

December 14, 2023



Justice. Compassion. Love.

To serve humanity so all may live as God intended.

Welcome to ADRA SI 1st Edition Newsletter 2023

ABOUT ADRA SOLOMON ISLANDS

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Solomon Islands is part of the Humanitarian Agency operated under the support of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. ADRA Solomon Islands is dedicated to individual and community development as well as disaster relief and is part of the ADRA Global network.

Our Head office is situated at Kukum SDA Compound in Honiara and with a Sub Office located in Kukudu, Western Province of Solomon Islands. ADRA Solomon Islands is currently engaged in four projects, namely Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), National Sustainable Sanitation Plan Program (NSSP) phase 2, Turn on the Tap (TOTT) and Soul Cocoa Plus Livelihood Project. The majority of our projects are concentrated in the Western Province.

ADRA's PURPOSE

To serve Humanity so all may live as God Intended

ADRA's MOTTO

Justices, Compassion, Love

ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY

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New Country Director Set to Lead ADRA Solomon Islands in 2024

ADRA Solomon Islands is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Country Director, scheduled to assume office next year.



The details of the incoming Country Director will be disclosed until he arrived in Honiara.

As per information received by the ADRA Communication Desk, the new Country Director is expected to arrive in the country by the end of February or early March 2024.

In the interim period until the arrival of the new Country Director, Elizabeth Tangisi (Picture above) has been appointed as the

Officer in Charge (OIC) for ADRA Solomon Islands.

Ms Tangisi assumed this responsibility as of February 9, 2023.

ADRA looks forward to welcoming the new Country Director and is confident that the incoming leadership will contribute significantly to the organization's mission and impact in the Solomon Islands.

VORIVORI CHURCH GRATEFUL FOR ECMT TRAINING

In collaboration with South Sea Evangelical Church (SSEC) and Anglican Church of Melanesian (ACOM) partners, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is conducting Evacuation Centre Management Training (ECMT) in Western Province through the Church Agency Network Disaster Operations (CANDO). Zarepath SSEC Church in Vorivori, West Gizo, and Noro South Sea Evangelical Church are actively participating in this training, supported by CANDO partners and led by ADRA Solomon Islands.



The ECMT for Zarepath SSEC commenced on November 21 and will conclude on December 1, while Noro SSEC ECMT Training will run from December 4 to December 14. The primary objective is to select volunteer representatives from these communities, fostering strong, safe, and responsive communities.

The workshop empowers the faith-based community to make informed decisions regarding disaster preparedness and responses. It aims to establish an evacuation center committee for each community, develop evacuation center procedures and plans, create disaster response plans, and compile a community profile.

During an interview with ADRA DRR Coordinator, Duran Taupongi, Elder Frazer Zazu Nuapitu, the founder of Zarepath SSEC Church, expressed his happiness and excitement about the training. He believes the training will not only enhance disaster preparedness but also serve as a reminder of the nearing return of Jesus.

"I believe this training will change the lives of our community here," Elder Nuapitu stated. Reflecting on the 2007 earthquake and tsunami, he emphasized the importance of the training and thanked ADRA and CANDO Partners for their efforts.

"Our congregation and members attending this training would go back and share with our family members what we learned from this training about disaster preparedness since we are vulnerable in disaster," Elder Nuapitu said.

The Australian Government Aid Funds through the Department of Foreign Affairs (DEFAT) and Australia Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) fund the program, with ADRA Solomon Islands serving as the lead agency.

ADRA FIJI HOSTS WEBINAR ON FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS' ROLE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Fiji recently organized an insightful webinar, shedding light on the pivotal role of Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) in localizing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and bolstering resilience.

This virtual event held at Fiji on December 7, 2023, was aimed to stimulate discussions surrounding Church Emergency Management Plans, DRR training, and the crucial involvement of churches in Climate Change Adaptation (CCA).

ADRA Fiji, at the forefront of implementing programs to build resilient communities and churches, focuses on preparing them to respond effectively to disasters. The organization is also dedicated to equipping church members to actively engage with climate change challenges.

The webinar provided a platform for participants to share their experiences with the broader ADRA Global Network. Attended by participants from around the world, the event fostered valuable discussions on the significant role of FBOs in disaster preparedness and response.

Denver Newter, Communication/MEL Officer of ADRA Solomon Islands, and Leslie Molea, DRR Project Officer, actively participated in the webinar.



ADRA Head Office Unveils New Sign Board after 2 Years

ADRA Head Office is proud to announce the unveiling of its new signboard, marking a significant update after a span of two years. The credit for this achievement goes to a private printing company that collaborated with ADRA SI to bring the new signboard to fruition.

The fresh signboard now proudly stands in front of the ADRA office, situated in Kukum. The office building is shared with the Solomon Islands Mission (SIM) Central Sub Office and Hope Chanel Television Station. ADRA occupies the upstairs section of the building.

This revamped signboard not only enhances the visual identity of ADRA SI but also reflects the organization's commitment to maintaining a professional and updated presence. The strategic placement in a shared office space ensures that the new signboard is visible to all visitors and passersby.

ADRA SI expresses gratitude to the private printing company for their collaboration in realizing this improvement, contributing to the overall positive image of the organization within Honiara Town.

(Picture below is the new signed board of ADRA Solomon Islands)





ZION SDA CHURCH EXTENDS GRATITUDE TO ADRA FOR SANITATION PROJECT

The Zion Adventist Church (ZAC) in Central Honiara has expressed its sincere appreciation to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) for generously implementing the Disaster Ready Church (DRC) sanitation facilities at the church.

South Pacific Division (SPD) Office of the Seventhday Adventist Church (SDA) in Australia funded the project under the Disaster Ready Church (DRC) and implemented by ADRA Solomon Islands across three project sites in Solomon Islands.

The implementing projects sites are Iriri SDA Church on Kolobangara Island in Western Province, Zion SDA Church in Central Honiara and Gwaunasu SDA Church in North Malaita. DRC project is a one year project started from May 2023 and will end in May 2024.

The aimed and purposed of this project was to improve church facilities to be user friendly to displace people during the event of disaster.

Elder of Zion SDA Church, Bongi Hynick Darlingi, spoke to ADRA Media in an interview expressing the church's joy and excitement in seeing the successful implementation of the sanitation project.



ADRA STAFF ATTEND PACIFIC PARTNERS FORUM IN AUSTRALIA

As part of the capacity building, two staff from the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Solomon Islands attended a significant weeklong Pacific Partners Forum (PPF) in Sydney, Australia.

The PPF was held at Harry's Hotel, Sydney, New South Wales, from November 6 to 10, 2023.

The training was fully funded and hosted by ADRA Australia which the Participant's partners from ADRA Fiji, Vanuatu, PNG, Timor-Leste, New Zealand, Laos, Solomon Island and a logalto facilitator from Zimbabwe attended the PPF.

Aimed and objective of the PPF was to fulfil the commitment of ADRA Australia to support the partners with capacity strengthening in Data Management, Financial Management and Program Effectiveness especially the use of LogAlto as data management system for all projects.

Nedilyn Solomon, Project Coordinator for Turn on the Tap (TOTT) Project at ADRA Kukudu Sub Office in Western Province and Denver Newter ADRA MEL / Communication Officer attended the PPF Training.

(Picture above is Denver Newter and Nedilyn Solomon in front of Sydney Adventist Hospital during visit there)

COCOA TRAINING FOR MALAITA FARMERS ENDS IN AUKI

A FOUR Day intensive Cocoa Training for Sixteen Rural Cocoa Farmers in North-east Malaita has ended successfully in Auki, Malaita Province.

THE training workshop was held at the South Sea Evangelical Church (SSEC) Transit House in Auki from 9th to 12th of October, 2023.

The aim of the workshop was to train cocoa farmers on proper land management principles that'll ensure that land utilization activities will not degrade the soil and the environment but will sustain the usefulness of the system for future generations.

Project Manager for ADRA Sol Cocoa Plus Project (SCPP), Patrick Mesia, explained that the workshop was important for the participants who were mostly from Northeast Malaita, which was one of the densely populated areas in Malaita, where land management and proper utilization will be a very important matter for consideration.

Mesia said participants were happy and excited over the training and acknowledge ADRA Solomon Islands through the ADRA Australia for funding the training.



ADRA BEGINS COMMUNITY CONSULTATION IN KOLOBANGARA ISLAND

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA SI) has started implementing Community Consultation Phase 2 programme of the National Sustainable Sanitation Plan (NSSP) Program at Kolobangara Island in Western Province from November 12 to 17, 2023.

The community consultation started with selected villagers commencing from, Nusa Mahiri, Varu 1, Varu 2, Patupaele, Tititana, Poporo, Qolezavanga, Habere, Iriri, Vavanga, Ghatere, Pine, Hunda, Kena, Sarughobe, Kuzi, Kaza, Vovohe 1, and Ili-tona.

NSSP Project Coordinator, Vema Kiko and Project Officer, Melina Navo from ADRA SI Kukudu Sub Office facilitated the community consultation with these communities.

NSSP Project Coordinator for Kolobangara Island, Vema Kiko said a total of 50 people attended this community consultation from these communities.

Ms Kiko said aimed of the community consultation was to select communities and meet with village leaders and explain the project how ADRA SI will implement the project within their communities.



CLTS TRAINING EMPOWERS VOLUNTEERS IN VELA LA VELLA

The Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) training for volunteers in Vela La Vella, Western Province, under the National Sustainable Sanitation Plan (NSSP) program, concluded successfully at Eleoteve Village in South Vela La Vela on November 24, 2023.

The CLTS Training was facilitated by Mr. Erick Hale, Program Officer of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the training started from November 22 to November 24.

About 29 CLTS Volunteers, including three participants from Eleoteve village, were equipped with essential skills focusing on community demonstration and triggering methods to encourage behavioural changes towards the use of proper sanitation facilities.

The primary goal of the training was to educate volunteers on implementing CLTS and the Rural Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (RWASH) policy, emphasizing the importance of technical support from the ADRA SI Team for successful project implementation in their respective villages.



ADRA SI Acknowledges SINPF and Our Telekom for Financial Awareness Session

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Solomon Islands expresses gratitude to the Solomon Islands National Provident Fund (SINPF) and Our Telekom for their informative sessions during the Soul Cocoa Saving Refresher Workshop.

Held at the Guadalcanal Resource Centre from October 31 to November 2, the workshop featured officers from NPF YOUSAVE and Our Telekom M-Seleni, invited by ADRA Soul Cocoa Project to educate participants on financial saving schemes and products.

The You Save scheme, tailored for the self-employed in the Solomon Islands by SINPF, and M-SELEN, an efficient mobile phone-based money transfer and payment service by Our Telekom, were presented to 32 women from Sali in Central Guadalcanal and Geza, Ghombua, and New Tenabuti Communities in Northeast Guadalcanal.

The Soul Cocoa Savings Group Refresher Workshop aimed to sustain ADRA's Soul Cocoa plus project, benefiting communities in Guadalcanal and Malaita. Supported by private donations administered by ADRA Australia, the workshop explored potential linkages to financial platforms like YOUSAVE, M-Seleni, or Ezi-Pay.

Project Manager Patrick Mesia extends sincere thanks to SINPF YOU SAVE and M-Seleni teams for their valuable information, leading to 22 out of 32 participants registering with YOU SAVE.





CANDO Teams Conduct ECMT in Western Province

The Church Agency Network Disaster Operations (CANDO) Team is currently in Western Province conducting the Evacuation Centre Management Training (ECMT) for its partners.

In November, CANDO organized a similar ECMT for one of its partners, the Anglican Community at Kolina 1 and Kolina 2 in Central Guadalcanal, on November 1st and 9th at Kolina 1 Anglican Church.

The upcoming ECMT sessions took place in two SSEC communities namely at Vorivori SSEC Church in West Gizo and Noro SSEC. The training for Vorivori SSEC ran from November 21 to December 1, while Noro SSEC's ECMT Training is scheduled from December 4 to December 14.

Facilitated by ADRA Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Project Coordinator, Duran Taupongi, and Project Officer, Leslie Molea, with support from CANDO Volunteers from SSEC and Anglican with an aim to select volunteer representatives from these communities to build strong, safe, and responsive community evacuation centers.

ADRA SI Community Disability Centre (CDCs) Project Coordinator, Duran Taupongi, said that community representatives selected to attend these trainings will lead the com-

ADRA SI Observation Trip after the heavy down pour in Honiara & parts of Guadalcanal

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) recently carried out a two-day general observation and repercussion assessment in communities across Guadalcanal Province affected by flooding and heavy rain in November.

This observation assessment targeted areas severely impacted by recent heavy rainfall and flooding, specifically in North Guadalcanal, Central Guadalcanal, and North West Guadalcanal.

The initiative allowed ADRA's Emergency Department to independently observe the aftermath, affirming the extent of the damage caused by adverse weather conditions. The observation aimed to gauge the severity of the situation and identify the specific areas severely affected by heavy rain and flooding.

ADRA's Project Coordinator for Building Disaster Resilience for Persons with Disabilities, Duran Taupongi, and Project Officer Leslie Molea visited several communities in North Guadalcanal, Central Guadalcanal, and North West Guadalcanal affected by the November flooding.

The assessment extended to the Tenaru residential area, Tetere area, Aruligo to Selwyn College, and nearby communities to comprehensively evaluate the aftermath of heavy rain and flooding in these locations.



ADRA organized First Aid Training for Kukudu Sub-Office Staff

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) has recently organized a comprehensive two-day First Aid Training at its Kukudu Sub-Office, Western Province.

The initiative aimed to equip ADRA SI staff who are currently working with ADRA SI Projects in Western Province with essential first aid knowledge and procedures, furthering their ability to respond effectively in emergency situations during work.

The training, held on November 6th and 7th at Kukudu Sub Office has brought together ADRA SI staff in Western Province and 13 Community Members from Iriri Village on Kolobangara Island for the training.

A First Aid Facilitator from the Solomon Islands Red Cross (SIRC) in Honiara went down to facilitate the training in Kukudu. Disaster Risk Resilient (DRR) Project organized the First Aid Training.

"Participants were really happy and privileged to be part of the training and for most of the participants it's their first time to attend such training and realize situations they faced in the past could be prevented if they had gone through such training before," Mr Jack said.

A next follow-up training will be organized soon.



CANDO Initiates Evacuation Centre Management Training for Kolina Communities

The Church Agency Network Disaster Operations (CANDO) has launched a weeklong Evacuation Centre Management Training (ECMT) for Kolina 1 and Kolina 2 Communities in Central Guadalcanal. The training, which began on November 1st and concluded on November 9th, was held at the Kolina 1 Anglican Church.

Six CANDO volunteer Trainers of Trainers (TOT) from the Anglican Church of Melanesian (ACOM) are leading the training with support from ADRA SI Building Disasters Resilience for People with Disabilities Project Coordinator Duran Taupongi and Project Officer Leslie Molea.

The primary objective of the disaster training is to empower Kolina 1 and Kolina 2 communities to select 14 volunteer representatives. These representatives will play a crucial role in building a resilient, safe, and responsive community capable of effectively managing disaster-related activities.

Duran Taupongi emphasized the significance of the workshop, stating that the selected representatives will lead their communities in disaster-related activities and programs, fostering preparedness and resilience before, during, and after a disaster situation.

The program is funded by Australia Aid through the Department of Foreign Affairs (DEFAT) and implemented by CANDO partners, with ADRA Solomon Islands serving as the lead agency.



Successful Conclusion of CANDO Members Training

The Three-Day Safe N Redi Platform Training Workshop for Church Agency Network Disaster Operation (CANDO) partners, concluded successfully in Honiara.

The participating denominations included the Seventh Day Adventist Church (SDA) represented by ADRA SI, United Church of Solomon Islands (UCSI), Catholic Church represented by Caritas, South Sea Evangelical Church (SSEC), and Anglican Church of the Melanesian (ACOM).

Hosted at the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Head Office in Honiara from October 16th to 18th, 2023, the workshop was facilitated by Mr. Etika Naitini, the Geographic Information System (GIS) Coordinator for ADRA Fiji.

The primary goal of the workshop was to enhance participants' understanding of the Safe N Redi platform, enabling them to manage and update their Church Agency facilities data captured on Safe N Redi. Moreover, participants gained the ability to train volunteers for field data capture.

The workshop, fully funded by Australia Aid through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Australia Government under the Australia Humanitarian Partnership (AHP), was executed by ADRA Solomon Islands as the lead agency for CANDO GIS through its Disaster Ready Programme (DR .2).



ADRA SI NSSP Staff Successfully Completed Finance Orientation

On Thursday, October 19, 2023, seven officers from the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) engaged in the implementation of the National Sustainable Sanitation Plan program (NSSP Phase 2) in Western Province successfully underwent a comprehensive finance orientation.

The briefing took place at the ADRA SI Conference Room in Kukum and was facilitated by the ADRA SI Finance Department.

The primary objective of the finance orientation was to provide NSSP staff with a thorough understanding of the finance processes at ADRA Solomon Islands. This knowledge equips them to navigate financial procedures effectively in the course of their work.

The NSSP program, funded by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), is currently being implemented in Ranongga, Kolombangara, and Vela La Vella Islands. This finance orientation underscores ADRA's commitment to ensuring the efficient and transparent utilization of resources for the successful implementation of the NSSP program in Western Province.



ADRA Launches Second Phase of NSSP Project in Western Province

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) has officially launched the second phase of the Solomon Islands National Sanitation Sustainability Plan (NSSP) Project in Gizo, Western Province, on November 2, 2023.

This NSSP project was funded by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), is being implemented by ADRA Solomon Islands as the lead agency in Western Province, focusing on Kolombangara, Vella, and Rannogah Islands.

Community representatives from the project implementation islands, along with attendees from the Western Provincial Government, ADRA staff, and Mr. Paul Muller, the RWash National Sanitation Coordinator, participated and witnessed the launching ceremony.

Elizabeth Tangisi, Officer In Charge (OIC) of ADRA Solomon Islands, expressed gratitude to UNICEF for the funding and acknowledged the support and commitment of RWash officials and provincial stakeholders. Ms. Tangisi urged ADRA staff to actively engage in the projects, emphasizing that the project's success hinges on their dedication to implementing project activities.

The NSSP, a one-year sanitation project, commenced on September 11, 2023, and is scheduled to conclude on September 10, 2024. This initiative underscores ADRA's ongoing commitment to advancing sanitation and hygiene in the Solomon Islands



Communities Enthusiastic about NSSP Community Consultation

Communities across Rannogah Island in the Western Province are expressing excitement and satisfaction with the recent community implementation of the Solomon Islands National Sustainable Sanitation Plan (NSSP) Phase 2 Program.

Taking place across 12 villages in Rannogah Island on November 15th, 16th, 17th, and 20th, 2023, the community consultation covered villages in South Rannogah, including Ngaikene, Ngaidavala, Visale, Keara, Saevatoa, Tuti, Suvuru, and Kundu. Villages in North Rannogah, namely Mondo, Keigold, Sabala, and Buri, along with nearby communities, were also part of the initiative.

The community implementation has garnered significant support as it seeks to mobilize communities, identify village volunteers, and apprise communities of ADRA SI's work in implementing the NSSP program throughout rural communities on the island.

Jason Boso, NSSP Project Coordinator for Rannogah Island, said that approximately 20 to 30 people have attended these community consultations from the respective communities.

Mr Boso confirmed that after the community consultation ended, they were able to identify some potential volunteers from these communities to work with ADRA SI to implement this project.



YOUTHS AND LEADERS FROM ZION SDA CHURCH COMPLETES EVACUATION CENTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Fourteen Youths, including their church Pastor and Elder from Zion Seventh-day Adventist Church (SDA) in Central Honiara have completed a Weeklong Evacuation Center Management Training on Friday 1st of December 2023.

The training took place at the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Conference Room in Kukum, Central Honiara.

The Training started on Monday 27 November 2023 and ended on Friday 1st of December with a formal closing and follow-up planning between ADRA and the church.

Evacuation Centre Management Training was organized by ADRA Disaster Risk Resilience Department (DRR) under the Disaster Ready Church (DRC) project, aimed to help equip these young youths and their leaders with knowledge related to disaster risk, resilience, and effective evacuation center management during disasters.

Raynick Jack, ADRA Emergency Management Coordinator for DRR, expressed his satisfaction with the attendance of these young youths and their leaders at the training.

Bongi Hynick Darlingi, an Elder from Zion Church, extended gratitude to ADRA for organizing the training, emphasizing its potential assistance to church members in times of disaster within the church and the community.



Volunteers from Kolobangara Island Successfully Completed CLTS Training

Twenty-four dedicated volunteers, comprising 23 males and one female from 19 communities across Kolobangara Island in the Western Province, have successfully completed an intensive week-long training in Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS). The training, held at the ADRA Kukudu Sub Office on Kolobangara Island from November 27th to December 1st, 2023, marks a significant milestone in enhancing sanitation and hygiene practices within these communities.

CLTS is a widely embraced approach in developing countries, focusing on triggering behavioral change to improve community sanitation. The participating communities, including Nusa Mahiri, Varu 1, Varu 2, Patupaele, Tititana, Poporo, Qolezavanga, Habere, Iriri, Vavanga, Ghatere, Pine, Hunda, Kena, Sarughobe, Kuzi, Kaza, Vovohe 1, and Iitona, were chosen following the implementation of the Community Consultation 2nd Phase program of the National Sanitation Sustainability Plan (NSSP) from November 12 to 17.

The CLTS Training aimed to educate community CLTS champions (volunteers) on CLTS methods, initiation, and alignment with the Rural Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (RWASH) policy. Participants acquired essential skills to become effective facilitators within their villages. The hands-on training included activities such as conducting pre-triggering, triggering, baseline surveys, and practical guidance on installing Satopans toilets using molds.

Erick Hale, Lead Facilitator and Program Officer of UNICEF, played a pivotal role in facilitating the CLTS Training, supported by ADRA SI NSSP project coordinator for Kolobangara Island, Vema Kiko, and her project officer, Melina Navo. This successful completion reflects the commitment of these volunteers toward improving community sanitation and underscores the positive impact of collaborative efforts.

