to harmonize traditional conflict resolution procedures with the formal governance system and international human rights standards. At the same time, this policy seeks to ensure better and more accountable service delivery by targeting policing, courts and correction systems so that they are more inclined to dispense justice in ways that are more reflective of the appropriate cultural and religious values of Solomon Island society.

To further enhance conflict resolution mechanisms, the policy envisions the design and the implementation (by government and/or civil society actors) of mediation, negotiation, shuttle diplomacy and dialogue processes on emerging and/or latent conflict issues at various levels to enable the opportunity to have issues address peacefully without the use of violence. It envisions the creation of Eminent Persons Group (EPG) with gender equality to assist with the facilitation of these processes. It also promotes broader inclusive public participation in the issues that affect their lives, in particular development planning processes that have an impact on the management of locally owned resources. In this regard, it seeks to bolster local negotiating capacities with external actors interested in resources extraction.

Lastly, regional cooperation, particularly on security issues, is considered an important objective of this policy. This focus area therefore emphasizes the need to develop closer ties with neighboring countries and linked to regional security such as PIFS regional human security systems and programs. Under this policy, a national conflict warning and early response system will be fully operationalized in order to gather information of local and cross boarder conflicts and share it with stakeholders including AGB and Bougainville communities close to the borders.

Objective Outcome

Improved national and traditional governance systems, transparent and accountable structures and mechanisms with more effective response in conflict management and transformation.

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[2] (Conflict Sensitivity Consortium, 2012:19)

Inclusive participation, shuttle diplomacy and close international and regional cooperation on security issues.

Objective Three: To carry out the mandate of the MNURP, and promote community reconciliation, rebuilding, rehabilitation and revitalization.

This policy promotes national healing, reconciliation, rehabilitation and appropriate restitution as fundamental to laying a solid foundation for long term peace and stability in Solomon Islands. This objective therefore prioritizes the concluding of outstanding post-conflict political talks and reconciliation processes, post conflict rehabilitation projects, and conflict resolution efforts. Designing and implementing trauma healing programs in communities affected by the conflict is also a key focus under this policy. A forward looking national restitution program that promotes livelihoods and community development projects through participatory methods will also be developed under this policy. All interventions under this objective recognize the need to:

- engage both traditional and introduced methods, such as Restorative Justice and Trauma Healing methodologies for effective healing and reconciliation;
- clearly demarcate the roles of government and the community in reconciliation
- recognize the role of other societal actors such as churches, traditional leaders, and draw upon their high levels of local legitimacy and authority to run such interventions;
- embrace the policy principle of inclusive and consultative approaches to peacebuilding which is critical to the success of any reconciliation and national healing model;
- design and implement national dialogue, reconciliation and national healing processes on unresolved issues;
- initiate psycho-spiritual rehabilitation and community transformation; and
- accept the legitimacy of both state and CSO/community led reconciliation and trauma healing processes at the national and community level.

Objective outcome
National peace, security and stability is achieved and enhanced by Solomon Islands through reconciliation, trauma healing, community livelihood projects, rehabilitation and close cooperation of all peacebuilding stakeholders.

Multiplicity Effects of Policy Implementation
The implementation of this policy will have a multiplicity of effects. It will:

a) strengthen civil society, women, youth and traditional leaders' capacities to engage in decision-making and non-violent strategies and conflict resolution;

b) improve relations and partnerships between government representatives and other sectors of society,

c) help coordinate efforts and avoid duplication, overlap and waste of resources;

d) promote capacity development in an equitable manner;

e) enable the collections and dissemination of success stories that can be used to inform regional, national policy and programming efforts;

f) strengthen monitoring and evaluation of peacebuilding efforts;

g) enhance fundraising efforts by setting a national peacebuilding agenda that enjoys full national ownership;

h) gender sensitive with equal representation of women and youth into peacebuilding, governance and security processes and;

i) enable conflict sensitive and accountable programming development.

In implementing this NPP, a simple cost-effective structure is needed. The diagram below shows this structure with the aid donors, the MNURP, the Provinces and peace stakeholders.
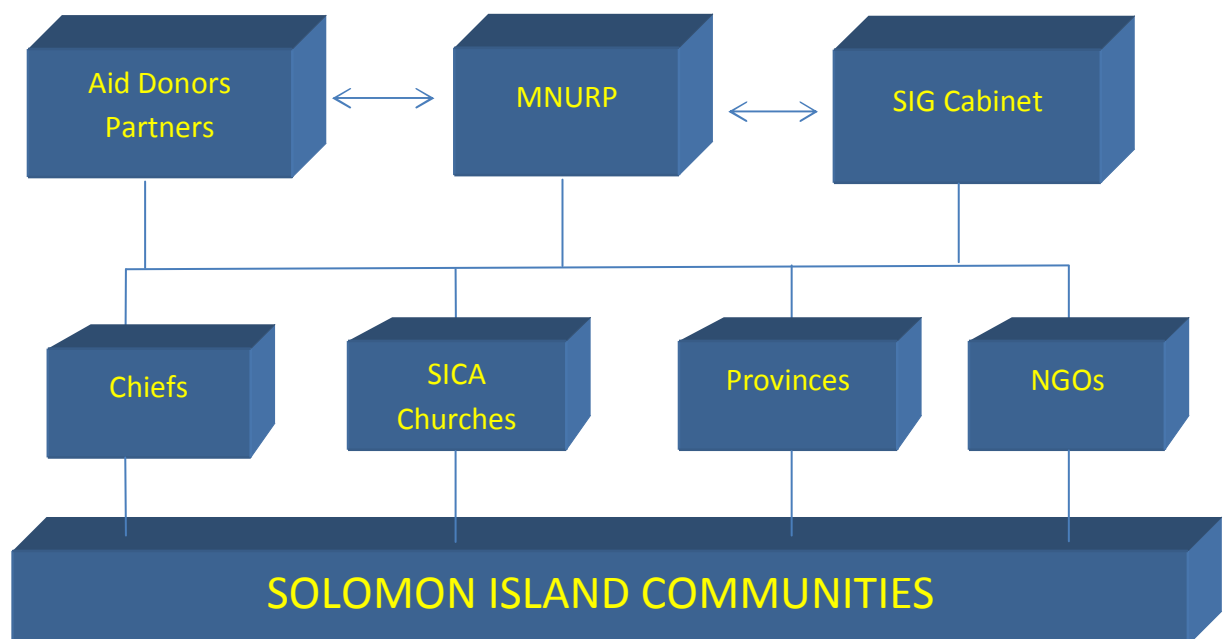
Implementation

Three models of partnership will be used in the implementation of the NPP which includes Direct Implementation, Partnership Memorandum of Understanding, Outsourcing, Joint Projects, and Implementation as per Core Functions.

The corporate plans of MNURP as strategic level plans will be implemented at the operational level through the annual work plans. The corporate plans strategies will be translated from the three objectives in this NPPF which will be implemented through the annual work plans of MNURP and will also interface with the plans of the various peacebuilding stakeholders.

In implementing these work plans the ministry will directly implement the various activities using its budget and will consult and arrange with stakeholders to implement these activities together. So far this is how the relationship between MNURP and stakeholders in the implementation of peacebuilding activities goes. This will still be retained as an effective model of implementation.

In order to work well with this DI model MNURP must have a good database of the stakeholders who can be drawn up to assist MNURP in implementing its activities.

Partnership Memorandum of Understanding

All peacebuilding stakeholders are categorized under their own sectors and do have umbrella bodies coordinating their various work within Solomon Islands. In order to work with them in a well-coordinated and an effective way MNURP will have to enter into an MOU with their various umbrella bodies. Examples are Development Service Exchange (DSE) the umbrella body of all registered NGOs operating in Solomon Islands, both national and international; Solomon Islands Christian Association (SICA), the umbrella body of the five main established churches in Solomon Islands or the Full Gospel Association, the umbrella body for the other minor churches in Solomon Islands; the provincial governments or the Ministry of Home Affairs who are or will soon be responsible for community governance structures and institutions at the community level.

These umbrella bodies will be responsible for providing information on their member organizations that may have the kind of peacebuilding expertise sought for or who are also doing peacebuilding work. This information is important for the two way provision of resource support both technical and financial.

Outsourcing

MNURP can also outsource some of its activities to service providers, who can do these activities on its behalf. In this model service contracts can be facilitated for service providers by MNURP.

Joint Projects

Stakeholders could partner together to implement peace projects. In this regard these stakeholders could sign partnership MOU and or MOA Arrangements. Reports on the progress, challenges and successes can be provided to ascertain the extent of the policy objectives implementation.

Function as per Core Functions

A number of stakeholders both in the government and the civil society sectors do have specific functions related both directly and indirectly to the objectives of the policy, meaning in implementing their various functions the objectives of this policy would be deemed as being implemented. To ascertain this, reports would be provided.

Governance Structure
The National Peace Advisory Committee

Roles and Responsibilities

The National Peace Advisory Committee (NPAC) shall provide advice, support, and makes decisions on the implementation of the policy. The NPAC will:

- Ensure the exchange of information between participants in order to avoid duplication, harmonise activities and overcome obstacles
- Provide overall advice and guidance on the implementation of the policy
- Provide access to local experts on subjects relevant to the policy
- Identify and raise emerging issues relevant for successful policy implementation
- Provide support in the dissemination of information about the policy and its implementation
- Provide support in liaising with other stakeholders about the policy

The Chair of the National Peace Advisory Committee

The MNURP Permanent Secretary will be the chair of the Advisory Committee. He or she will:

- Lead Advisory Committee meetings and ensure the proposed agenda is approved by group members and adhered to;
- Call for extraordinary meetings if deemed necessary;
- Circulate minutes for members' approval;
- Provide update on follow-up actions to Advisory Committee of on recommendations.

The Secretariat to the National Peace Advisory Committee

The roles of the Secretariat will be:

- Organising meetings, including logistics arrangements to ensure full attendance and participation of members;
- Preparing the agenda for each meeting;
- Making available to the Advisory Committee of any information relevant for the exercise of the Group's role in a timely manner;
- Recording the minutes and deliberations of the Advisory Committee;
- Acting as Advisory Committee focal point in-between meetings
- Conveying the views expressed by the Initiative Advisory Board to the Initiative Steering Committee.

Composition

The National Peace Advisory Committee shall include the following members:

- Permanent Secretaries of: Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace; Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs; Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening; Ministry of Home Affairs; Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination
- Representative of the Office of the Prime Minister
- Director of the Development Service Exchange
- General Secretary of the Solomon Islands Christian Association
- Representatives from key CSOs who have been involved in peacebuilding efforts
- Individuals recommended by the advisory group who will add value to the initiative

Chairperson: MNURP Permanent Secretary

Secretariat: Policy, Planning, and Program Development Division

Frequency of Meetings

The advisory committee shall meet at minimum quarterly to allow for regular information exchange on the initiative with the aim of promoting transparency of and support for the policy implementation.

Annexes

Annex 1: Framework Policy

OBJECTIVE ONE: IMPROVE CONFLICT PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT CAPACITIES		
Focus Area	**Strategies**	**Sample Indicators**
1.1 Promote Peace, positive social values (linked to traditional, cultural and religious values), national pride, diversity, tolerance and social cohesion through outreach, advocacy, media, education strategies and church-based efforts	1.1.1 Evaluate and document role of traditional, cultural and religious values in conflict prevention and management. 1.1.2 Development and disseminate achievements and success stories in peacebuilding 1.1.3 Promote the value of peace, unity, social cohesion and non-violent processing of conflict through community outreach, advocacy and use of media and church 1.1.4 Promote appropriate forms of wantokism, family and community support through outreach, advocacy and media approaches 1.1.5 Develop curricula on peace, positive social, traditional and religious values, social cohesion, tolerance and diversity, national pride and citizenship for primary, secondary schools and informal educational settings 1.1.6 Promote citizenship, national pride and symbolism through national cultural and sporting activities and events	• Academically/theologically/Contextually rigorous evaluation of cultural, religious and traditional values that inform a Solomon island perspective on peace and peacebuilding conducted. • Study informs the development of educational curricula, outreach and advocacy initiatives related to peace and non-violence promotion. • Contextualized Educational Curricula for formal and informal education settings for citizens of all ages developed, institutionalized and disseminated in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and through consultation with students and community members • Outreach/advocacy/educational initiatives that promote peace non-violence, unity, national pride and citizenship, positive social values, and social cohesion, diversity and tolerance through media, arts based or youth organizations developed and/or supported • Peace advocacy outsourced through small grants fund for CSO outreach/advocacy/educational initiatives • Schools implement National Anthem singing and flag raising • Sports, cultural or arts-based events and activities that promote peace, nonviolence and social cohesion, in particular International Peace Day celebrations organized and/or supported • Inter-province or multicultural exchanges and interactions sponsored and/or supported • Media-based materials that publicize for key target audiences what is being done by government and CSOs to promote

		peacebuilding, including the implementation of recommendations of the TRC developed and disseminated
		• Peacebuilding success stories documented, publicized and incorporated into outreach, awareness and educational programs
1.2 Build capacity of MNURP and other government agencies, eminent persons, peacebuilding stakeholders in civil society, traditional, church, youth and women leaders and the media in an array of needed peacebuilding related topics in a fair and equitable manner that does not monetize peacebuilding activities Topics may include: Non-violent problem-solving, conflict analysis tools, early warning, conflict resolution skills, conflict management skills and processes design (including mediation, negotiation, reconciliation and dialogue), conflict impact assessment, leadership, governance principles and processes, policy development, research, advocacy and outreach development, participatory strategic planning and coordination	1.2.1 Source regional and international technical assistance to increase MNURP and other key actors' capacities in conflict analysis, early warning, conflict resolution, conflict-sensitive policy development and constitutional reform, peace outreach and advocacy design, strategic planning, as well as monitoring, evaluation and coordination of NPPF – where necessary	• Training for MNURP staff and other key constituencies in the necessary array of peacebuilding skills and methodologies provided – capacities to address past and emerging conflicts increased • Capacities to provide tailored technical assistance by MNURP staff for other government agencies in peacebuilding and conflict sensitive development strengthened • Traditional, church and local leaders and chiefs understand local governance principles and processes
	1.2.2 Strengthen conflict analysis and resolution/management capabilities of MNURP and government, eminent persons, peacebuilding related CSOs, traditional, church, youth and women leaders	
	1.2.3 Support leadership strengthening for traditional, Church, local leaders, chiefs, youth, women and government actors, to enable effective participation in decision-making and conflict management forums.	
1.3 Promote inclusive and participatory decision-making through increased participation of CSOS, women and youth in problem solving	1.3.1 Promote the integration of CSOs, women and youth in decision-making and problem-solving structures, including parliament	• Youth and women's integration into decision-making structures at all levels increased, including parliament • Local people, provincial authorities and MP interacts are supported – inclusive decision-making enhanced
	1.3.2 Strengthen interaction between local people and provincial authorities and MPs.	

	1.3.3 Advocate freedom of information for effective problem-solving	• Freedom of information for effective decision-making is supported
forums at all levels and freedom of access to relevant information in ways that don't cause backlash.		

OBJECTIVE TWO: STRENGTHEN STRUCTURES AND INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNANCE FOR ENHANCED ACCOUNTABILITY, RESPONSIVENESS, STABILITY AND EFFECTIVE CONFLICT MANAGEMENT		
Focus Area	**Strategies**	**Sample Indicators**
2.1 Promote Conflict sensitive policy and programming development across governmental agencies at all levels, especially in land reform related programs (Conflict-sensitive methodologies should promote strong accountability measures as well as strengthen citizen awareness on accountability processes and mechanisms)	2.1.1 Increase awareness of peace, conflict sensitive programming development and accountability tools among government agencies at national, provincial and local levels	• Government at all levels understands the importance of developing conflict-sensitive and accountable programs • Conflict sensitivity awareness and training materials developed and delivered for policy and programme development for governmental entities at all levels: national, provincial and local • Accountability processes and mechanism understood supported and utilized by government and target population • Linkages between peace and accountability understood
	2.1.2 Design and disseminate education in peace conflict sensitive and accountable programming development for government agencies at national, provincial and local levels	
	2.1.3 Provide tailored technical assistance for the development of conflict-sensitive policies and programs that take into account accountability mechanisms and institutions, especially in land reform programs/efforts.	• New conflict-sensitive policies and programs developed with tailored technical assistance • Land reform Unit mainstreams conflict sensitive and accountable approaches to program development
2.2 Strengthen legitimate, effective, and accessible conflict management mechanisms and processes in ways that recognize and legitimize the role of traditional leadership structures in resolving conflict	2.2.1 Evaluate, codify, guide, develop and support customary and other local conflict resolution mechanisms in ways that strengthen articulation and development of effective governance, accountability structures at the provincial and local levels	• Chiefs and local leaders are trained in local governance principles, engagement skills and conflict resolution processes • Governance and conflict resolution structures and systems respect and foster appropriate customary and non-violent approaches to conflict • Relationships between customary governance and formal systems enhanced • Government has enhanced capacity to detect and prevent the escalation of emerging conflicts using appropriate customary systems
	2.2.2 Improve interface, strengthen relationships and facilitate dialogue on relationship between customary and formal governance/conflict resolution structures and systems	

	2.2.3 Tap nation-wide (including community-level) information about conflict and security concerns for the development of early warning capacities and systems	• Custom law, by Laws - Acts and Ordinances are codified and legitimized in the national constitution
2.3 Design and implement mediation, negotiation and dialogue processes on emerging issues, especially land and resource management issues	2.3.1 Support, design, facilitate and/or participate in mediation, negotiation and dialogue processes on emerging issues, including EPG facilitated processes	• Government actors and stakeholder design and facilitate dialogue and other conflict management processes • Dialogues led by EPG and others are supported
	2.3.2 Develop and fully operationalize an Eminent Persons Group (EPG), that includes women	• MNURP-CRU capacity to monitor and support CRU work supported • MNURP have capacity to support EPG and other conflict management processes
2.4 Improve accountable Service Delivery	2.4.1 Improve policing, courts and corrections systems in ways that better reflect and incorporate appropriate cultural and religious values	• Restorative justice principles and mechanisms and institutionalized in the prisons and legal system • Community policing strengthened through increase capacity for dialogue between communities and law enforcement
	2.4.2 Support decentralized yet nationally integrated infrastructure development planning through inclusive and participatory processes that strengthen community management of local resources	• Local level dialogue and participatory planning methodologies to elicit developmental priorities encouraged
	2.4.3 Support interface and relationship building between local communities and external actors (contractors, businesspeople, donors, investors)	• Appropriate local level management of resources supported • Relationships between local communities and external actors improved
2.5 Foster Regional security integration .	2.5.1 Develop closer ties with immediate neighbors	• Conflict analysis and early warning of boarder issues improve – specifically develop Early Warning system with ABG and Bougainville communities close to the border
	2.6.2 Strengthen regional relationships to ensure active participation in PIFS regional human security systems and programs	• Boarder security committee strengthened • Participation in PIFS regional security systems and programs consistent • Boarder security exchanges happen • Dialogue with RAMSI consistent

OBJECTIVE THREE: SUPPORT COMMUNITY RECONCILATION, HEALING, AND REHABILITATION - ADDRESSING THE PAST WITH A VIEW TO THE FUTURE		
Focus Area	**Strategies**	**Sample Indicators**
3.1 Promote national healing, reconciliation, rehabilitation and appropriate restitution	3.1.1 Conclude outstanding post-conflict political talks and reconciliation processes	• UNHS project trauma counseling mechanism designed and implemented
	3.1.2 Conclude post-conflict rehabilitation projects	• High level political talks on unresolved issues are designed and facilitated
	3.1.3 Conclude post-conflict community reconciliation and conflict resolution efforts	• RSIPF community reconciliation ceremonies held
	3.1.4 Design and implement trauma healing program in affected communities	• Outstanding reconciliation and rehabilitation projects concluded
	3.1.5 Develop a national restitution program that promote new livelihood and community development projects through participatory processes	• MNURP facilitated talks and national day of reconciliation and healing
		• National Day of Reconciliation and Healing held
		• National restitution program developed
		• Identified livelihood needs in affected communities supported

Annex 2: Background History and Context

Solomon Islands is an archipelago in the southwest Pacific, stretching across 1500 kilometers of ocean and covers a land mass of 28,000 square kilometers across six large islands – Choiseul, New Georgia, Santa Isabel, Malaita, Guadalcanal and San Cristobal with a population of 515,870.[3] Nearly two thirds of the population is under 25 years old and of which 40 per cent is less than 15 years of age. The islands comprising the Solomon Islands are inhabited largely by Melanesian peoples (approximately 95% of the overall population) with smaller Polynesian and Micronesian groups. The largest island is Guadalcanal, and the most populous is Malaita. Guadalcanal is the center, prosperous, populous, sophisticated, international, tamed, and Malaitans are pushy, aggressive, clever, and everywhere in influential positions.[4] Solomon Islands is a country of villages, with approximately 85% of land is customary and its national economy is heavily reliant on donor support and export revenues. It is one of the least developed countries in the Pacific with a ranking of 157 out of 187 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI).[5]

The country was a British protectorate from 1893 and gained independence on 7th July 1978. The governance of the country is largely based on a decentralized democratic governance system modelled on the British Parliamentary system. The British monarchy remains as Head

[3] (Moore, 2004:1)
[4] (MacNeil, 2000:123)
[5] (United Nations Development Program, 2014)

of State and is represented by a Governor General. The Prime Minister is the head of the elected government at the national level and the Premier is the head of the elected provincial government. The Parliament is unicameral Parliament of fifty (50) constituencies, with members of Parliament elected every four years through a first-past-the-post electoral system.

Institutions of formal governance have limited presence in most rural areas and as a consequence most of the problems are dealt with by chiefs, church officials, influential individuals and groups, including women and youth organizations.

Before the time of independence, the Western Province has demanded a greater share of the national budget to reflect what they felt was the province's greater contribution to national revenues. This manifested as the Western 'breakaway' movement. Since independence there have been consistent calls throughout the country for a federal form of government to deliver greater autonomy and control to the provinces. While some regional commentators and policy-makers perceived Solomon Islands as a 'failed state' following the outbreak of violent conflict in 1998, it is probably more accurate to say that the Solomon Islands state never fully consolidated.

The Tensions
From 1998 – 2003 Solomon Islands descended in to total chaos due to the ethnic tension. It started in late 1998 when militants of Guadalcanal commenced a campaign of intimidation and violence towards Malaitan settlers due to mounting grievances from indigenous inhabitants of Guadalcanal province; overrun managed immigration, proliferation of squatter settlements, increased crime, equity issues around the proceeds of development on Guadalcanal land, cultural differences, access of public services and uneven development issues. These issues were captured in a formal letter of protest to the Solomon Island Government (SIG) in 1998. The complaints were termed the 'Bona Fide Demands' (BFDs) of the indigenous people of Guadalcanal. Unattended, the violence mounted between the people of Guadalcanal and Malaitan, sparked fighting between the Isatabu Freedom Movement (also known as the Guadalcanal Revolutionary Army) and the Malaita Eagle Force (as well as the Marau Eagle Force), involving the use of high powered military-style weapons.

After numerous failed attempts to end the violence, in October 2000, the Townsville Peace Agreement was signed by the Malaita Eagle Force, elements of the IFM and the Solomon Islands Government. This was closely followed by the Marau Peace Agreement in February 2001, signed by the Marau Eagle Force, the Isatabu Freedom Movement, the Guadalcanal Provincial Government and the Solomon Islands Government. While the churches and women played a significant role as peace makers during the tensions, they were not included in the negotiations and signing of the Townsville Peace Agreement.

When a key Guadalcanal militant leader, Harold Keke, refused to sign the Agreement, the conflict moved to the Weather Coast of Guadalcanal as the "Joint Operations" unsuccessfully attempted to capture Keke and his group. Conflict also broke out in Western Province between locals and Malaitan settlers, where renegade members of the Bougainville

Revolutionary Army (BRA) brought in to protect the population, ended up causing as much trouble as they prevented.

The violence during the tensions included torture, rape, sexual violence, murder, beatings, arson, kidnapping, looting and extrajudicial detentions. The tensions also took a severe toll on the economy and contributed to the break-down of democratic laws, governance, respect for human rights as well as any sense of national unity. The already precarious infrastructure was heavily damaged. Medical clinics, schools and other basic services closed. Gender specific harms to women were extremely common.

The atmosphere of lawlessness and the capital in chaos prompted a formal request by the Solomon Islands Government for outside help. In July 2003, Australian and Pacific Island police and troops arrived in the Solomon Islands under the auspices of the Australian-led Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI). A sizable international security contingent of 2,200 police and troops, led by Australia and New Zealand, and with representatives from about 20 other Pacific nations under 'Operation Helpem Fren'.

Causes of the Tensions
It is difficult to identify a single cause – or simple set of causes – of the 1998-2003 Tensions in Solomon Islands. Certainly it is inaccurate to suggest that conflict is motivated primarily by 'ethnic' differences. While it is true that animosity manifested between the peoples of the islands of Guadalcanal and Malaita, there are also many cross-cutting 'Guadalcanal-Malaita' ties (as there are across all island groupings) and these helped to mitigate violent conflict during the Tensions.[6] Moreover, the conflict would not have erupted without the presence of longstanding underlying issues. Some people argued that certain politicians and leaders incited the uprising in 1998 and key subsequent events (including the 2000 coup d'état). The underlying issues driving conflict in Solomon Islands stem from the time of independence (or before) and are experienced throughout Solomon Islands.

In 2004 the UNDP Peace and Conflict Development Analysis identified key factors relating to the tension are: Land, Traditional versus non-Traditional authority structures, access to government services, public resources and information, economic opportunity, law and justice. In 2009 the Foreign Relations Committee report agreed that these root causes 'remain the same today'.[7]As part of the 'Peacebuilding Compared' project, John Braithwaite and colleagues developed a more comprehensive list of structural factors at the root of the conflict. These include a divided state without a nation gains independence, Colonialism, World War II and global market forces leave a legacy of uneven development and anti-colonial traditions of resentment over it. A first-past-the-post electoral system in a country of wantoks is conductive to instability; corrupt shadow governments seize the resultant opportunities to fund regime changes. People of Guadalcanal feel they are not treated with dignity, they feel discriminated against and put down on their own island, emigration from Malaita for economic opportunities available on Guadalcanal, land tensions in intermarriage

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[6] (Brigg, 2011:4)
[7] (Foreign Relations Committee, 2009)

between matrilineal and patrilineal peoples; internecine and intergenerational conflict within Guadalcanal landowning groups, youth bulge of unemployed young men and ethnic stereotyping. These issues are inextricably linked with each other.[8]

Another root cause of conflict in the Solomon Islands that is not always well understood has to do with the management of powerful commercial interests of business leaders with investments in logging, hotels, casinos, prostitution and fishing,. Powerful elite forces have the financial means to influence the democratically elected members of government and arguably disenfranchise Solomon Island citizens and distract governmental actors from their core tasks. This fuels conflict. Companies, particularly in the logging industry, have taken advantage of the central government's disorganization, short-sighted attitude toward resources and insufficient and ineffectual regulatory policies. The actions of these companies have exacerbated the very sensitive land issues in their areas of operation.

Closely linked to this is the interplay between a 'first past the post' voting system and wantokism (a system of social obligations and support based on kinship and tribal connections). Of course, self-interested corruption does take place in Solomon Islands and this is often fuelled or facilitated by wantokism. However, Governance reforms that do not take into account a nuanced understanding of wantokism are destined to fail. Indeed, says Brigg, RAMSI's programs designed to strengthen governance have weakened the bonds of reciprocity of politicians in Honiara to their provinces and strengthened the hand of elite business interests.

According to Brigg, it is rarely acknowledged by outsiders that Solomon Islanders 'can recognise and condemn corruption. Indeed they judge their local members of parliament whether they are corrupt or not, and will vote them out of power. Furthermore, wantokism, in addition to serving as an informal (i.e. non-state) form of social welfare and support, also has potential form of check against genuinely corrupt behaviour. Geoffrey White argues that given the overwhelmingly rural character of Solomon Islands society as well as the limited reach of the centralized state, local mechanisms of governance need to be strengthened. This requires engaging with local approaches to societal relations and governance (such as wantokism) rather than attempting to simply condemn wantokism as a form of corruption and replace it. In sum, these complex and intertwined issues require responses that are attuned to the cultural and historical complexities of Solomon Islands.

Annex 3: Peacebuilding Accomplishment

The national and international responses to the tensions have been numerous and Solomon Islands returned to a state of normalcy. People have the freedom to movement and engage in community living. Schools were opened Children, health services restored and economic activity has picked up. Moreover, peace has enabled the re-emergence of public forums and dialogue. There are new emerging youth initiatives, networks and partnerships. Social media

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[8] (John Braithwaite, et al, 2010:109)

forums are increasingly used to foster engagement and women have gained appreciably equality in economic development, governance and leadership roles.

International Efforts

A range of international donor partners and non-governmental organizations have contributed to bring peace in Solomon Islands. These include, among many others, the UNDP, Transparency Solomon Islands, ROC (Taiwan), The European Union, NZAID, Save the Children, AusAID, World Vision, Prison Fellowship International and Caritas. Much international help has gone to the recovery and rebuilding of damaged infrastructures and the restoration of basic services. RAMSI and UNDP have been the most influential.

Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI)
The primary mechanism for international peacebuilding support in Solomon Islands has been the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI). RAMSI has pursued peacebuilding in support for improved law, justice and security; for more effective, accountable and democratic government; for stronger, broad-based economic growth and for enhanced service delivery. There is a broad consensus that the RAMSI intervention was essential to the re-establishment of order in Solomon Islands and helped guarantee a stable space for social transformation. Even with the RAMSI transition and downsizing, the mission can still be an important actor in SIG's future peacebuilding efforts.

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
The UNDP has provided longstanding support to peacebuilding efforts in Solomon Islands. UNDP supports from DDR efforts in the early 2000s through to the TRC, the MNURP and to a current joint Human Security program focused on empowering communities affected by the tensions. Solomon Islands have been a priority country for the Crisis Prevention and Recovery Team of the Pacific Centre since 2009. This support has enabled the UNDP sub-office to develop a track record of positive outcomes that have secured UNDP recognition and legitimacy as a credible partner in peacebuilding work with the government (MNURP specifically) and civil society actors.. The support provided has been very relevant to MNURP strategic plans and programs.

National Efforts
The Solomon Islands government (SIG) is the political authority with primary responsibility for peace and order. The signing of the Townsville Peace Agreement (TPA) in 2000 and the establishment of the Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace was a significant commitment towards long-term reconciliation and rebuilding of the country. True reconciliations, peace and stability is recognized by the government as fundamental to sustained development, peaceful coexistence, freedom and harmony in the nation. The government has also undertaken the Constitution Reform Program, the Commission of Inquiry (COI) into Land Dealings and Abandoned Properties on Guadalcanal and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), the Family Protection Bill and the National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security.

The MNURP has been dealing with reconciliation efforts, monitoring and implementing the Townsville Peace Agreement, conduct post-conflict rehabilitation, advance truth and reconciliation programs and promotes national unity. Much of these include the repatriation of displaced persons, compensation for lost property, demobilization of special constables and rehabilitation, dialogue between Guadalcanal and Malaita Provincial Governments in 2010 and between Guadalcanal and Malaita Province and the Solomon Islands Government in June 2011. The MNURP, has advanced human security needs, post conflict issues related to victims, offenders, communities, provinces and the nation.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission
The post-tensions period has also witnessed the establishment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission conducted its work and finalized a report, fulfilling the TRC Act. The Commission was tasked, through legislation passed in 2008, to 'examining the nature, antecedents, root causes, accountability or responsibility for and the extent of the impact on human rights violations or abuses which occurred between 1st January 1998 and 23rd July 2003...'.[9]While the government never formally released the report, it is non-the-less in the public domain. This policy seeks to implement many of the more obvious recommendations of the TRC whist recognizing that others are more problematic.[10]

Civil Society Efforts
 Church leaders, traditional leaders, women and NGOs have played a key role in mitigating violence during the tensions, and continue to play a key role in facilitating reconciliations in the post-conflict phase. Their role is crucial to any successful long-term peacebuilding strategy in Solomon Islands. As a result of CSO led rights awareness programs, women have been successful at getting SIG to actively promote gender equality in its public programs. There is palpable evidence of more citizen efforts to refurbish key neglected infrastructure like schools, both with and without the help of government. They have initiated volunteer efforts of their own to enable reconciliation among victims and offenders and between members of warring parties. The key contemporary national peacebuilding stakeholders include: Sycamore Tree, SICA and members churches, Commonwealth Youth Program, Development Services Exchange, Live and Learn Solomon Islands, Women for Peace, Vois Blong Mere, Christian Care Centre, Olalfou Youth Program, Young women's Parliamentary Group, National Council of Women, Council of Chiefs and Ilukim Sustainability Solomon Islands.

Twelve years afterwards much remains to be done to consolidate peace and unity in the Solomon Islands. The Solomon Islands government has also not taken the firm control of the policy agenda that is necessary to address root causes of the conflict. As the Foreign Relations Committee reports, 'no government has had the necessary political will and public

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[9] (Solomon Islands Governmet, 2008:Section 5(b))
[10] Some of the recommendations are of such a political nature that they are beyond the prevue of the MNURP or other ministries to implement. In other cases, responsibilities are nebulous do not fit within the jurisdictions of the ministries. Furthermore, neither the funds nor capacity exist in the country to implement some of the recommendations. Finally, some of the recommendations lack adequate sensitivity to Solomon Island cultural and political realities. If implemented without adequate contextualization, they might exacerbate rather than mitigate conflict.

support to address issues such as land rights, federalism, repatriation of 'illegal squatters', control over internal migration, and so on'.[11] Solomon Islands continue to endure both physical and emotional trauma as the result of the conflict. The consequences are also felt acutely by a growing youth population that has limited employment and educational opportunities. Deep-seated distrust remains a significant factor to unity and peace.

International organizations, the government and civil society have all played active roles in peacebuilding initiatives sometimes in a coordinated manner but mostly with parallel initiatives using different approaches. Notwithstanding that most activities undertaken have been helpful, the provision of support can and has had negative impacts as well. As a result, the efforts have not had the 'add –up effect' that could have been achieved had a more strategic and coordinated approach – linked to root causes – been collectively devised and undertaken. The ill spent resources, time and energy has had a bearing on the credibility of peacebuilding efforts in the eyes of the population. It is important to take stock of mistakes and lessons learnt from the post-tensions peacebuilding efforts and take corrective action.

Monetization of peacebuilding

The inflow of donor funds has had a corrupting and monetizing effect on peacebuilding initiatives. The activities and programs of international organizations and NGOs inflated the fees associated with the provision of services and created unrealistic expectations about the material benefits of peace.[12] Internationally supported reconciliation efforts have had the effect of monetizing and inflating traditional compensation rather than successfully managing conflict.

Inclusion of non-state actors, women, youths and marginalized citizens in peacebuilding.

Despite the many contributions of CSOs to peacebuilding, the contributions of these actors have not been adequately recognized and supported by national actors or the international donor community. Some scholars note that one of the most crucial weaknesses of the justice reform efforts has been the failure to enable and support conflict prevention by traditional leaders and churches at the village level. Thus, there is a need to design and promote peacebuilding initiatives with all non- state actors.

Strengthening coordination roles for sustainable partnership in peacebuilding efforts.

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[11] (Foreign Relations Committee, 2009:208-209). The report goes on to state that 'following the RAMSI intervention, the CNURA Government is today in a far better position to do so than any of its predecessors. It is also clear from the provincial hearings that there is a huge nationwide expectation of the SIG in this regard'. Notwithstanding the CNURA Government commitment to address conflict issues, which notably includes the establishment of the TRC and support for MNURP-led reconciliation processes, the Committee's point about 'necessary political will' appears to continue to ring true.

[12] Transport costs, provision of "sitting fee" and allowance for participation in peacebuilding workshops has undermined local ownership and set the unfortunate precedents that are very difficult to undo. Assistance to peace must seek to foster - not undermine – true commitment. It is important that efforts not perpetuate expectation that peacebuilding is something that outsiders should pay for. Solomon Islanders need peace and must be willing to build a stable and secure nation themselves.

International donor support is often project driven and generally lacks linkage to local strategies. The lack of documented data and information sharing on programming activities amongst Peacebuilding actors has created knowledge and information gaps that have thwarted more effective Peacebuilding efforts. The unstable peace in the Solomon Islands requires continued nurturing of peacebuilding efforts as well as a more systemic and conflict-sensitive approach to development and governance strengthening. Over the past few years, the MNURP and peacebuilding CSOS have come to understand the need for and value of partnering to effective reconciliation, to advance prevention efforts and address new and emerging conflicts. There is a recognized need for greater coordination to better link grassroots programs and activities with overall strategic directions for addressing root causes.

Developing programs based on nuanced understanding of local context

As noted earlier, governance reforms that have been undertaken, particularly under RAMSI support pillars were developed based on western notions of modern state and did not take into account a nuanced understanding of the nature of the traditional structures of Solomon Island societies. RAMSI's programs designed to strengthen governance, for example, have weakened the bonds of reciprocity of politicians in Honiara to their provinces and strengthened the hand of elite business interests; thus possibly fuelling corruption as opposed to stemming it. Rather than condemning local practices, governance reforms must be attuned to the cultural, geographical and historical complexities of Solomon Islands.

Annex 4: Key Lessons Learnt

Gender and conflict sensitive approaches in programs

Among the weaknesses of the RAMSI supported efforts is the lack of attention to justice for women. The judicial system, with support and technical assistance from RAMSI, conducted several dozen trials for crimes committed between 1998 and 2003. The tension trials addressed a range of crimes; however, although there were many incidents of sexual violence, no tension trial has dealt with these crimes. Currently, no known efforts have been made to formally address tension-related crimes committed against women. More recently, efforts to eliminate violence against women, to increase women's participation in government and decision-making and to incorporate gender perspectives have increased. RAMSI has developed a Gender Action Plan that will include gender related performance indicators against which all RAMSI programs will be measured.

Extensive trauma healing through effective therapeutic methodologies

Trauma healing and counseling is indispensable for Solomon Islands. Trauma is an integral part of peacebuilding. It is a significant step towards true and effective reconciliation. Traditional reconciliation ceremonies should be the symbolic end to a process of healing that generates authentic, heart-felt forgiveness. Reconciliation and trauma healing are processes. These processes require sophisticated skills, proper training and proven effective methodologies.

Strengthening conflict resolution processes and capacity building

Capacity building in conflict analysis, conflict resolution and transformation are necessary tools for peacebuilding. The MNURP needs better skills to implement its mandate and coordination with other stakeholders to ensure greater sustainability of peacebuilding efforts. However, stakeholders concur that capacity building efforts should not be for the ministry alone but should involve the community of peace-builders and stakeholders. This will equip the MNUR and stakeholders with skills required to design and facilitate dialogue and tailored conflict resolution processes on emerging issues and should include the formation of an Eminent Persons Group (as a neutral group/body with wide societal credibility) capable of facilitating both high-level talks/reconciliations and national dialogues.

Promotion of social cohesion, national identity and unity

There are longstanding demands and processes in Solomon Islands that are driving toward a federal system. But, there is little political will among the elite in Honiara for such reform. The issues continue to simmer in ways that erode national unity and could become a trigger for further conflict. There is a need for sustained dialogue on these issues as well as sustained advocacy and educational initiatives that promote peacebuilding at the community/grassroots level as well as to help mainstream peace at all levels and in all sectors. It is highly recommended that education curricula and program for both formal education systems (to integrate peace education in schools) as well as informal sector education to reach school leavers and society as a whole. Government and civil society need to work together on a joint curricula and the curricula should include character education; promote national pride, tolerance, and social cohesion. The media could be better utilized to design and disseminate peace and social cohesion messages.

Peacebuilding activities to be connected to the root causes of conflict

The net result past actions by all key players is a substantial shortfall in the efforts to address the root causes of conflict in the Solomon Islands. Despite the progress, the Solomon Islands still faces real transitional challenges with post-conflict 'gaps.' The failure to adequately address the gaps may provide potential impetus for renewed conflict since the underlying causes of the conflict remain. The situation continues to call for coherent and well thought through policies and programs that are conflict sensitive and foster reconciliation, peacebuilding and sustainable development.

Annex 5: Formulation of Policy

The development of the National Peacebuilding Policy (NPP) has been a collective effort of the Solomon Islands Government, the ministry of National Unity Reconciliation and Peace, international donor partners and local peace stakeholders since the signing of the Townsville Peace Agreement in October 2000. This policy is in alignment with the ministry's mandate and government policy to facilitate the national healing process through integrative and participatory peace building approach to achieve sustainable and stable peace. The milestone events and the collaborative efforts of the Government and its partners through the

development of its strategic documents over the years, paved the way for the development and formulation of the National Peacebuilding Policy.

In retrospect; the Townsville Peace Agreement (TPA) was signed in Australia in October 2000 and consequently a neutral Peace Monitoring Team (PMC) requested by the TPA was established to monitor and assist the peace process. In 2003 the PMC was later transitioned to the National Peace Council operating under the NPC Strategic Plan 2004-2009. In the same year the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands under facilitation of International Assistance Act 2003 (No. 1 of 2003), intervened to restore law and order and strengthen state institutions.[13] Following the phase out of the NPC, in 2004 the Department of National Unity Reconciliation and Peace (DNURP) was established and mandated to manage rehabilitation and reconciliation activities alongside the past efforts of the PMC and NPC.

Through the efforts of DNURP, the Peace and Conflict Related Development Analysis (PCDA) 2004 was carried out with the purpose of formulating guidelines and recommendations for donor support and government strategy to address the root causes of the unrest. The PCDA made twelve key recommendations to the Government, Donors and Civil Society Organizations to address the causes of the unrest in a strategic and holistic approach.[14] Other milestone events were; the Commission of Enquiry into the Land dealings on Guadalcanal, the dialogue between Guadalcanal and Malaita Provincial Governments in 2010 and Guadalcanal and Malaita Province and the Solomon Islands Government in June 2011. These processes made recommendations for a national peace building policy

The Ministry of National Unity Reconciliation & Peace was established by Legal Notice No. 36 of 11/3/2002 to "oversee, promote and foster National Unity and sustainable Peace through restorative and retributive justice including reconciliation, rehabilitation and integration through strengthened partnerships with all stakeholders in the process of nation and peace building, good governance, integration and reintegration nationwide". In 2008, the National Parliament passed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Act; a key recommendations of the PDCA, its functions called on the government, donors and stakeholders to include the promotion of national unity and reconciliation and to engage stakeholders in reconciliation processes, examining causes of human rights abuses and working to restore the dignity of victims. To prepare the Government for the implementation of the recommendations of the TRC the necessity of a national peace building policy became even more evident.

In 2009, UNDP headed a Peace Dialogue Mission; followed by a Partnership Stakeholder meeting in September 2011. This dialogue brought together government ministries and departments, faith-based groups and CSO's to map out peace efforts and develop peace stake-holders partnership framework for peace building in Solomon Islands. Later Dr. Morgan Brigg from the University of Queensland School of Political Science and International Development was contracted to work on a National Peacebuilding Policy Framework. He conducted extensive literature review and multiple focus group discussions with MNURP technical divisions and other peacebuilding stakeholders. Dr. Morgan's Policy Framework and background documents became the primary document for a National Consultation and recommendations which foreshadowed the development of this National Peace Policy.

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[13] (Foukona, 2014)

[14] (United Nations Development Program , 2004)

Annex 6: Linkages to Existing Strategy Documents

A broad range of documents including international best practices, regional strategy documents, relevant peacebuilding literature as well as national corporate plans, relevant policies, action plans, evaluations, project documents, reports and recommendations of past dialogue processes and consultations inform the development of this NPP. Most significantly among them are:

Regional

The Solomon Island National Peacebuilding Policy advances on the national level regional peacebuilding strategies captured in various strategic documents such as: The Pacific Plan, the United Nation's UNDAF 2013-2017,

The Pacific Plan

The Pacific Plan is undergoing revision. However, the current version of the Pacific Plan, calls for a region of peace, harmony, security and economic prosperity, so that all of its people can live free and worthwhile lives. The relevant peacebuilding priority areas identified in the Pacific Plan are: improved gender equality, enhanced involvement of youth, recognized and protected cultural values, identities and traditional knowledge, improved transparency, accountability, equity and efficiency in the management and use of resources in the Pacific and finally improved political and social conditions for stability and safety.

The Pacific Plan is based on the concept of regionalism: that is, countries working together for their joint and individual benefit without limiting national sovereignty. It is not intended to replace any national programmes, only to support and complement them. The goal is to strengthen regional cooperation and integration in the Pacific. It involves: setting up dialogues or processes between governments for and with increased coordination of policies between countries, pooling services so that Governments are freed from daily management of some services and can concentrate on service delivery in other areas and on policy development and finally lowering barriers between countries.

Biketawa Declaration

The military of coups in Fiji and unrest in the Solomon Islands, lead the region's leaders adopted the Biketawa Declaration.[15] The declaration sets the framework for regional conflict prevention and management of political crises. It recognises actions to be taken to avert causes of conflict in times of crisis, the socio-economic disparities that impacts negatively and erosion of cultural values and good governance and land disputes.[16] The Biketawa Declaration also for the first time allowed the Secretary-General of the Forum Secretariat to act in a "good offices" capacity to address developing security crises and laid out a range of

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[15] There are other security declarations that recognize that an adverse law enforcement environment could threaten the sovereignty, security and economic integrity of Forum members and jeopardize economic and social development; *Aitutaki Declaration (1997)*: Leaders' agreed to a number of principles governing security cooperation in the region; *Nadi Framework Initiative (2000)*: provided a legal framework for a common approach to weapons control in the region and; *Nasonini (2002)*: adopted as a response to the September 11th terrorist attacks on the United States. It recognized the need for immediate and sustained regional action in response to security threats, including counter-terrorism.

[16] (Pacific Islands Forum, 2000)

tools. These included the creation of ministerial action groups, fact-finding missions, the use of eminent persons, third-party mediation, convening of special leaders or ministerial-level meetings, and support for institutions and mechanisms which could assist a resolution.[17]The declaration also commits forum members to some key fundamental values.[18]

Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG)

The MSG is an intergovernmental organization, composed of the four Melanesian states of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu as well as the FLNKS of New Caledonia. It was founded as a political gathering in 1983 and is primarily dedicated to fostering economic development through trade relations. Politically it is dedicated to the ongoing political processes of self-determination of the Pacific region and to enhancing and promoting political stability. Its vision for the future is currently under review by an Eminent Persons Group.

Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security

Distortions of tradition have impacted severely on the status of women in the Pacific. Despite women's productive efforts, their participation in conflict prevention, management and post-conflict recovery is minimal. Women still struggle to be heard at the negotiating table, in leadership roles and are not given sufficient recognition and resources to do their work. To address this inequality a Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security was developed in 2012. It emanates from numerous international and regional commitments and mandates. Solomon Island National Peacebuilding Policy will aid the implementation of two of the three pillars of the Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security: I) women's contribution to conflict prevention and management and peacebuilding; II) gender perspective and women's participation in security sector oversight and accountability. This will promote better service delivery of police, corrections and court services. The policy will help advance the Regional Action Plan for improved security outcomes for women by enhancing women's participation in security sector, justice policy development and oversight and accountability.[19]Thus, this policy complements and accelerates the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security at the national level.[20]

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[17] *'Forum Leaders recognised the need in time of crisis or in response to members' request for assistance, for action to be taken on the basis of all members of the Forum being part of the Pacific Islands extended family.'*

[18] including, among others, the importance of averting the causes of conflict, upholding democratic processes and the rule of law, and commitment to good governance, including transparency and accountability. The implementation of this policy would help fulfil Solomon Island's obligations as a signatory to the Biketawa Declaration.

[19] See: PIFS (2012) *Guiding Principles on Security Sector Governance.* "Security services should recognise and be responsive to the different security needs of men and women and promote gender equality. A core principle is the recognition of the importance of gender equality in ensuring that women participate in all facets related to the governance of security institutions. Security sector activities must be gender sensitive in the delivery of its services and also develop processes and systems that recognise special safety and security needs of women such as the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. This principle is linked to the Pacific Plan."

[20] Relevant RAPs: EU Comprehensive Approach to the EU Implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 on Women, Peace, and Security & Implementation of UNSCR 1325 as Reinforced by UNSCR 1820 in the Context of European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP); AU Gender Policy, released in 2009, draws upon international gender equality instruments including UNSCR 1325; SADC Protocol on Gender and Development; In December 2006, the ICGLR member states adopted the Pact on Peace, Stability, and Development in the Great Lakes Region, which integrates 1325; The Economic

UNDAF

Another relevant regional strategic document is the UN UNDAF. This document guides UN programs in the region. The Solomon Islands National Peacebuilding Policy, when implemented, will aid the implementation of two conflict-related outcomes of the UNDAF:

✓ Outcome 2.1: "Increased women's participation through legislation and policies that advance women's leadership at all levels."
  o Encourage women's decision-making and participation in political and leadership positions.
  o Incorporate modules on violence against women and child abuse in the training curriculums both at pre-services and in-service training levels for health workers, police and teachers.

The stated priority for Solomon Islands is the implementation of NAP on SCR1325 Women, Peace and Security.

✓ Outcome 5.1: Regional, national, local and traditional governance systems are strengthened and exercise the principles of good governance, respecting and upholding human rights, especially women's rights, in line with international standards. The aim is to improve the quality of governance, including the inclusion of vulnerable groups in decision-making processes in the political and economic spheres. However, the UN will prioritize initiatives that promote inclusive democratic governance "which reconciles traditional and modern forms of governance" and, where applicable, support peace and reconciliation processes.

National Plans

The UN strategy also calls for strengthening efforts to prevent and recover from conflict in the region and promote human security, including designing appropriate institutional mechanisms and structures that will sustain regional support to conflict prevention. This policy framework contains a set of strategies for peace building in post conflict Solomon Islands that when implemented will fulfill the relevant key focus area of the National Development Strategy (NDS) 2011 - 2020. There are various plans in the various sectors of government that are implemented to fulfill the NDS of which the inputs of CSOs and donor partners are significant. Furthermore, peace building cuts across all civic and economic sectors therefore has multiple links.

Broadly there are three levels of national policy framework/plans from which all sectoral plans are categorized – substantive, strategic, and operational/tactical. These are defined according to the range of years in which each operates – for examples long-term, medium to

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Commission for the Great Lakes Countries Regional Plan of Action for Implementation of 1325 in three countries and Regional Steering Committee; Mano River Union developing a RAP and; Dakar Declaration and ECOWAS Plan of Action for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in West Africa.

long terms, three year rolling plans, and yearly plans. This NPPF is a five year plan and sits at the medium to long term range. At the National level therefore, the NPPF does not work in isolation from all other levels of policies/plans and their assorted sectoral plans across the SI public Service. The same kind of link/synergy also goes for other long-term, medium-term, and short-term plans of national non-state actors.

- Long-term Plans: 10 Years - National Development Strategy

- Medium to long term plans: Provincial Strategic Plans, Sectoral Strategic Plans, Policy Translation Document, and Macroeconomic Planning

- Three Year Rolling Plans: Provincial Plans, Corporate Plans, and Medium Term Development Plan

- One Year: Annual Work Plans and Budgets for government ministries and provincial governments, and Annual Development Budget

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