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**Solomon Islands Water Sector Adaption Project  
(SIWSAP)  
Quarterly Report**

Country: **SOLOMON ISLANDS**

Period Covered: **January – March 2016**

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Date: 15<sup>th</sup> April 2016



## Section 1: Summary of overall Project Progress

SIWSAP's key focus in the first quarter of 2016 were to; finalize its Annual Work Plan for 2016 in close collaboration with key partners, progress outstanding procurements from 2015 for specialized water equipment, and embark on various construction works as part of implementation of quick fixes across the six pilot sites. This period also witnessed the fielding of the second Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation (CCVA) assessment team to validate the CCVA reports and to test the methodology proposed for the Adaptation Planning Process. Other events that took place included; the SIWSAP's Retreat, participation in the Choiseul Provincial Government Second Appointed Day, and the SIWSAP's second Project Board meeting.

Overall, implementation in the first quarter has been satisfactory. A few challenges were encountered particularly in relation to bad weather conditions which resulted in the cancellation of a few trips to the pilot sites; slow turn overs in the procurement of specialized equipment required by the project and key partners to pilot specific activities on the ground; and issues pertaining to gaps in specifications of required materials/equipment which contributed to slow down implementation of quick fixes in most of the pilot sites. While activities carried out in the first quarter covers all four outcomes, the majority falls under outcomes one (1), two (2) and three (3). A good number of activities under Outcome four (4) are still at the consultation phase with the exception of a few awareness on climate change, water management etc.

In terms of delivery against SIWSAP's annual approved budget of **USD2,531,000** for 2016, a total of **USD157,908.79** has been expended during this quarter based on the atlas generated Combined Delivery Report.

### *Outcome 1: Formulating, integrating, and mainstreaming water sector-climate change adaptation response plans in the water-related sectors as well as broader policy and development frameworks.*

- A second CCVA mission was fielded from February 15<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The key objectives of this mission were to: 1) finalize the Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation (CCVA) assessment in each site; review the draft version of the 6 CCVA documents and identify opportunities to improve them; 2) initiate the Adaptation Planning Process; develop a methodology for the identification of local climate adaptation projects/ policies and a participatory process for prioritizing them; and 3) testing of the draft methodology in at least 2 sites (one township and one community) and make necessary adjustments.
- Key outcomes of this mission comprised; 1) draft CCVA reports for Taro, Gizo and Santa Catalina were validated with key partners in the pilot sites and based on feedback, improvements were made to the draft CCVA reports such as adding more details and explanations so that it is easy for local stakeholders to understand. As noted in previous reports, the CCVAs are a foundational document that serve as a reference for local stakeholders to understand climate change hazards and vulnerability, as well as help prepare them to develop ideas for future adaptation plans. Following this validation process, revised drafts for all six sites were resubmitted for internal peer review prior to circulating



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widely to key partners for comments/feedback; 2) a draft methodology for the Adaptation Planning process was created in consultation with key partners in each of the sites visited. A revised draft methodology was shared with stakeholders and will soon be finalized for roll out in the various pilot sites; and lastly but not the least; 3) the draft Adaptation Planning Methodology was tested in Taro, Gizo and Santa Catalina. Based on feedback from partners, adjustments were made to improve the draft methodology.

- As part of the CCVA and Adaptation Planning Process, Provincial Officers were trained on: a) how to effectively communicate vulnerability findings as facilitators, b) how to explain the implications of climate change on their communities, and c) how they can guide the community through successive planning steps to create local adaptation plans. This process proved to be a very useful capacity building exercise for POs who were brought into Honiara for a 3 days training. As a result of this training, the PO for Santa Catalina (Mannesh Irofimae) took the lead role of a facilitator with guidance and support from the CCVA Team Leader when presenting the draft CCVA report to key stakeholders in Santa Catalina. The training of POs is a cornerstone of the SIWSAP as they interact daily with local stakeholders, carry the primary role of planning, implementing and monitoring activities in the pilot sites, and can influence local processes through capacity building and facilitation with beneficiaries.
- Overall, this reporting period as far as the CCVA process is concerned witnessed the transitional phase from identifying vulnerabilities to discussing adaptation planning – keeping in mind the importance of both hardware (infrastructure) and software (policies, awareness and organization). This balance will be crucial to an effective process. The next step is to roll out the Adaptation Planning Process and this constitute weighing of options and strategizing about adaptation projects. This process will involve the development of a method for evaluating costs and benefits associated with each potential option. The end product from CCVA to the Adaptation Planning Process is the formation of specific Water Sector – Climate Change Adaptation Response Plans (WS-CCARP) for each of the pilot sites. The draft WS-CCARP are anticipated for June/July 2016.
- A revision was done to the Chief Technical Advisor’s Terms of Reference based on recommendation by the SIWSAP Board that the TOR be updated to reflect what has been achieved to date as well as cater for the future needs of the project. The PMU is finalizing the TOR before it is shared with Board members for their final endorsement. The post will no longer be called ‘Chief Technical Advisor’ rather has changed to “Water Sector Adaptation Specialist” to reflect the skill set required to meet the needs of the project. As soon as the TOR is finalized, the post will be uploaded to the UNDP procurement website. Both national and international experts are eligible to apply.
- Through support from the SIWSAP Regional Technical Advisor at the MCO and the CTA (interim), and in close collaboration with key government partners on possible options for a data collection and monitoring tool for the project, the PMU has decided to adopt AKVO. Arkvo is a tablet based tool that captures survey data. Akvo builds open source internet and mobile software. In the Pacific



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region, they are already partnering with UNICEF on WASH sector monitoring, as well as working directly with government agencies in Vanuatu (Ministry of Health), Fiji (Ministry of Education) and Solomon Islands (Ministry of Health). RWASH, a key partner of SIWSAP is already using this tool and was impressed with the results, and the simplicity of the technology. During the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Project Board meeting, endorsement was granted for SIWSAP to use Akvo as its data collection and M&E tool. SIWSAP intends to use Akvo as a project tracking tool across the 6 pilot sites. This will provide a live project register in a timeline feed. Provincial Officers (POs) together with their government counterparts would be encouraged (or set expectations) to upload photos, movies, and data to the project feed. This will allow the team to see the progress and results of work in the field and for the team to learn and share as the project goes along.


#### ***Outcome 2: Increasing the reliability and improving the quality of water supply in targeted areas.***

- In collaboration with the National Public and Health Laboratory, a chemistry and microbiological analysis was carried out on twenty hand dug wells in Taro Township. The microbiological tests were crucial in determining whether the quality of water from hand dug wells can be utilized for drinking during water stress periods. The results of these tests pointed to the presence of E.coli and coliform in most of the hand dug wells, while a good number of wells particularly on the north east tip of Taro Island (also known as the light industrial area) recorded no trace of E.coli. Such information provides vital baseline data as the project embarks on rehabilitating and improving existing water sources/catchment. Furthermore, the availability of such information helped inform the identification of sites for 6 new wells currently under construction in Taro under the quick fixes. Similar tests are anticipated for the remaining 5 pilot sites.
- The procurement of Early Warning Systems (6 Automatic Hydro-meteorological Stations and 12 rain gauges) and ground water survey equipment (inclusive of data loggers and tough books) is close to being finalized for submission to the Regional Assets Contracts Procurement (RACP) Committee. This procurement has been long outstanding since mid-2015 and the urgency to get these equipment and install them in the various pilot sites cannot be emphasized enough especially now that the project is well into its second and a half year of implementation. The EWSs are pertinent in the effective piloting of activities as most community-level water resources are heavily reliant on rainwater for drinking and cooking. While pilot sites such as Santa Catalina have proceeded to document and operationalize its water management protocols/regulations, the absence of such equipment poses major challenges to the project. The EWSs should provide data that will inform communities of projected dry spells so they can prepare well in advance. In addition to the EWSs, delays in purchasing the ground water survey equipment inadvertently contributed to ground water assessments not being carried out in any of the pilot sites to date. Without this, it is difficult to determine whether groundwater in the pilot sites can be considered a source of freshwater. Due to the urgency of such assessment, efforts are currently underway in developing a draft Terms of Reference to source external expertise to carry out such assessments possibly through an institutional contract.





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- Corresponding with the implementation of quick fixes that have been implemented since December 2015, the project is in the process of collecting and documenting water management/protocols in close consultation with various pilot communities to ensure water resources funded by the project are managed and accessed more equitably, particularly during water shortage situations. A home grown solution is being employed where communities come up with their own water management guidelines either through reviving traditional practices or by developing new ones. This process has been completed in Santa Catalina just in time for the completion of the quick fixes. Equitable access of water is particularly important in protecting the marginal groups of the community such as women, children, people living with special needs and the elderly. There will be cross pollination of water management/protocols across the pilot sites.
- A major activity rolled out under this outcome during the quarter is the implementation of various quick fixes in five of the six pilot sites. With the exception of Tigoa in RenBell province, all contracts for quick fixes have been issued and construction works are currently ongoing. The status of work till end of March 2016 is reflected in the table below:

Pilot Site	Quick Fix Interventions and Status
<p><b>Taro: Choiseul Province</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11x rain water tanks with gutters, downpipes and fittings to existing roofing catchments. Tank basement is all concrete post. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 2 x10000L rotomould tanks (Taro Sports Centre)</li> <li>✓ 2 x5000L rotomould tanks (Women Resource Center)</li> <li>✓ 2 x5000L rotomould tanks (Works Office)</li> <li>✓ 1 x10000L rotomould tanks(Provincial Chamber)</li> <li>✓ 2 x5000L rotomould tanks (Provincial Chamber)</li> <li>✓ 2 x5000L rotomould (Taro Hospital)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 6 x new hand dug wells</li> <li>• 4 x water wells along the airstrip, 2 at the northern part of island.</li> </ul> <p><b>Current Status:</b> Contractor commenced with necessary works in mid-March 2016. Construction work is progressing very well. Expected completion date is end April 2016.</p>



<p><b>Ferafalu: Malaita Province</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct 10 x standalone 7 sheets rain roofing catchment, with guttering, spout, downpipe and concrete basement.</li> <li>• 1 x 5000L rain harvesting tanks installed for each standalone roofing catchments located within the community</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> 90% completed. A few finishing touch (e.g painting etc) still remaining. All works should be completed by first week of April 2016.</p>
<p><b>Gizo: Western Province</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 x water tanks (aluminum and rotomoulds), including gutters, downpipes and fittings to existing roofing catchments. Posts of tanks platform is all GI pipes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 2 x 5000L Aluminum tank (Malakerava)</li> <li>✓ 2 x 5000L aluminum tanks (MSG Building)</li> <li>✓ 2 x 5000L aluminum tanks (Women resource center)</li> <li>✓ 2 x 10000L Rotomould tanks (Netball stadium)</li> <li>✓ 2 x 5000L Aluminum tanks (Netball official building)</li> <li>✓ 2 x 5000L aluminum tanks</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 3 x hand dug wells at Gizo school installed with new culverts</li> </ul> <p><b>Current status:</b> 80% completed. Incomplete portion was due to missing materials which were supposed to be provided by Provincial government.</p>
<p><b>Santa Catalina: Makira/Ulawa Province</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13 x 5000L polyethylene tanks for school, clinic and one for each 8 zones.</li> </ul>



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- Construct standalone 6 sheets roofing catchment for each zone. Installed with guttering, spout, down pipe and concrete basement.
- Each zone, plus clinic and school installed with 1 x 5000L tank each except for;
  - ✓ Zone 2: with 2 tanks
  - ✓ Zone 6: with 2 tanks
  - ✓ Zone 8: with 2 tanks

**Current Status:** All works completed in mid-February 2016.

**Tuwo, Temotu Province**

**Original contract** is 5 x 5000L rotomould rainwater tanks. These tanks will be attached to existing roofing catchments.

- 1 x 5000L tank at church
- 2 x 5000L tanks at school
- 1 x 5000L at John’s residence
- 1 x 5000L at Luke’s residence

**Additional quick fix:** 4 x additional 5000L rotomould rain water tanks for each of the four zones.

8 corrugated iron sheets roofing catchments- constructed for standalone rainwater catchments for each zones, including installation of guttering, spout, down pipes, etc. Basements are concrete slab.

- Zone 1: 1 x 5000L tank
- Zone 2: 1 x 5000L tank
- Zone 3: 1 x 5000L tank
- Zone 4: 1 x 5000L tank

**Current Status:** Construction commenced in late March 2016. Encountered major delays in the implementation of necessary work due to challenges in shipping services to get the materials to the site. Expected completion date is end April 2016.

**Tigoa: RenBel Province**

10 x 5000L polyethylene water tanks

16 x Water tanks (polyethylene and aluminium)



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rehabilitate and improve Tigoa township water supply (with 2 x 10,000L new storage tanks and 2 x new water pumps with necessary accessories such as pipes, fittings etc)</li><li>• 12 x 5000L and 2 x 10,000L new water tanks for New Place Secondary School. This includes guttering, downpipes, spout and concrete basement of the tanks.</li></ul> <p><b>Current Status:</b> Contract yet to be issued. Procurement team currently working on finalizing the documentation for processing of contract. Issuance of contract expected in late April 2016.</p>
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***Outcome 3: Investing in cost-effective and adaptive water management interventions and technology transfer.***

- Under the quick fixes identified in outcome 2, additional rainwater storage (water tanks) were deployed and installed in Gizo, Tuwo, Santa Catalina, Ferafalu and Taro during the quarter. Development of new water source such as from wells (6 new hand dug wells) was also carried out in Taro township. These interventions which focuses on building additional water facilities and management will contribute to further strengthen climate resilience across the 6 pilot sites.
- SIWSAP is also investing in non-conventional technology through the procurement of specialized solar powered equipment such as desalination, brackish and water treatment systems. In March 2016, RACP finally endorsed the procurement of these equipment. These are strategic freshwater storage options to be placed in the six pilot sites for use during disaster relief periods. Accompanying these relief equipment are codan man pack series transceivers sourced through, Pacific Vaized Company. These are HF radios which can operate in very remote areas without any telekom reception and can withstand very harsh conditions. These equipment are ready to be dispatched from Australia in late March 2016. The provision of improved telecommunication equipment will ensure effective communication with national institutions/agencies on provincial/community situations during disasters.
- During this reporting period, the PMU has also undertaken consultations with the New Zealand Volunteer Services Abroad and the Australian Volunteers International on the possibility of sourcing a volunteer to bring additional capacity to the PMU. This volunteer will be responsible for analyzing lessons from the pilot and replication sites on climate change adaptation and response measures. Specific skills needed include a technical understanding of adaptation elements as well as an on the





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implications of climate change on surface water flows. This position is envisaged for a 2 year period as per the project document.

- Furthermore, SIWSAP is finalizing a contract for the engagement of an international consultant (in collaboration with colleagues in Bangkok) to put together the SIWSAP Communication Strategy. This Communication Strategy is very important as it will establish a baseline picture of existing knowledge levels, attitudes, practices and behaviors that will in turn indicate where there are gaps in behaviors or attitudes that need to be addressed or targeted. It will also identify key actors and channels for communications (including traditional forms of communication) and further link communication objectives to project objectives. The Communication Strategy will also spell out useful tools and activities to raise awareness. The target is to have a finalized strategy by mid 2016.

#### ***Outcome 4: Improving governance and knowledge management for climate change adaptation in the water sector at the local and national levels.***

- SIWSAP embarked on a few awareness raising activities on climate change adaptation in relation to water resources during the CCVA missions to Taro, Gizo and Santa Catalina in February, 2016. In Gizo, participants of the CCVA workshop viewed a Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change documentary about Tuvalu's water crisis and compost toilet pilot. In both Gizo and Santa Catalina, the CCVA Expert Team utilised awareness tools such as the problem tree, solution tree and visioning activities to engage participants during committee/community meetings. These tools were considered as very successful in actively engaging communities identify their problems and come up with their own solutions, particularly in areas of water resilience, sanitation and hygiene, and governance.
- SIWSAP Provincial Officers are beginning to meet with their respective committees and communities to document existing water management protocols and to workshop better solutions to water management and water resilience issues. In this quarter, the Project Officer for Santa Catalina is the first to conduct this community capacity strengthening activity. This activity is being repeated in SIWSAP's five other sites.
- SIWSAP was invited to attend Choiseul Province Second Appointed Day. This event took place in Posarae, a rural community outside of Taro. The celebration was attended by the SIWSAP Provincial Officer for Taro who as part of the UNDP stall set up on site, disseminated brochures and handouts containing information about SIWSAP. Awareness materials on basic information regarding climate change adaptation were also distributed.
- SIWSAP is still without a logo and slogan. A Procurement Notice for a logo and slogan design concept was issued through national newspaper towards the end of the quarter and a panel of judges comprised of the Director for Climate Change, Deputy Director for Water Resources Division,



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Senior Program Coordinator for the Water Resources Division, the UNDP Environment Program Assistant and the SIWSAP Water Adaptation Officer. The results have been compiled and tabulated. A winning logo and slogan will be decided/approved soon. The target is to finalise SIWSAP's logo and slogan by May 2016 so the project can proceed with the printing of awareness and promotional materials.

#### *Outcome 5: Project Management*

- SIWSAP successfully held its Retreat at Maravagi Resort from 11-14 February, 2016. Key objectives of the retreat were to: 1) **recap on implementation of SIWSAP in 2015**: Identify key achievements, lessons learnt and possible solutions moving forward; 2) **finalise the SIWSAP Annual Work Plan for 2016**: review draft AWP for 2016 with key partners and make the necessary changes before finalizing for tabling at the Project Board in March 2016; 3) **Build Capacity of PMU and Provincial Officers**: train and sensitize Provincial Officers and the SIWSAP PMU on key government policies and approaches/concepts and tools that are crucial in the planning, implementation and monitoring of SIWSAP's activities; and 4) **team building**: building bridges between and amongst SIWSAP staff with key government counterparts/partners. Strong team equates to a strong project. Key outcomes of the retreat comprised: key lessons learned (including possible solutions on how to address them) identified and documented; Finalized the SIWSAP AWP for 2016 for tabling in the March Board meeting; PMU and POs trained and sensitized on the Community Led Total Sanitation approach; and POs had the opportunity to meet with key government counterparts at the national level and get to know them. Strong relationship with partners is crucial in such context.
- A SIWSAP Project Board meeting was held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Key agenda items tabled at the meeting included: 1) SIWSAP Annual Progress Report for 2015 (includes Jan-March 2016 update); 2) SIWSAP's draft Annual Work Plan for 2016 for consideration and endorsement; 3) M&E tool for SIWSAP; and 4) SIWSAP's Chief Technical Advisor – proposed next steps. During the meeting, the Board endorsed the SIWSAP AWP for 2016 with slight amendments, granted approval for the use of Akvo as SIWSAP's monitoring tool and requested for an updated version of the Chief technical Advisor's TOR for board members to review before it is advertised. For further details on deliberations of the Board meeting, see annex 1 for the draft Minutes of the Board meeting.
- In early February 2016, the Water and Sanitation Specialist, Mr Dale Young, joined the PMU in his capacity as the Interim Chief Technical Advisor for SIWSAP. Mr Young is based full time at the PMU and is providing technical backstopping while long term measures to recruit to the post are being pursued. The PMU is indeed grateful for the assistance and support rendered to date by Mr Young and looks forward to working closely with him in coming months.



**Section 2: Project progress tracking sheet**

The project implementation schedule as per project document is on track.

**Section 3A: Project Risks and Issues**

**3A: Project Risks Matrix**

**Existing risks/threats identified PRIOR to this quarter**

Risk	Level	Mitigation measures	Responsibility
Weather impedes travel to Provinces, in some cases for months. Health and safety concerns with outer islands and drought weather/boat rides. Extreme natural events.	Medium	Avoiding travel during times of the year when the weather is known to be changeable and rough seas. Procurement of safety kits for boat travel containing lifejackets, satellite phones, and other emergency equipment.	PMU, MMERE, EHD, MECDM, Provincial Governments
Large tracts of land under customary ownership could be an impediment to spatial approaches in CC-A IWRM if landowners do not cooperate .	Medium	<p>The IWRM process in formulating CCA plans will undertake consultative and transparent processes, including with landowners. The co-benefits from IWRM through partnerships will be emphasized with landowners.</p> <p>The involvement of landowners/Provincial Governments in Pilot Project Committees and Community Water Committees across the six pilot sites contributed to create a sense of ownership in the rolling out of activities on the ground. These important relationships are to be nurtured through ongoing dialogue to ensure mutual understanding between both parties.</p>	PMU, MMERE, EHD, CCD, Provincial Governments, Pilot Committees



**3B: Project Issues**

Issue	Potential impact on the project, how dealt with and the result.
<p>Major slippages in the procurement of ground water survey equipment and Automatic Hydro-meteorological Stations and Rain Gauges.</p>	<p>SIWSAP is unable to pilot/trigger water conservation measures due to the unavailability of data/information on projected dry spell (droughts). Potentially, this makes pilot communities/townships more exposed and vulnerable as it is highly likely that they will be caught off guard by future droughts. The PMU is working closely with the UNDP Sub-Office colleagues to try and move this procurement forward. According to Procurement Colleagues, this case should be uploaded for RACP consideration/approval by mid-April 2016.</p>
<p>Strained relationship between SIWSAP and the National Public and Health Laboratory (NPHL) who undertook water quality testing (microbiological test) of wells in Taro for E.Coli and Coliform.</p> <p>The lab was unhappy regarding delays by the project to respond to e-mails on proposed next steps for water quality testing in the remaining 5 sites. This was further exacerbated by delays of the results of samples taken.</p> <p>The delay in response was mainly due to a few factors which requires PMU's action namely: inclusion of tests not requested by SIWSAP (the project only requested for E.Coli and Coliform test as other test had been carried out by the WRD; why test carried out for Taro hospital were included in the SIWSAP bill); the need to ascertain the high cost of test done (SBD33,000) for 20 wells; and queries regarding inconsistency in information provided for in the vendor form by the lab.</p>	<p>Since this is the only Public lab in Solomon islands who does such tests and is recognized in terms of the quality of tests done, similar tests anticipated for the remaining 5 pilot sites cannot be carried out. SIWSAP is currently trying to resolve this matter through support from key partners like WRD and the Environment Health Division. If attempts to resolve the matter fails, then SIWSAP may resort to utilize service providers such as Solomon Waters and the University of the South Pacific etc which can provide similar tests. Alternatively, SIWSAP is exploring the option of procuring its own equipment/kit to test for E.Coli and Coliform.</p>



<p>In the process of resolving these issues, the PMU received an e-mail from the lab noting that SIWSAP has caused so much embarrassment due to the delayed response and that the lab will not be subjected to any future work with SIWSAP/UNDP nor engage any of his staff.</p>	
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#### **Section 4: Lessons Learnt (difficulties occurred and solutions found) and Good Practices (for knowledge sharing purposes)**

- Utilization of a problem tree approach with local communities to identify issues, link them to the causes and root causes as well as engaging them to search for practical solutions on how to address these issues. This activity attracted the active participation of all participants whom at the end of the exercise concluded that failures in previous donor funded project was attributed mainly to lack of ownership and good governance systems (water management protocols, O&M, etc) by communities. This was a welcoming outcome especially now that the project is moving into the software aspect of SIWSAP's work under outcome 2 and 3.

#### **Section 5: Additional information**

*Provide please include records of Communication activities (photos, press records, illustrative material), meeting notes, technical documents, publications etc. that support and complement key activities carried out in the quarter.*

**Please find below a photo story capturing the implementation of quick fixes in Santa Catalina. Prepared by the SIWSAP Technical Communication and Community Engagement Officer, (Ms Ruth Ramoifuila).**



## SIWSAP Quick Fixes

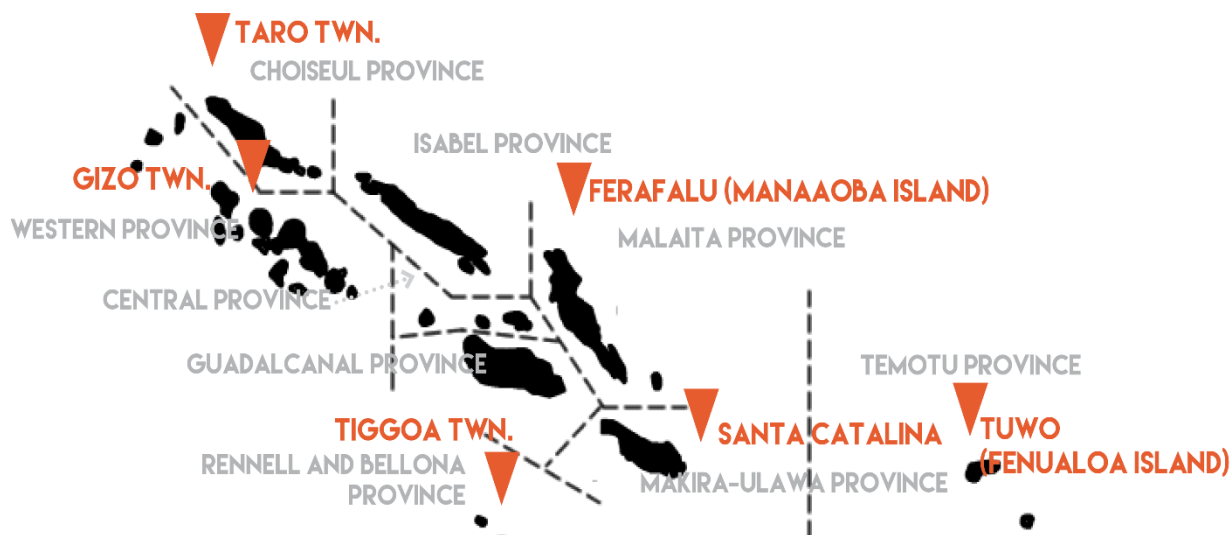
### Storage and Management of Water to address shortages in Santa Catalina

*“A drop of water is worth more than a sack of gold to a thirsty man.” Unknown.*

Many of us have never considered what it would be like to live without easy access to water. We take for granted that when we turn on our taps in our kitchens and bathrooms, clean water will for certain pour forth into our cups, drink bottles, tubs and sinks. But for communities living with limited natural water resources and the impacts of climate change influences, accessible and abundant clean water is a dream.

Since January this year (2016), the Solomon Islands Water Sector Adaptation Project has been rolling out a key activity under its mandate for its six pilot communities to ensure families are resilient to climate change impacts on their water assets and livelihoods.

The quick fix interventions, as it is being dubbed, is a short term measure that ensures communities in Taro, Gizo, Ferafalu, Tiggoa, Santa Catalina and Tuwo who live with challenging water conditions will have access to facilities that provide improved water storage for domestic use, particularly drinking and cooking purposes.



SIWSAP Pilot Sites: Taro, Gizo, Ferafalu, Tiggoa, Santa Catalina and Tuwo



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***Santa Catalina***

Tucked in between Makira and Santa Ana Islands, Santa Catalina, also called Aurigi, is framed by stretches of creamy white beaches and clear, distilled blue seas. With over two hundred households, the community heavily relies on ground water wells and on rain water for their daily survival. The island is very remote and the people live a subsistence and self-reliant lifestyle as services are limited and there are few economic opportunities.



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*A woman washing her feet in the sand. A hand dug well along the front shoreline in Santa Catalina. The island has over 20 hand dug wells.*

***Quick Fixes***





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Following its successful bid to construct rain water harvesting systems in Santa Catalina, Subi Constructions, a Kirakira based WASH engineering and construction company, landed materials for the installation of communal rainwater harvesting systems on the island in December last year (2016).



*Subi Construction and Santa Catalina community members working together to get the rainwater harvesting system constructed and installed.*



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With strong community support and assistance, the contractor installed thirteen 5000 litres rotomoulded water tanks within two months. The simple rain water harvesting design consists of a shed-like roof over the water tank mounted on a cement slab. The roof consists of three standard length panels of iron roofing and holds a gutter system at the lower end of the roof. Galvanized steel posts and solid foundations were installed to protect against strong winds and cyclones.



*One of the rainwater harvesting systems installed under the project*

### ***The Way Forward - Balancing the Hardware with Software***

The aim of SIWSAP is to work with communities to improve ownership over assets and implement sustainable management and financial systems. Only 13% of all water systems in the Solomon Islands have any form of management system – resulting in broken infrastructure and failed systems. This year, SIWSAP Project Officers are documenting existing water management protocols in their respective site communities, workshopping additional protocols and getting their input on how they want these measures to be actioned. In Santa Catalina the documentation has already started and other project sites are following suit.

And this is just the beginning. Onwards and upwards with our communities, SIWSAP!