



EAST CHOISEUL CONSTITUENCY SETS STANDARD IN CDF IMPLEMENTATION

...as the constituency office, communities and individuals work in partnership towards delivering meaningful projects to improve constituents livelihood.

STORY ON PAGE 4-5



Soranamola school staff houses in East Choiseul Constituency. This is funded by CDF in partnership with community support. Another component of this project was the funding of a standard classroom building for the school (refer to page 4 & 5 for more).

CDF

Constituency Development Fund

**Improves
social and economic
livelihoods of all rural
Solomon Islanders**

FROM THE COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS DESK



WELCOME TO THE MRD NEWSLETTER 2022.

The Communication and Public Relations Unit (CPRU) of the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) is honoured and pleased to present to you the fifth issue of its newsletter for 2022.

In this October publication, we featured a lot of stories on the positivity of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) on rural lives in our 50 constituencies.

This newsletter publication is one of the various initiatives the ministry through its Communications Unit is effecting to increase its community awareness and raise the visibility of the ministry regarding its core mandates and programmes being implemented in the 50 constituencies via the CDF programme to improve social and economic livelihoods of all rural Solomon Islanders. Despite, the diverse challenges faced by MRD through its programme implementations, MRD is remain committed to deliver to fulfill its vision and that is to ensure ALL rural Solomon Islanders become meaningfully participated in development activities to improve their social and economic livelihoods.

This is a wonderful opportunity for MRD to embrace this communication medium and to fully maximize its capacity to disseminate accurate information and success stories about its programmes to policy-makers, its stakeholders and the general public. We are grateful that you’re taking your time to read this publication. Please share this newsletter with your friends, work colleagues and disseminate it through your respective network (s). This publication is produced by the MRD Communications (CPRU) team.

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COVER PHOTO

Soranamola school staff houses and classroom complex on the right in East Choiseul Constituency funded by CDF in partnership with community support.



INSERT: (L-R) Schulte Maetoloa, Constituency Project Officer, MRD Data Officer Anita Silvae and Constituency Accountant standing with some of the products from Schulte’s Fish Company.

Gizo/Kolombangara: 20k boost for Schulte’s Seafood Company

Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency (GKC) has supported Schulte’s Seafood Company in Gizo, Western Province with an investment of \$20,000 in Constituency Development Fund (CDF) to boost the company’s operation.

The financial assistance was part of an ongoing support of the GKC towards in-come generating activities and entrepreneurship within the constituency.

Constituency Project Officer (CPO) Wesley Nonikera handed over the assistance to the founder of the Company, Schulte Maetoloa in Gizo on 30 September, 2022.

Mr. Maetoloa said he was humbled on behalf of the company to have received the assistance from the Government through the GKC Office.

“This is a timely and huge support for our company . We have started our business in 2019 and one of our challenge is storage. Currently we only have two storage facility working at the moment with the third one under maintenance. And with this support, i believe we can be able to sort out the storage issue as the company continue to grow,” Mr Maetoloa said.

Previously GKC supported the company with \$50,000. The \$20,000 was an additional support to the company for the purpose of purchasing a new storage equipment.

“If our storage is set, then our local fishermen in and around Gizo/ Kolombangara will supply more fish because at the moment we have to control the supply due to our storage capacity,” Mr. Maetoloa said.

Besides the storage unit, Mr. Maetoloa said the company also ordered a proper fish smoking machine which will cater to producing quality smoked fish.

He further added that the constituency support will really boost their operations as they continue to work with local fishermen in and around Gizo.

“Our aim is to support our local fishermen meaning they will be our priority and main fish supplier which I believe will help boost our local economy and more specifically our constituency.

“The company also wants to see that our rural people also benefit from our company in terms of providing employment opportunities for our young skilled people in the constituency.

“We anticipated that in the near future this company will utilize our local fishermen with maximum benefits by giving them the avenue to help them meet their basic needs to support their families,” Mr. Maetoloa said.



Schulte Maetoloa receives the assistance of \$20,000 (cash) from Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency Project Officer and Constituency Accountant in Gizo.

In terms of the products, Schulte’s Fish Company’s produced smoked fish, fish stake cuts and fish mince.

Mr. Maetoloa said feedbacks they recieved from their consumers was positive and they will continue to produce more for the local market.

CPO Nonikera said that the constituency office always happy to support as it believes in partnership as a way forward to improving development in the rural areas adding Schulte’s Fish Company plays a vital role towards rural development aspirations.

“The constituency is pleased to support the company and hope that they will grow to support the constituency aspiration in terms of development in the rural areas within Gizo/Kolombangara constituency,” Nonikera said.

MRD Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) team led by Principal Monitoring Officer Gabriel Manetiva also witnessed the handover ceremony. The M&E team was in the constituency at that time to monitor and asses funded-CDF projects in the constituency.

While acknowledging GKC and the company for the partnership, Mr Manetiva said it is MRD’s sole vision to ensure all rural Solomon Islands become meaningfully participated in development activities to improve their social and economic livelihood.

Few project recipients in communities outside Gizo town including Titiana and Nusa Baruku communities were also visited by the M&E team.

Member of Parliament for GKC is Honourable Lanelle Tanangada. She is also the current Minister for the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development (MEHRD).

East Choiseul Constituency sets



A new complete United Church building at Kio Community. This CDF project is implemented through community partnership with constituency office.



CDF project at Koloe Primary School. This permanent classroom project was implemented thru community partnership with constituency office.

The implementation of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) programme in East Choiseul Constituency (ECC) is encouraging as it promotes unity and community participation in all its development undertaking.

A team from the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) is currently in the constituency to monitor and verify 2020 and 2021 CDF-funded projects and can confirm that ECC is one of the constituencies in the country that are well organized with communities very supportive to their Member of Parliament and the constituency office towards implementation of their community projects.

It's obvious that infrastructure projects get most of the constituency's CDF allocation with huge portion of it invested into major community infrastructure projects like construction of new permanent classrooms, school staff houses, church buildings, community halls, guest houses, housing projects and other individual project assistance.

Development partnership is evident in ECC. The constituency office work in partnership with communities and individuals to help advance rural development that impacts their livelihoods.

"ECC put more emphasis or support into these communal projects to promote unity and community participation in our communities," Constituency Development Officer (CDO) Collin Bemama Qalokisa said.

He said that it is the commitment of the constituency office under the leadership of their Member of Parliament (MP) Hon. Manasseh Sogavare who is also the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands to support and fund establishment of community projects that can benefit everyone.

"Education is one of the priority sector's that we put more support into like construction of new classrooms, staff houses and school fee subsidy to make sure our children continue to access better and quality education.



(L-R) MRD Monitoring & Evaluation Officer Timoly Carter, Chairman of Kapika 1 community Francis Pitakaka, CDO Collin Qalokisa and MRD Data officer Margery Pitatamae at Kapika 1 community project site.



A permanent staff house for Tarama SDA Primary school. The project is funded by CDF in partnership with Tarama community.

"In addition to that the constituency is also pleased to continue its support to churches regardless of whatever denomination because churches play an important role in the spiritual and social development of our communities and our country."

Most of ECC projects were implemented through community partnership or participation where constituency assist with all required hardware materials and communities implement the projects with support of timbers, sand, gravel and labour.

"Projects were identified by respective communities or community committees. The constituency office only verifies submitted proposals and facilitate delivery of whatever is requested of them. That is how we implement and utilize our CDF allocation," CDO Qalokisa explained.

He further said that they encouraged community participation in all their development programs to guarantee communities

standard in CDF implementation



Pangoe Community High School new permanent classroom funded by CDF in partnership with Pangoe community.



A new complete permanent United Church building funded by CDF in partnership with Kapika 1 community.



Another permanent classroom for Pangoe school funded by CDF in partnership with Pangoe community. Construction now in completion stage.



New complete permanent classroom at Soranamola community high school. This CDF project is implemented by Soranamola in partnership with East Choiseul Constituency.

take ownership and responsibility for their development activities, share in decision making and continue to implement government supported developments to improve their livelihoods. “So, implementation of CDF development programmes/projects in our constituency is a shared responsibility by government through our constituency office and our communities.”

Meanwhile, School Chaplain of Soranamola Community high School said he was grateful for the support rendered by the government through their MP which enabled them to build a new permanent classroom and three permanent staff houses.

He said have it not for the constituency office assistance through the provision of all needed hardware materials they would have struggled all alone to build those important school infrastructures (classroom and staff houses).

“Education is the key to success and seeing the constituency

office stepped with such support and continue to investing in this sector is encouraging and I must commend ECC under the leadership of our Member of Parliament (MP) Hon Manasseh Sogavare for his vision and honest leadership towards development in our constituency.”

He encourages the government through MRD to continue with the CDF programme adding that CDF is the only fund that continue to touches rural lives and transforming rural settings.

Chairman of Koloe Primary School, Rata Qalokamake also shared the same sentiments.

“The support provided by government through our MP help us a lot to build new classrooms and staff houses.

“At no time our constituency office under the leadership of our MP turned down our request and we are so grateful to the vision and leadership of our MP Sogavare.

“We indeed appreciated CDF and acknowledged government through our MP for its continuous support towards development of community projects in our constituency to make sure it benefits everyone,” he said.

He said education is the key to everything and he reminded government to always prioritize it.

He also thanked the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) for the CDF programme and encourages government to continue with the programme to improve social and economic livelihoods of rural people.

Most of the projects captured for year 2020-2021 are fully completed with few now in completion stages.

Hon. Sogavare who is also the current Prime Minister of Solomon Islands is the MP for ECC.

MRD ends monitoring of CDF projects in Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency

The Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team has successfully ended monitoring and verification of development projects funded under the Constituency Development (CDF) in Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency (GKC) on 2nd October 2022.

Most of 2020 and 2021 projects were assessed. Project beneficiaries were also interviewed on how CDF impacted their lives.

The M&E team kicked off their monitoring in ward 12 visiting the Sausepe, Vao communities, and the surrounding communities in the southern part of Kolombangara island. The team also covered Poitete to the Guhele community in ward 26.

On the 29th of October 2022, the team visited communities in Rigi Cove, Vancouver, Kaza primary and secondary school, Kuzi, Kena, and Ghatere before they travelled on to Gizo.

In Gizo, the M&E team visited constituency-supported projects in the Gizo town area, Titiana, Nusa Baruku, Saerangi, Ngari, and Doma Tuti on the 1st of October 2021.

The team also visited an herbal and thermal therapy Clinic known as Eden National therapy clinic at mile 4 outside of Gizo town. First of its kind clinic to be established in the Western Province. The clinic also received funding from the constituency to help build it.

Gizo/Kolombangara invested most of the CDF funding in housing projects (flagship projects), community projects like water supply, and other individual projects.

Development partnership is evident in Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency. The constituency office work in partnership with communities and individuals to help advance rural development that impacts their lives.

The constituency office also worked together with Kolombangara Forest Products Ltd (KFPL) by supplying seeds for their constituents to engaged in forestry.

The M&E team also held awareness talks in some of the communities. Mainly about the goals and vision of the ministry and what is expected from their MPs and Constituency Offices.

Constituency monitoring of CDF projects is part of the MRD’s ongoing activity on CDF-funded projects being implemented within the 50 constituencies.

Relevant data and information collected will support the ministry in its responsibility to assess project status and the impact the fund (CDF) has on the lives of constituents.

Not only is the data collected important, but gathering evidence on the ground by officers that constituencies utilized the funds for their intended purpose is paramount.

CDFs are allocations of public funds provided to Constituencies to support rural development initiatives as per constituency development priorities.

According to the Solomon Islands Constituency Development Fund Act 2013 (s.5) ‘funds may be allocated for development purposes to individuals, group income-generating projects, or community projects.

Principal Monitoring Officer and Team leader Gabriel Manetiva highly commended the people of Gizo/Kolombangara for their support and cooperation during the M&E.

“On behalf of MRD and our Permanent Secretary Dr. Samson Viulu I would like to thank you for the hospitality and friendship you rendered during the M&E process.

“Without your support and cooperation, the M&E activity will not succeed.

“I also like to thank the Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency Officers for facilitating the smooth implementation of the M&E program and finally to your Member of Parliament,” Mr Manetiva said.

Lanelle Oleandra Tanangada who is the Minister for the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD) is the current Member of Parliament for Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency.



Children of Nusa Baruku community enjoying their new water supply funded by CDF through Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency.



A church building at Iriri Community also received funding support under CDF.



ABOVE: A piggery project in Doma Tuti (Gizo) community also received funding support from CDF. **BELOW:** MRD Principal Monitoring & Evaluation Gabriel Manetiva, far right, Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency Project Officer (second right) with Saeraghi community leaders during the M&E program.



Internet service goes live in East Choiseul Constituency



Constituency Development Officer Collin Qalokisa shake-hands with Alphie Nelson, field Engineer from Fuzionnet Ltd after the successful installation.

The once isolated rural East Choiseul Constituency (ECC) is now connected to the outside world via the internet, thanks to Fuzionnet Company Ltd following the successfully installation of a new internet service at Kumanibae, the Constituency’s Development Centre on 4th October, 2022.

This means constituency officers can now able to work from their constituency office at Kumanibae and report back to the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) headquarter office in Honiara via emails. And also, those that access the network can now hook up with their families and friends around the country and abroad through various online communication platforms such as email, facebook, WhatsApp and even watch and download music from YouTube.

Constituency Development Officer (CDO) Collin Bemama Qalokisa said the installation of the internet service was a milestone achievement for the constituency especially on the information and communications technology aspect adding that it is time we must embrace the digital era.

He added that the internet service is part of the constituency support to the community.

Mr. Qalokisa explained that the internet service will not only use by constituency officers manning the constituency centre but it will provide services to students from surrounding schools, communities, and people (constituents) who want to do their research work/assignments.

The wireless internet service was constructed, completed, switched on and became operational on Tuesday 4th October, 2022 with MRD officers who are in the constituency on a monitoring activity that month got the privilege to become the first user of the network.

Currently the public and people who want to access the internet service can pay \$6 for an hour, a charge fee that is reasonable for rural communities. Money collected will be used to pay for the service monthly bills.

CDO Qalokisa expressed gratitude to Alphie Nelson, field Engineer from Fuzionnet Company Ltd for the job well done for the successful installation of the internet service.



Alphie Nelson, field Engineer from Fuzionnet Company Ltd installing HP links at a resident at Kumanibae the Constituency’s Development Centre.

Meanwhile, Alphie on behalf of Fuzionnet company Ltd acknowledged the constituency for choosing their company for the work.

“It was an honour indeed and we are humbled to assist our Prime Ministers constituency to make sure people have ease of communication and access to needed information through the services that internet can provide.

“Thank you for choosing Fuzionnet for your internet and communications needs,” Mr. Alphie told CDO Qalokisa.

Alphie assured CDO Qalokisa that Fuzionnet is stand ready to assist whenever there is a need arises. The network service can be accessed both indoor and outdoor through hotspots/wireless connectivity in an around the constituency development centre.

The internet service project was fully funded by the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) at a cost of \$18,000. ■

East Choiseul ward reps acknowledges awareness on CDF, MRD mandates



MRD team with ward representatives in East Choiseul Constituency (ECC) who attended the awareness program.

Ward representatives from East Choiseul Constituency (ECC) has acknowledged the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) for reaching out to them with awareness on Constituency Development Fund (CDF).

This was after MRD monitoring team conducted a one-day awareness program about the purpose of CDF and the roles and functions of MRD at Kumanibae, ECC Development Centre, Wednesday 5 October, 2022.

The MRD team was in ECC for a monitoring activity on CDF funded projects.

“The awareness was an eye opener for us,” Ronald Maenarii Zakele, Member of Provincial Assembly (MPA) for Ward 13 said.

He said such awareness was important for rural people to make sure they are informed and educated on the services that government continue to deliver through the CDF programme.

“Not only that but making sure our people are informed on how CDF is administered is so important. Because CDF is a public fund and as taxpayers, we have the right to know how it is utilized towards improving our rural livelihoods.”

Joy Madada from Senga ward who is the ECC Women’s coordinator also shared the same sentiments.

She assured the MRD team that information received from the awareness will be shared to those who are not able to attend especially in their respective communities and wards.

Ms. Madada said that this was their first time to have such important awareness and open discussion on CDF and they are so appreciative to MRD for coming down to their level.

“This awareness meeting was the first of its kind, specifically on CDF to have happen in our area. We have learned a lot from the presentations and discussions. Also, it is our first time too to learn about the important core mandates and functions of MRD,” Ms. Madada said.

She thanked the MRD officers and encourages them to continue

with the good work in informing and educating our rural people on the development programmes that our government continue to deliver through the CDF programme.

Most of the participants also expressed their appreciation to the government through ECC office under the leadership of their Member of Parliament Manasseh Sogavare who is also the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands for its continuous commitment and support to development in the constituency.

They emphasized that the only way forward for us to realize true development is through partnership.

“Chiefs, community leaders, church leaders, youths, communities and everyone must work together. Everyone of us need each other’s support.”

Meanwhile, team leader and Principal Monitoring & Evaluation Officer Timoly Carter thanked the participants for their time and for all the constructive contributions during the awareness program.

She said the awareness program would not be possible have it not for the cooperation and support of the participants.

Ms. Carter then encouraged the ward representatives to continue to work closely with their constituency office towards the implementation of their development programmes.

The MRD team comprised of a leader who is the Principal Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Officer, Timoly Carter, Data Officer, Margery Pitatamae and a Communication & Public Relations Officer, Stephen Diisango accompanied by Constituency Development Officer (CDO) for ECC, Collin Bemama Qalokisa.

CDF is a programme of the national government and is administered by the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD).

CDF aims to help communities in areas like income generation, encourage and bring about development in constituencies and generally to improve the livelihoods of all citizens of Solomon Islands.



MRD officers Timoly Carter and Margery Pitatamae facilitating the awareness.



Some of the ward preventatives who attended the awareness program.



Lepi wharf. Finishing construction works is progressing ahead of its official opening around mid-October. Further extension on the left is where Lepi market project will be built to service traveling public to and from Honiara and communities in and around Lepi.

Lepi wharf in Gao-Bugotu Constituency (GBC) in Isabel Province is nearing completion ahead of official handing over in due course.

The wharf infrastructure is funded by the Solomon Islands Government in partnership with Peoples Republic of China (PRC) through the Constituency Development Fund Program (CDF) under the leadership of their Member of Parliament Honourable Samuel Manetoali.

Hon. Manetoali is also the Minister for the Ministry of Traditional Governance, Peace and Ecclesiastical Affairs (MTGPEA).

“Construction works are now into finishing stages,” Constituency Project Officer (CPO) Francis Pilau said.

He said the wharf will serve Lepi village, Vulavu village, Midoru village, surrounding communities and the travelling public of Isabel Province.

“Making sure our people have a safe and proper wharf to load and unload cargoes is important. So, it is GBC commitment to continue to support and invest in development of such important infrastructures to stimulate social and economic activities in the constituency.”

Mr. Pilau said another component of the wharf project is a market house which will be built on an extend by the wharf.

“Construction of the market house will start as long as materials are delivered onsite.

“Providing avenues where women can participate in in-come generating activities is one of GBC top priorities. So, this market house once completed will surely benefit the surrounding communities because they will have a proper house to sell their products or markets to the travelling public to and from Honiara by ships and the general community.”

- Other benefits that the wharf will bring include;
- Saving ships operating costs while in port.
 - Induced local agriculture and marine production
 - Value of time saved by people through loading and unloading of their cargoes.
 - Income generation through agriculture and marine production sales.
 - Income generation through increase local market activities and



Lightings were already installed at the wharf.

- Income generation through local participation in annual maintenance activities.
- Bugao, a business arm of GBC is constructing the wharf.
- Some of GBC’s accomplishments include;
- Completion and handing over of Koloteve Market House project
 - Completion and handing over of Vulavu clinic staff house. The project was implemented through Public Private Partnership (PPP).
 - The completion of Tataba Area Health Center funded under the CDF support to strengthen the implementation of Health Program to support the delivery of better health services in the constituency.
 - Establishment of the Tataba rural Police Post funded under the CDF program which is now operational to combat unwanted social issues in the constituency.
 - Establishment of a first ever Court House at Tataba funded by SIG and Peoples Republic of China (PRC) through the CDF Programme. The Court house is now operational.
 - Support to Lepi Fishery Center and the ongoing Rural Lightning Program to ensure constituents have access to efficient, cheap and reliable lightings.

West Guadalcanal raises constituents living standard through housing scheme program

West Guadalcanal Constiteuncy Office (WGCO) continue to prove its steadfast committment towards improving living standard in the constituency with the support of hardware materials to constituents to build thier permanent homes.

This was after the constituency office under the leadership of their Member of Parliament (MP) Honourable Anthony Veke who is also the Minister for the Ministry of Police handed over hardware materials to 10 recipients to build their dwelling houses.

The handing over was faciliated by WGCO on 4 October 2022 at the constituency warehouse at Henderson.

“This handover kicked-off our housing scheme program phase 1 for this year 2022. The cost of the projects cost a total of \$102,000.00 as funded under the Constituency Development Fund (CDF),” Constituency Development Officer (CDO) Chris Laubua confirmed.

“The constituency had embarked on housing scheme this year. We were assisting constituents to complete their incomplete houses previously. This time round the Constituency secretariat office under the leadership of Honorable Anthony Veke had given out 10 houses per polling station,” Laubua explained.

According to Mr. Laubua, they have completed delivering of housing materials for Savulei Ward and partially for Tangarare Ward.

In terms of materials, Mr. Laubua said the 1st phase of hardware materials handed over was for Hove Village. The first phase consists of cement, steel rods, tire wires, nails, and plain coppers for the post frame.

He further added that the 1st phase costs around \$102,000.00 for the 10 houses.

“Additional cost has been incurred for vehicles to load the materials to Lambi where the materials will then be taken home with OBM engines.

“As soon as the 1st phase is completed, we will proceed to phase 2 with a sight visit from the assessment teams,” Mr. Laubua explained.

Mr. Laubua also told MRD that an agreement was signed with the carpenters to build the houses under the Housing Scheme program.

The agreement states “This Memorandum of Understanding (MOA) will be governed by and construed by the Solomon Islands laws and that of the West Guadalcanal Constituency Secretariate Office will have jurisdiction in respect of all matters arising under the terms of this MOA”.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) Deputy Secretary Technical (DST) Hugo Hebala said that it was impressive to see constituencies moving in terms of using the CDF for the benefit of its rural people and witnessing West Guadalcanal moving on with the project is encouraging as it will raise the standard of living in the constituency.



West Guadalcanal Constituency Housing Scheme recipients received housing materials from the WGC Constituency Development Officer witnessed by the MRD Deputy Secretary Technical (DST) Hugo Hebala second from right and Director Governance Hickson George looking on from behind.

“West Guadalcanal have done many and greater things and contributed a lot towards improvement of livelihood of its rural people which is reassuring.

“As a responsible ministry (MRD), we will continue to support the constiteuncy office to make sure it deliver projects that will improve livelihood of its rural people,” Mr Hebala said.

Mr. Hebala further added that the ministry is looking forward to visit and see tangible results of the project after its implementation.

He also acknowledged WGC Member of Parliament for his leadership and the vision he has towards development aspirations of the constituency to improve social and economic livelihood of its constituents.

CDO Laubua also acknowledged MRD and its role in facilitating the CDF program that drives development and economic empowerment in rural areas.



MRD Deputy Secretary Technical (DST) Hugo Hebala acknowledging West Guadalcanal Constituency Officers.

MP Seleso commended for delivering 17 boats & OBMs to communities



ABOVE: Some of the boats and OBMs funded by CDF. BELOW: (L-R) A community rep, MRD Principal Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Timoly Carter, Honourable MP Rollen Seleso and MRD Principal Research and Development Officer Ivy Tango during the ribbon cutting. Looks on from behind is SGC Constituency Development Officer (CDO) William Chipu.

The Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) has commended the Member of Parliament (MP) for South Guadalcanal Constituency (SGC) Honourable Rollen Seleso and his constituency office for their continuous support and delivery of meaningful projects to improving social and economic livelihood of its rural people.

This was after MP Seleso handed over 17 fiberglass boats and 40 horsepower Outboard Motor Engines (OBMs) with their accessories to the (first) 17 communities in his constituency on 14th October, 2022.

The boats and OBMs cost 1.7 million in Constituency Development Fund (CDF). The support were received in Honiara by Chairmen representing the 17 communities.

The boats and OBMs were procured under the South Guadalcanal Constituency Emergency Transport Project 2022, emergency commitments.

Speaking on behalf of MRD, Principal Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Timoly Carter said the ministry is confident that the 17 chairmen who received these assets will ensure the effective and efficient management of these assets to serve their rural people.

“MRD believed that the support you receive from your MP will serve its purpose for many years to come,” she added.

She further stated that MRD through its Constituency Development Programme is committed to continue facilitate support to constituencies to ensure they deliver their development priorities towards improving social and economic livelihood of all Solomon Islander.

Hon. Seleso, in turn, thanked the National Government and MRD for the funding support which enabled SGC to purchase the boats & OBMs.

He said SGC has its own development plan for the constituency covering three main pillars namely infrastructure, social and productive sector and transportation.

He said that because of limited funding that the constituency have they cannot provide boats & OBMs to individuals for now but only through community projects.

“We already purchased a ship (Southern Coast 1) in 2021 to service our people in South Guadalcanal. Now it is important that we deliver these boats to communities purposely for emergency purposes for our people to aid them when there is a need arise like transporting sick to the hospital or provide logistical support to community programs.

“There are other communities that yet to receive their support of boats & OBMs and we are planning to deliver their projects in 2023.

“A lot of development is coming up and we must continue to support each other and work together to ensure we achievement our devel-



opment aspirations towards improving livelihood of our people in rural South Guadalcanal,” Hon. Seleso said.

He further encouraged the 17 communities to look after the properties and use them for the greater good of the rural people of South Guadalcanal.

Speaking for the receiving communities Francis Netana thanked MP Seleso for his continuous support through the CDF Program and assured Hon. Seleso that the communities will certainly look after the million-dollar assets.

He then thanked the national government through SGC for the generous gifts and support t which will really help communities in times of emergency.

“This is a millstone achievement for us, and we are so thankful for our MP and the national government for the assistance.”

MRD representative Ms. Carter further added that MRD is confident that this CDF support will further strengthen partnership that exists between the National Government and the people of SGC.

She affirmed that MRD is fully committed to see that all rural Solomon Islanders become meaningfully participated in development activities to improve their social and economic livelihoods.

A lawful agreement to safeguard the use of the assets was also signed between the recipients (17 communities) and SGC office.

RM Fiberglass Engineering Company which is also a government preferred supplier built the boats. The locally owned company specialist in building of boat and canoes, eskies, water tanks, chairs, and fiberglass sittings. OBMs were supplied by Y-sato company.

The company also built and supplied boats and canoes for other constituencies. Hon. Seleso is the current Minister for the Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening.



Susuka soon to take ownership of new multipurpose ‘Community Hall’

Susuka Community in East Choiseul Constituency (ECC) will soon take ownership of a new major ‘Community Hall’ funded by the government through the Constituency Development fund (CDF) in partnership with community support.

Located on the edge of ECC and Northwest constituency political boundary, Susuka like any other communities within the constituency is taking rural/community development seriously through its well-organized community setup and is very supportive to their Member of Parliament and the constituency office to implementation of its community project.

“This two-story community hall 2020/2022 project comprised of six accommodation room upstairs, a big conference room for meetings and an office space. Ablution block (shower & toilet system rooms) located downstairs,” Community leader Edison Pitavato said.

He said the establishment of the community hall complex is for the purposes that whenever visitors like government delegations and people from other organisations or any other visitors who might come around on work commitment and awareness purposes can use it for accommodation and even hire the conference room for meetings/workshops.

“It is unfortunate that often times, guests visited our community but we have no proper accommodation and meeting venue to accommodate them, and so with this new community hall complex, we hope it will address that need.

“Whatever little money that to be generated from the use of the hall will be for community commitments,” he said.

Meanwhile, Pitavato acknowledged government through their Member of Parliament (MP) Hon. Manasseh Sogavare who is also the Prime Minister (PM) of Solomon Islands for his honest leadership, vision and commitment towards development aspirations of the constituency through the candid utilization of CDF.

He said have it not for the honest leadership and vision of their MP, East Choiseul would have not realized such community developments that continue to transform and impact livelihood and living standard of rural people in the constituency.

“Thank you, government, and our MP for the generous continuous assistance through the CDF programme that continue to touch our lives.”

Mr. Pitavato also thanked the constituency office for its unremitting commitment to communal projects that can benefit everyone.

“We really appreciate government through our constituency office for supporting us with this new community hall which is a bonus for our community, and not only that but this project will go a long way for the advantage of our future generation.”

The project is supported by the government through the CDF programme with all-necessary hardware materials delivered at a

cost of \$129,109.00. Susuka community provided support through timber (s), sand, gravel and labour/manpower.

Mr. Pitavato said that partnership is the only way forward for us to realize true development in our rural communities/areas.

“Government cannot work alone. Communities cannot work alone. And for us to achieve our development needs, government and communities/people must work together. We must help each other and willing to shoulder whatever development responsibility that is charged on us. We must continue to support government development aspirations in whatever way possible for the betterment of our rural people. We must not perceive government as a service delivery body only but it is us citizens to always take responsibility in whatever development that is supported and delivered to us by the government for the betterment of our rural people and future generations,” Mr. Pitavato emphasized.

“We do not know what else more we can ask of the government through our MP. They have provided. They have assisted. Little or big, we just want to acknowledge our MP and the government for its unrelenting commitment and support through the CDF programme. We understand CDF is for everyone and to please everyone is not easy as anyone might ponder but we appreciate our MP for the fair distribution of projects to communities in our constituency.”

Mr. Pitavato confirmed that construction now reaches completion stage with only electricity wiring, laying of floor tiles, fitting of roof ceilings and installation of proper ladder are outstanding jobs as they scheduled to complete the project by December, 2022.

Another project that government through the CDF programme ready to support is the construction of Susuka community new ‘Women Centre’.

Meanwhile, Constituency Development Officer (CDO) Collin Bemama Qalokisa said it is the commitment of the constituency office under the leadership of their MP Hon. Manasseh Sogavare to continue support and fund establishment of community projects that can benefit everyone.

“ECC put more emphasis or support into these communal projects to promote unity and community participation in our communities,” he said.

Mr. Qalokisa then thanked Susuka community for their continuous support and firm cooperation with the constituency office towards the implementation of their community project which will contribute meaningfully towards improving their social and economic livelihoods.

He said ECC office always believe in partnership and community participation thus will continue to work closely with all communities in the constituency to progress development initiatives that will benefit everyone.

New classroom complex for Tarama SDA primary school under construction

Tarama Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) primary school in East Choiseul Constituency (ECC) will soon have a new permanent two-story classroom building thanks to the government through ECC for funding the project in partnership with Tarama and its surrounding communities.

The new two-story complex will replace the existing rundown building that already decayed/spoiled by termite thus unfit for use.

“This project is funded by government through our constituency office in collaboration with our community support,” head teacher Thomas Kolalu said.

He said education is the key to success and seeing that our constituency under the honest leadership of our Member of Parliament Hon. Manasseh Sogavare continue to render support and invest in such education project is reassuring.

“Development of our human resource is important and making sure our children (student) have a conducive classroom and space to learn is not only important but such help to the school demonstrates government through our MP’s firm commitment towards human resource development in the constituency.

“We have an existing classroom but now unfit for use due to the damage cause by termite and its rundown state. This new complex once completed and usable will be a facelift for the school and the community here as a whole,” he said.

“Often times we thought we were overlooked due to our remoteness, but thanks to government through ECC for helping us out in this new classroom project.”

Government through ECC also funded construction of a new staff house including sanitation and water tank for the school in partnership with Tarama and its surrounding communities in 2019.

Government through the constituency office provided all-necessary hardware materials delivered in mid-2021 at a cost of \$17,280.00 and again in 2022 hardware materials at a cost of \$120,000.00 while community contribution includes; timber (s), sand, gravel and labour.

ECC is one of the constituencies in the country that is well organize with communities supportive to their Member of Parliament who is also the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands Hon. Manasseh Sogavare and the constituency office towards implementation of their community projects.

It’s obvious that infrastructure projects get most of the constituency’s CDF allocation with huge portion of it invested into major community infrastructure projects like construction of new permanent classrooms, school staff houses, clinic staff houses, church buildings, community halls, guest houses, housing projects and other individual project assistance.

Development partnership is evident in ECC. The constituency office work in partnership with communities and individuals to help advance rural development that impacts their livelihoods.

Meanwhile, Mr. Kolalu encourages the government through the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) to continue with the CDF programme as it is the only fund that really touches rural lives and steadily transforming living standard in the rural ECC. “Also, it is the only fund that touches people of all walks of life and levels in our society.”

According to Mr. Kolalu, the school operated grade 1-6 classes. Total of five staff serves at the school with 85 registered students.

Constituency Development Officer (CDO) Collin Bemama Qalokisa said it is the commitment of the constituency office under the leadership of their MP Hon. Manasseh Sogavare to support and fund establishment of community projects that can benefit everyone adding this new classroom complex is a classic example because it will benefit the whole community.

“ECC put more emphasis or support into these communal projects to promote unity and community participation in our communities.

“Education is one of the priority sector’s that we put more support



Tarama SDA Primary School head teacher Thomas Kolalu.



Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) monitoring officers (in green shirts) together with Constituency Officer (CDO) Collin Qalokisa, Tarama head teacher Thomas Kolalu and community construction workers at the project site.



The state of the existing Tarama primary school classroom that ruined by termite.



Foundation work on the new two-story classroom complex underway.

support of timber (s), sand, gravel and labour/manpower.

The project is anticipated to complete by 2023 as hardware materials for construction already delivered onsite with construction work on the foundation started on 31 September 2022.

Gov't lauded for CDF support



Minister and MP for GBC Samuel Manetoali with the Clinic Chairman Chief Philip Manika, left, MRD Principal Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Timoly Carter, Principal Research and Development Officer Kejoa Para, MRD Senior Accountant Christopher Dive and Constituency Project Officer (CPO) Francis Pilau cutting the ribbon to officially open the new staff house.

The national government through Gao-Bugotu Constituency (GBC) office has been commended for its firm commitment and continuous support towards development of important health infrastructure's in the constituency.

Chief Philip Manika expressed the commendation at the official handing over of Vulavu clinic staff house on 30 September 2022 at Vulavu community, Isabel Province.

Member of Parliament for GBC Honourable Samuel Manetoali who is also the Minister for the Ministry of Traditional Governance, Peace and Ecclesiastical Affairs (MTGPEA) officiated the handing over program.

The project was implemented through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) by the government through GBC in partnership with Vulavu and its surrounding communities.

Vulavu clinic serves a population of more than 3000 people within its catchment area.

Chief Manika who is also the Clinic chairman said Vulavu clinic over the years has gone through a lot of challenges which include lack of proper accommodation for health staff serving at the clinic.

"There are times serving nurses have to abandon duties due to housing issues which negatively affected our communities as it denies our rights to access needed healthcare services."

However, he said with support of government through GBC under the leadership of MP Manetoali in partnership with the local communities they were able to construct a permanent three bed-room staff house which is now accommodating two nursing staff.

The chairman thanked everyone who have contributed to the success of the project.

While sharing the same sentiments, Chief Stevenson Carlos said the constituency support in partnership with communities shows government's true heart of concern for its people in the rural areas.

Mothers Union leader and women representative Janet Vickers also expressed profound gratitude to MP Manetoali for providing necessary resources and facilities toward the project.

She said have it not for the government through MP Manetoali, the project would not be possible.



Some of the community chiefs and leaders who witnessed the handing over program.



Community members who turned up for the program.

Ms. Vickers also recognized communities, families and individuals who have contributed to the success of the project.

She said that ensuring nursing officers are accommodated in a comfortable and secure accommodation is paramount.

Principal Research and Rural Development Officer Kejoa Para on behalf of the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) applauded Vulavu and its surrounding communities for their continuous support to their

to Vulavu clinic staff house



Minister Manetoali together with MRD officers, community members and two staff nurses serving at the vulavu clinic after the ribbon cutting.



A registered nurse examines a sick patient at Vulavu clinic.



Principal Research and Rural Development Officer Kejoa Para delivers his remarks on behalf of the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD).

MP and towards the development aspirations of GBC.

He said the handing over of the project was a manifestation of true partnership in development.

“The success of this project is a fulfilment of true partnership that you communities have with the government through your constituency office. If we want development to happen, we must work together,” Para stressed.

He also congratulated communities and GBC for the milestone achievement.

Meanwhile, MP Manetoali acknowledged tribes and families at Vulavu for their understanding and continuous support.

He also thanked them for allowing their land for development and also recognized individuals and everyone who provided support to the success of the project.

“Every development that are happening in our constituency belongs to everyone of us. So, we must continue to work together. And I am encouraged by the support and contributions that you have displayed throughout which reflected in the success of this project.”

MP Manetoali urged the communities to take ownership of the project and look after it well.

He added that the government through GBC is committed and will continue to support development of important health infrastructures toward strengthening the implementation of Health Programs to support the delivery of better services in the constituency.

The handing over of the staff house also marked the resumption of healthcare services at Vulavu clinic after the absence of a nurse for about four months.

Currently two female registered nurses are serving at the clinic after they were posted by the Isabel Health Authority to the clinic, a day before the handing over program.

According to Chief Manika who is also the Clinic chairman the project was implemented by Vulavu and its surrounding communities in collaboration with the government through Gao-Bugotu Constituency.

Total contribution from communities through fundraisings was \$8,000 which expended on timbers, cements, labour, gravel and sand while the Constituency (GBC) support comprised of all hardware materials which include two cartons of 2 inch nail, two cartons of 3 inch nail, four cartons of 4 inch nail, 1 carton of 5 inch nail, 1 carton of roofing nail, iron sheets, colourbond sheets for walling, masonites, louver glasses and frames, chicken wires, sisalation rolls and other important building materials.

Monitoring of CDF projects in South



A monitoring team from the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) has successfully conducted a week-long assessment and verification of Constituency Development Fund (CDF) funded projects in South Choiseul Constituency (SCC).

Field monitoring and assesment commenced on 25 until 30 Sep-tember 2022.

The team assessed most of the 2021 CDF-funded projects and also conducted awareness to inform constituents on the importance of the monitoring activity .

Constituents were also informed on the reforms and programs that MRD is currently undertaking towards improving the current system and processes of the CDF implementation programs.

Monitoring of CDF projects is part of the ministry’s ongoing ac-tivity on CDF funded programmes being implemented within the 50 constituencies.

Relevant data/information collected will support the ministry in its undertaking to assess status of projects and impact’s the fund (CDF) have on the lives of constituents. Not only the data collected is important but gathering evidences on the ground by officers that constituencies utilized the funds for its intended purpose is para-mount.

- Also the monitoring was to foster:
- Accountability and transparency within systems, processes and stakeholders involved right down to the actual benefi-ciaries in rural communities.
 - Help MRD to sight early mistakes and problems for re-direc-tion purposes.
 - Ensure resources are efficiently utilized according to its in-tended purposes.
 - Help MRD to improve on important senior management de-cision making in relation to CDF programs implementation processes.

Team Leader and Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Officer Agnes Tanihorara said the monitoring and awareness activities were very successful.

She said most of the communities participated in the awareness sessions has expressed acknowledgment to MRD for undertaking the two important reform programs which include the development of the first ever Solomon Islands Constituency Development (SICD) Pol-icy and a standard CDF M&E Framework.

Florence Sumakana from Sasamuga village said they valued the awareness sessions as it cleared their doubts and misunderstand-ings toward the CDF programme.



Qilabola Community Hall at Kuki also supported under CDF Program.



Eliza of Kuki village showing her appreciation to team MRD for receiving CDF support from Sanitation Projects.

Choiseul Constituency successful

Former Premier for Choiseul Province Hon. Harrison Benjamin highly applauded the MRD team for such an outreach, especially to his community at Posarae.

He also acknowledged the current MP for SCC Hon. Sammy Galo for his continuous support to his people of Posarae village, especially to the vulnerable ones.

“Our team overwhelmed to note the successful implementation of most CDF-funded projects within South Choiseul communities. There are a number of projects which are currently on completion stages whilst others already completed through support from government/MRD through the constituency under the CDF programme. We were also impressed to note the level of communal collaboration rendered by communities towards their community projects,”Mrs Tanihorara said.

Chairman of Tengegea community Willie Mula within the Wagina ward stated that, he has no words to express his happiness and acknowledgement to Hon. Sammy and his team for the great support towards their community hall (Maneaba).

The team also visited several aquatic (sea-weed) farming around the Islands of Wagina which were supported by CDF in 2021.

“Seaweed farming is the main source of income for most people and families within the Wagina communities. We really acknowledged farmers for their strong commitment in maintaining their farms that would directly contribute to their livelihood and the national economy. Sea resources appeared to be the second largest foreign exchange earner so investing more support for effective and efficient sea-weed farming processes and management is important,” Mrs. Tanihorara.

A Women rep from Panarui village also acknowledged Hon. Sammy for the assistance of Timbers towards their Women’s Hall.

She further stated that they are looking forward to working closely with the constituency office under the leadership of Hon. Sammy to get more support for the completion of their project (women hall).

SCC priority areas for year 2021 include; Rural Family & Community Housing Improvement Program, Health, Education, Agriculture, Tourism, Forestry, Women, Youth & Children, Fisheries, and Livelihood (Income generating Projects).

The SCC office overarching plan is to support these developmental needs that would lead to more improved livelihood and living standard within all communities.

The MRD M&E team encouraged communities to continue to work closely with their MP Hon. Sammy towards the implementation of their development programs.

The monitoring team also noted that despite the fact that Hon.



SCC Support for Sanitation to People with special need at Posarae Village.

Sammy just came into parliament after winning the 2021 by-election, he continue to deliver and implement its development programs towards improving social and economic livelihood of its people.

The assessment also revealed that a good number of communities, families, and individual projects were supported in 2021 under CDF program and were successful due to the very strong community participation by communities and individuals.

The team on behalf of MRD commended SCC Office and its management team under the leadership of Hon. Sammy for their outstanding performance in achieving these important developmental needs within their communities.

The constiteuncy among other constituencies has also been congratulated by the MRD for its recognition on supporting people with special needs through sanitation and housing projects assistance. This is one of the core mandates of MRD and is specified under objective 9 of the Ministry current cooperate plan.

Such an outstanding performance by the South Choiseul Constituency will highly contributes to the achievements of important sustainable development goals, objectives, and programmes both at the national and international level.

The monitoring team comprised of a team leader Principal M&E Officer Agnes Bopi. Tanihorara, Data officer Anneth Rianafaka and the Project Officer for South Choiseul Constituency Ms. Caroline Galo.



SCC support towards income Generating Projects. One of the Beneficiaries that got support from CDF toward its copra business at Boe village.



Sample CDF support for churches at South Choiseul Constituency. Pictured is United Church Building at Sepa village supported by CDF.

PRC's contribution to improving rural livelihood acknowledged

Member of Parliament (MP) for South Guadalcanal Constituency (SGC) Honourable Rollen Seleso who is the Minister for the Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening (MPGIS) has acknowledged the unwavering commitment and support that the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) continue to provide to the national government through projects that envisioned at improving rural livelihood.

Hon. Seleso was speaking at a ceremony to mark the official handing over of 17 fiberglass boats and 40 horsepower Outboard Motor Engines (OBMs) with their accessories to the first 17 communities in his constituency (SGC) in Honiara on Friday 14th October, 2022.

The boats and OBMs which cost 1.7 million in Constituency Development Fund (CDF) were received by the 17 Chairmen representing their communities in the constituency. The boats and OBMs were procured under the South Guadalcanal Constituency Emergency Transport Project 2022, emergency commitments.

“PRC’s continuous support towards the national government CDF programme is not only praiseworthy but validate a genuine partner and someone who cares about the livelihood of rural Solomon Islanders and committed at improving it.

“The boats & OBMs were purchased by the Solomon Islands Government (SIG) in partnership with PRC funding component through the CDF programme in the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD).

“PRC’s continuous support and contribution towards such meaningful projects towards improving social and economic livelihoods of our rural people especially in SGC is commendable.”

He said that government through SGC will continue to work closely with PRC and other development partners towards advancing rural development in SGC to improve social and economic livelihood of its rural people.

Meanwhile, Hon. Seleso said SGC has its own development plan for the constituency covering three main pillars namely infrastructure, social and productive sector and transportation.



Honourable Rollen Seleso, MP

He said that because of limited funding the constituency office cannot provide boats & OBMs to individuals for now but only through communities.

“We already purchased a ship (Southern Coast 1) last year to service our people in South Guadalcanal. Now it is important that we deliver these boats to communities purposely for emergency purposes for our people to aid them when there is a need arise like transporting sick to the hospital or provide logistical support to community programs and activities.

“There are other communities that yet to receive their support of boats & OBMs and we are planning to deliver their projects in 2023.”

Hon. Seleso urges community committees that responsible for the boats and OBMs to look after the assets well to make sure it serves people in the communities.

[See related story on page 11](#)

GIZO/KOLOMBANGARA CONSTITUENCY LAUDS PRC FOR SUPPORT

The Gizo/Kolombangara Constituency (GKC) Office has acknowledged the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) Embassy in Honiara for supporting their water projects through the Constituency Development Fund (CDF).

GKC office stated that most of its water project in the constituency that were built in 2021 and this year (2022) were supported by PRC with its Water Supply & Sanitation funding component through the Solomon Islands Government (SIG) CDF programme.

The funding assistance commonly known as the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) is targeting the alleviation of poverty and improving the livelihoods of rural Solomon Islanders.

PRC support focuses mainly on three components which include; community social infrastructures, Water Supply & Sanitation, and income-generating initiatives to improve rural livelihoods.

The two major water projects on Kolombangara Island that were successfully completed and were already in use when MRD Monitoring and Evaluation team visited the constituency are; Sausepe community water project and Jack Harbour community water project.

GKC Office further stated that they will continue to work closely with PRC and other development partners towards advancing rural development in the constituency to improve social and economic livelihood of



Water is life! A mother in Nusa Baruku community doing her laundry from their new water supply tap funded through the CDF program.

its rural people as well as implement other projects under the Water Supply & Sanitation component.

Meanwhile, MRD Permanent Secretary Dr. Samson Viulu expressed appreciation on behalf of the Solomon Islands Government and its people to the Government of the People’s Republic of China and its taxpayers for their ongoing support towards this program.

He also expressed gratitude to the Government of PRC for its commitment to the development aspirations of the Solomon Islands.

He said that so far PRC is the only donor supporting the CDF program but hopes for more support from other donor partners once the legislative and policy reforms of the ministry is implemented.

He further assured that as a responsible ministry (MRD), they will continue to work together with GKC and the other constituencies to help improve the lives of the rural people through these important projects.

MRD vision is to ensure all rural Solomon Islanders become meaningfully participated in development activities to improve their social and economic livelihood.

[See related story on page 6](#)



MRD Minister Hon. Dudley Kopu, Premier of Temotu Clay Forau, MRD Policy Task force team together with participants after the consultation.

MRD holds successful consultation on SICD Policy in Temotu

A four-member team from the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) has successfully conducted a two-day consultation on the first ever Solomon Islands Constituency Development (SICD) Policy concept at Otel Village in the Reef Islands of Temotu Province from 10th-11th October, 2022.

The team was led by Deputy Secretary Technical (DST) Hugo Hebala and include Deputy Secretary Corporate (DSC) Constance Wane, Director Rural Development Division (RDD) Milfred Delemani and Legal Intern Tanya Wickham.

About 35 participants representing those from Temotu Pele, Temotu Nende and Temotu Vatud Constituencies attended the two-day workshop. Also, attended were the Premier of Temotu Province, Honourable Clay Forau and 10 Member of the Temotu Provincial Assembly (MPAs).

The purpose of the Consultation was to gather views, insights and contributions specifically issues and recommendations on the proposed SICD Policy.

The objective of the consultation are;

- To raise awareness on roles and functions of MRD and CDF Processes and Requirements.
- To introduce the proposed Solomon Islands Constituency Development Policy, aim, outcomes and key focus areas.
- To gather inputs, views and contributions from key stakeholders in the selected sites visited.

The Policy Framework will guide the following;

1. Inform the drafting instructions for the proposed review of CDF Act 2013
2. Guide the development of the CDF regulations
3. Planning, Coordination, Implementation and Management of CDF

MRD Minister Hon. Dudley Kopu officially opened the two-day consultation workshop.

Minister Kopu acknowledged the participants for accepting the invitation and for their invaluable inputs and contributions towards the formulation of the policy.

“Since August of this this year (2022), in our pursuit to formulate the SICD Policy, my ministry’s taskforce has been busy conducting similar consultations in Buala Isabel Province, West Guadalcanal in Guadalcanal Province, Western Province in Munda, Central Island Province in Tulagi, Auki in Malaita, Rennell Bellona Provincial Assembly members and now here at Otel Village, Reef Islands, Temotu Province.

“The policy will try to narrow down the focus of CDF because as it is now, the scope is quite broad. The focus may concentrate on the Social Economic, infrastructures and livelihoods of the rural people,” Minister Kopu said.

He added that the policy will also look at the governance of CDF, to address the accountability and transparency issues with regards to the delivery mechanism. This is to ensure the CDF aligns to the Constitution of Solomon Islands, Public Financial Management Act 2013, Public Service Regulations and other relevant legislations.”

Hon. Clay Forau, Premier of Temotu Province, in his remarks on behalf of the participants, acknowledged the Solomon Islands Government through the Ministry of Rural Development to identify Temotu Province as one of the sites for Consultation on the Proposed SICD Policy.

Premier Forau further emphasized the importance for the task force to consult those who will be affected by the policy through getting their views and concern for this proposed policy to contribute to the development of fair and workable government policy framework that advances development aspirations of SI on an equitable basis.

It was a successful consultation as participants contributed constructively with invaluable ideas and views towards this crucial policy reform undertaken by the government through MRD.

Recommendations from the consultations will assist MRD task force towards reforming constituency developments.

Participants expressed their support towards the undertaking and said that the consultation is a major step in the right direction as far as rural development is concern.

They said that having a robust framework to safeguard the use of CDF is of paramount importance to guarantee meaningful developments are realized in our constituencies.

Meanwhile, DST Hebala acknowledged the participants for their participation and helpful contributions during the course of the consultation.

He said recommendations and ideas gathered from the consultation will really help MRD as it embarks on reforming constituency developments to guarantee rural people meaningfully participates in social and economic activities to improve their livelihoods.

Mr. Hebala highlighted that the SICD Policy key goals are to support and provide a policy framework towards the review of the 2013 CDF Act; and it will enhance and contribute towards empowering all Solomon Islanders to participate meaningfully in constituency development activities to improving their livelihoods.

He further said that SICD Policy shall focus on the following key thematic areas: socio-economic infrastructures, livelihoods income generating projects, essential services such as health, education and police-security, and downstream processing and value adding.

“This policy framework overall intends to guide the management and enhance the delivery of the Constituency Development Funds,” he emphasized.

Minister Kopu congratulates Gao-Bugotu



Guest of Honour MRD Minister Hon. Duddley Kopu, Counsellor of the PRC Embassy Office in Honiara His Excellency Yao Ming, MP for Gao-Bugotu Constituency Hon. Samuel Manetoali, MRD Permanent Secretary Dr. Samson Viulu, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Environment Dr. Melchior Mataka, Assistant Police Commissioner Provincial Policing Leonard Tahnimana, MRD and constituency officers together with provincial and national government dignitaries. In the background is constituents who turned up to witness the handing over program.

The Minister for the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) Honourable Duddley Kopu has congratulated Gao-Bugotu for taking the lead towards decentralizing government services in the rural areas through the establishment of an office complex in its constituency.

Minister Kopu who is the guest of honour was speaking at the official handing over of the constituency office complex established at the Gao-Bugotu Constituency (GBC) Development Growth Centre (CDGC) at Tatamba in Isabel Province on Wednesday 26 October, 2022.

“Today is truly a historic day and a special one because this is the first such office complex in the country and among all the 50 constituencies, which was built to house government line ministries,” Hon. Kopu said.

He said Gao/Bugotu has set a benchmark as the first constituency to achieve such a feat, and as a responsible ministry (MRD) who is responsible for rural development encourages others to emulate or replicate the achievement.

Minister Kopu said the opening of the office complex not only timely but aligns well with the legislative and policy reforms currently undertaken by his ministry.

Meanwhile, he said as part of the efforts by the DCGA government, to improve the delivery mechanisms and governance of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), and reorient its focus on the productive and resource sectors including essential services, his ministry is embarking on formulating the first Solomon Islands Constituency Development (SICD) Policy.

“Among other priority areas, the new policy will pursue the establishment of 50 Constituency Development Growth Centers (CDGCs), starting next year.

“These CDGCs will house office complexes including other important facilities to decentralize government services and provide opportunities to our people.

“Under the SICD policy, MRD will partner more closely with technical ministries of the government, provincial authorities and communities and willing donor partners to roll out services to our people in the rural areas.

“These reforms also include regulating the use and disbursement of CDF focusing more on long term sustainable projects while not neglecting the social livelihoods of our people.

“And it is very pleasing to witness today that Gao/Bugotu constituency has already taken the lead through the completion of this office, and I am very encouraged by this,” Minister Kopu emphasized.



Minister Duddley Kopu delivers his keynote address.



Some of the constituents of Gao-Bugotu Constituency who turn up to witness the handing over ceremony.

He said that the opening of the complex is a milestone achievement for GBC and its people and MRD will strive to build on their (GBC) success so that other constituencies will also embark on the same approach.

“I am pretty sure that the people of Gao/Bugotu will no longer have to travel far to Honiara or Buala to seek government services but right at their doorsteps, once the government line ministries move into the office complex.

“You are so privileged to have such a visionary leader, Honourable Samuel Manetoali for, foreseeing a great vision to establish this much needed facility so that needed government services are brought closer to your homes through the building of the office complex,” he told more than 1000 constituents who turned up for the handing over event at Tatamba.

Constituency for historic achievement



The newly opened constituency office complex funded by the Solomon Islands Government through the CDF Program and the Peoples Republic of China (PRC).



Part of the constituents that attended the hand over event.



Hovi SDA Church pathfinder group that partiapiptes in the event.



Ribbon cutting by Minister Kopu, MP Manetoali, PRC Counsellor Yao Ming and Deputy Provincial Secretary of Isabel Province Rex Manasseh aswitnessed by PS MRD Dr Samson Viulu and PS Environment Dr Melchior Matak.

The office complex is funded by CDF through contributions from the national government of Solomon Islands and the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) as well as in-kind contributions from the people of GBC.

It is a testament of partnership between the Solomon Islands Government, the Government of PRC and the people of the constituency and Isabel Province.

“Without the partnership and working together of our people and the two governments this project would not succeed. So, let me again thank the good people of Gao/Bugotu constituency for your support toward this project including other projects that are funded by CDF.”

Six government ministries that will have their offices housed in the complex include the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Tourism, Minis-

try of Environment, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Traditional Governance, and the Isabel provincial treasury bureau.

GBC main priority is to bring basic government services more accessible in the rural areas, thus funding of the Tatamba office complex is a fine example to guarantee rural people access needed services in their communities than travelling to Honiara or provincial capital, Buala.

Another top priority of GBC as aligned to its annual work plan is to progress economic development and provide avenues where constituents can participate in economic activities to improve their social and economic livelihoods.

Counsellor of the PRC Embassy Office in Honiara His Excellency Yao Ming was amongst invited guests that attended the program including government delegation of Permanent Secretaries and senior government officials from other line ministries.

The constituency office complex cost over \$800,000 (\$200,000 SIG and \$600,000 PRC) and was built by locals who graduated from Rural Training Centres (RTCs) with majority of funding from PRC through the CDF allocations.

The sitting MP for GBC is Honorable Manetoali who is also the Minister for Traditional Governance, Peace and Ecclesiastical Affairs.

More than 1,000 people from the surrounding communities packed the Tatamba Centre to witness the official handing over event.

CDF is implemented by the 50 constituencies through MRD purposely to improve the livelihood of people in the rural areas.

INFORMATION ABOUT CONSTITUENCY DEVELOPMENT FUND (CDF)



Gao-Bugotu
Constituency
office complex
funded by CDF.

What is Constituency Development Fund's (CDF)?

CDF's are allocations of public development funds provided to Constituencies to support rural development initiatives as per constituency development priorities. According to the Solomon Islands Constituency Development Fund Act 2013 (s.5) 'funds may be allocated for development purposes to individuals, group income-generating projects, or community projects.'

Where does CDF Funds comes from?

The money comes from the Solomon Islands Government (SIG) budget and donors to help communities.

CDF Goals and Objectives?

The CDF aims to help communities in these areas:

- Generate income;
- Encourage and bring about development in constituencies;
- Generally to improve the livelihoods of ALL citizens of Solomon Islands.

Who is entitled to access CDF?

The funding assistance is targeted at alleviating poverty and improving livelihoods of rural Solomon Islanders. This means every Solomon Islanders are entitle to access this fund for its intended purposes. Your consituency offices will draw up a Constituency Plan to help you access your priority projects to be implemented in your communities. This plan would outline the priority projects identified by the rural communities under different sectors, such as education, health, water supply and sanitation, infrastructure, telecommunications, energy, women and youth, and village development.

Ministry of Rural Development annually through its development budget has been allocated funds under the Constituency Development Funding (CDF) programme to implement the SSCD (SIG Support to Constituency Development Fund), and PRCSCD (People Republic of China Constituency Development Fund).

The CDF program consist of four main sub-projects:

- Cash Grant or Constituency Administration Funding.
- Income Generating projects.
- Water and Sanitation, Hygiene projects (WASH).
- Social Infrastructures Projects.

Water project
in Temotu Pele
Constituency
funded by CDF.

