

Acting Prime Minister Accorded Progressive site visit to Tina River Hydro Project

The Acting Prime Minister, Hon. Frederick Kologeto MP, was accorded a formal tour of the Tina Hydro Project site on 11th June 2025.

The visit allowed the Acting Prime Minister and accompanying ministers to witness firsthand the construction progress being made on the national energy project.

Joining the Acting Prime Minister were Hon. Derrick Rawcliff Manuari, Minister of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification; Hon. John Tuhaika Junior, Minister of Traditional Governance, Peace and Ecclesiastical Affairs; and Hon. Cathy Nori, Minister of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs.

The delegation visited both the Dam Site and the Power House site, where they were briefed on current construction activities and viewed major milestones achieved to date. The team expressed satisfaction with the overall pace and quality of work, noting particularly the considerable improvements to infrastructure, including the steady advancement of critical infrastructure—especially the Dam and Power House.

"This is more than just a power project—it's a foundation for national development and energy independence. It is encouraging to see real progress on the ground. The government's continued support reflects

our commitment to delivering reliable, clean energy for all Solomon Islanders," expressed the Acting Prime Minister.

As on 11th June 2025, the overall construction progress of the Tina Hydro Project has reached 25%. Access roads to both the dam site and the powerhouse site have been completed, marking a significant step forward.

The next major task is to prepare for the construction of the main dam. This includes completing a 232 metre-long Diversion Culvert Box by the end of June, which will safely redirect river water during construction. After that, upstream and downstream cofferdams will be built to allow the main dam construction to begin early next year.

Another key structure is the 3.2 kilometer

waterway tunnel, which will connect the dam to the powerhouse. This tunnel will be built using a Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM). The TBM will be assembled and tested in August, with full-

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Acting PM Hon. Fredrick Kologeto being briefed by THL CEO and TRHDP Project Manager on the dam construction progress

Norwegian Ambassador-Designate visits Tina River Hydropower Project to reaffirm Climate Partnership in Solomon Islands



Her Excellency Anne Grete Riise, the Ambassador-Designate of Norway to the Solomon Islands, (centre) with officials from the Tina River Hydro Development Project at the Project site

Her Excellency Anne Grete Riise, the Ambassador-Designate of Norway to the Solomon Islands, visited the Tina River Hydropower Development Project site as part of her official accreditation visit to the Pacific region.

She was accompanied by Mr. Shameek Godara, Adviser at the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Canberra.

The visit was jointly facilitated by the Office and Tina Hydropower Limited (THL), with support from representatives of the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification (MMERE).

The high-level site visits highlighted Norway's continued commitment to climate action and sustainable development in the Pacific.

Norway is one of the largest contributors to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), a key concessional financing partner supporting the Tina River project—Solomon Islands' first large utility-scale renewable energy initiative.

During the visit, Ambassador Riise was briefed on the project's progress and she expressed her strong impression of the construction advancements at the dam site.

"The progress here is remarkable," she stated.

"It's encouraging to see how international cooperation and climate finance are translating into tangible benefits for communities in the Solomon Islands."

Sahibzada Tanzeel ESSM from the PO remarked "The Tina River Hydropower Project is a first large utility-scale renewable energy project for the Solomon Islands designed to reduce the country's heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels.

It will ease the nation's dependence on costly imported diesel and offer more reliable and affordable electricity to 68% of electricity demand.

Currently, electricity costs in the Solomon Islands are among the highest in the world—averaging US\$0.82 per kilowatt-hour, nearly twice the Pacific regional average".

The project is expected to significantly lower electricity tariffs over time, making power more accessible for households and businesses, while also contributing to the country's long-term climate and development goals.

This visit marks a continued partnership between Norway and Pacific Island nations in the pursuit of sustainable energy solutions.



Her Excellency Anne Grete Riise during her visit to a Guadalcanal traditional house

Tina River Hydro Development Project Manager hosts training for stakeholder ministries

The Tina River Hydropower Project hosted a short but impactful training session for key members of stakeholder ministries, including Ministry of Mines, Energy & Rural Electrification (MMERE), Ministry of Finance and Treasury (MOFT), and Prime Ministers Officer (PMO).

Organised by the Project Office, the session provided a brief background on the Tina River Hydropower development project and an overview of how the hydropower system is designed to function once operational.

The training aimed to build shared understanding among stakeholders as the project moves forward.

Project Manager Mr. Pradip led the session and went a step further by introducing participants to the basic concept of energy and how it applies to hydropower systems.

A key highlight was his explanation of the Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE)—a method used to assess the overall



Participants from various ministries and stakeholders

cost-effectiveness of generating electricity over the lifespan of the project.

It was a valuable learning opportunity that supported stronger collaboration and technical understanding across the ministries involved.

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Acting Prime Minister Accorded Progressive site visit to Tina River Hydro Project

scale tunnelling work planned to begin in November.

By the end of this year, all major preparations for the dam will be completed. This will allow the main construction of the dam to begin in 2026, marking a new phase of accelerated progress for the project.

Tina River Hydro Project underscores its commitment to delivering the project on schedule for commissioning in 2028.

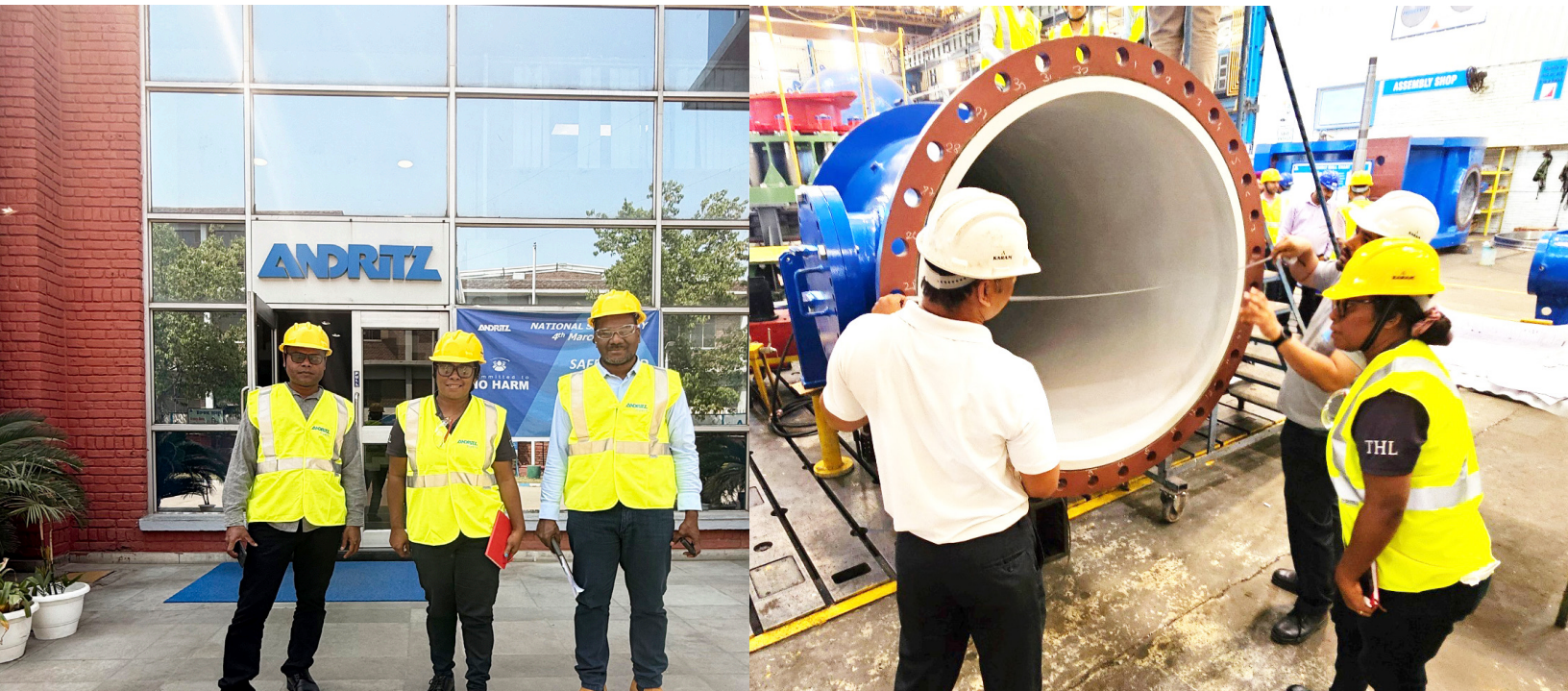
The Tina River Hydro Project remains a top priority for the Solomon Islands Government, promising to reduce reliance on imported diesel and foster long-term economic sustainability.

Once operational, the 15-megawatt hydropower facility will supply nearly 70% of Honiara's electricity needs with renewable energy, significantly reducing reliance on costly diesel generation and lowering power prices.



Hon. Manuari (MMERE Minister) and Hon. Cathy Nori (MWYCF) interacting with Mr. Verma (TRHDP PM)

Tina Hydropower Plant Equipment FAT in India – First Technical Participation by a Female Engineer from Solomon Islands



Ms. Waibala (centre) flanked by Joshua Suiramo and Josiah Rade

Ms. Karen Murray Waibala

A Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) for key equipment of the Tina Hydropower Project—the first large-scale hydropower initiative in the Solomon Islands—was successfully conducted from 7 to 9 April 2025 at manufacturing sites in India.

The FAT covered three major components of the hydropower plant: the hydraulic turbines, Francis Turbine runners for Units 1, 2, and 3, and the spiral cases. The purpose of the inspection was to verify that the performance and quality of the equipment fully comply with technical specifications prior to shipment and on-site installation.

Representatives from Tina Hydropower Limited (THL), the Solomon Islands Electricity Authority (SIEA), Hyundai Engineering Co., Ltd. (HEC), Owner's Engineer STANTEC, and Technical Advisor ENTURA were present, each contributing expert scrutiny in line with their respective technical mandates.

A historic milestone was achieved during

the FAT with the participation of Karen Murray Waibala, an engineer from THL. She became the first female technical staff from the Solomon Islands to be involved in a FAT for a hydropower plant. Her engagement in the technical review added both symbolic and practical significance to the event.

"It was a deeply meaningful experience to verify the equipment firsthand for the first large hydropower plant in our country," said Waibala. "I hope this shows that women can also take the lead in technical fields and serve as inspiration for others in the Solomon Islands."

Two engineers from SIEA—Joshua Suiramo and Josiah Rade—also participated in the FAT as Off-taker representatives, offering utility-focused insights into operational and implementation considerations.

Located approximately 20 kilometers southeast of Honiara, in the upper catchment of the Tina River, the

15-megawatt Tina Hydropower Plant is currently under construction. Once completed, it will become the Solomon Islands' first large-scale renewable energy power station.

The project is poised to transform the country's energy landscape by reducing reliance on imported diesel and enabling a more stable, reliable, and environmentally sustainable power supply.

The successful FAT confirmed that all inspected equipment meets international quality standards. THL remains committed to upholding this level of quality throughout production, installation, and commissioning.

Beyond technical validation, the FAT also underscored strong collaboration among project stakeholders and the meaningful inclusion of local expertise. It marks a significant step toward a more sustainable and inclusive energy future for the Solomon Islands.

Solomon Islands Advocates Nature as Strategic Infrastructure at Asia Clean Energy Forum

The PS Dr. Chris Vehe of Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification (MMERE) took the global stage at the Asia Clean Energy Forum (ACEF) in Manila last week, delivering a powerful statement during the session Biodiversity & Nature in Energy Infrastructure.

He emphasized a transformative shift in infrastructure planning—recognizing biodiversity not as a constraint, but as a core strategic asset.

Speaking on behalf of the Ministry, the PS highlighted the groundbreaking approach of the Tina River Hydropower Development Project, positioning it as a model for nature-integrated infrastructure in the Pacific and beyond.

“Traditionally, biodiversity considerations in energy projects have been treated as safeguards—a checklist to minimize environmental harm,” Dr. Vehe stated.

“At Tina Hydro, we see biodiversity and ecosystem services as critical to enhancing the project’s resilience, performance, and long-term value.”

Here are some highlights from his statement delivered during the session.

From Safeguards to Strategic Investments in Nature

The Tina River project integrates nature from the outset, reflecting a wider shift from the conventional “do no harm” model to a forward-looking approach: “investing in nature as infrastructure.” This perspective sees natural ecosystems not as peripheral, but foundational to operational sustainability.

Ecosystem Services: The Hidden Engine of Cost-Efficiency

Healthy upstream forest ecosystems in the Tina River catchment area naturally regulate water flow, control sedimentation, and filter runoff.

These services offer tangible infrastructure benefits:

- Reduced sedimentation lowers the need for costly desilting operations
- Protection of turbines and dam components from wear and tear
- Extended operational lifespan of the hydropower facility

These natural processes contribute directly to financial sustainability, decreasing maintenance costs and improving returns on investment for developers and financiers.

Nature-Based Solutions in Action

The project’s nature-based interventions also generate co-benefits for local communities:

- Community-led Forest conservation agreements with landowning tribes protect the catchment while providing alternative livelihoods through benefit-sharing mechanisms.



PS Chris Vehe at the Forum in Manila, Philippines

- Reforestation and buffer zones enhance slope stability, reduce landslide risks, and preserve water quality.
- Agroforestry and sustainable agriculture initiatives help reduce forest encroachment, supporting food security and climate resilience.

It is also crucial to note the critical role of cross-ministerial cooperation in biodiversity protection. Collaboration among the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM), the Ministry of Forestry and Research (MFRF), MMERE and the Guadalcanal Provincial Government is essential to aligning national efforts and preserving the country’s natural capital.

“Preserving nature isn’t just an environmental imperative—it’s an economic and strategic one,” MMERE affirmed. “Our ministries must continue to work together to ensure biodiversity and energy development go hand-in-hand.”

These integrated strategies foster trust and collaboration with communities—an essential factor in securing long-term social license to operate.



PS Vehe delivering his speech

Strengthening Partnership for Progress: Solomon Islands and K-water reaffirm commitment to Tina River Hydropower



Members of K-Water Resources with Permanent Ssecretary Dr. Chris Vehe, Isikeli Voceduardua (MOFT), Greg Manehugu (Solomon Power) and THL CEO Mr. Hanyong

In a significant show of solidarity and shared commitment, the Solomon Islands Government (SIG) and Korean Water Resources (K-Water) have reaffirmed their joint dedication to the successful completion of the Tina River Hydropower Development Project (TRHDP), a transformative initiative aimed at increasing renewable energy for the country's national grid - Honiara.

A high-level dialogue was recently held at K-Water's headquarters, Daejeon, Republic of Korea, between a Solomon Islands Government delegation led by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification, and Tina Hydropower Limited – the Special Project Company established by K-Water.

The engagement marked a key milestone in deepening bilateral cooperation and strengthening the Public Private Partnership underpinning this flagship national infrastructure project.

Funded by multiple international financing partners and structured under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model, TRHDP is one of a cornerstone of the Solomon Islands' energy strategy.

The project is expected to replace a substantial portion of Honiara's diesel-generated electricity with clean,

renewable hydropower, supporting energy security, environmental sustainability, and long-term economic resilience.

Despite global and local disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which contributed to significant delays and the need for additional financing, the Government remains steadfast in its commitment to achieving the project's Commercial Operation Date by 11 February 2028.

In March and again in October 2024, following extensive consultations with CFPs, the Solomon Islands Government formally approached development partners to request additional financial support to ensure the project stays on track.

During the recent visit to the Republic of Korea, discussions between SIG and K-Water highlighted the strength of the partnership, the shared challenges ahead, and the importance of continued collaboration and transparency. Both parties expressed their unwavering commitment to deliver a successful outcome for the people of Solomon Islands.

"This project is not only about energy, it is about transforming our economy, empowering our people, and laying the foundation for a more sustainable and

resilient future and our dialogue with K-Water reinforces the mutual trust and understanding that are crucial to this project's success," said Dr. Vehe the Permanent Secretary.

K-Water Vice President & Chief Global Officer, Dr Seong – Yong Han echoed this sentiment, reaffirming their obligation and confidence in delivering the hydropower infrastructure within the agreed timeline and budget, with full alignment with SIG and project stakeholders.

As a leading state-owned enterprise in Korea, K-Water has successfully implemented numerous large-scale water and hydro power projects worldwide, including the world's largest tidal power plant at Sihwa Lake.

As construction progresses, the Tina River Hydropower Development Project remains a national priority, symbolizing what can be achieved when international partnerships are rooted in shared values, commitment, and purpose.

The Solomon Islands Government will continue working closely with its development partners, Solomon Power (the Off taker), and K-Water to ensure TRHDP's completion brings lasting benefits to Solomon Island's economy at large.

Guadalcanal Premier Willie Atu leads official visit to Tina River Hydro Development Site



Group photo with Premier Mr. Willie Atu (Blue collar shirt) and PS Mr. Maesac Suia (maroon collar shirt) both pictured in the center.

The Premier of Guadalcanal Province, Hon. Willie Atu, accompanied by his Provincial Secretary and members of the Premier's Office, conducted an official site visit to the Tina Hydro Development Project to observe the significant progress achieved to date.

The delegation toured various sections of the project site from the Dam site to the Powerhouse (tunnel portal) site, receiving detailed briefings from project supervisors and technical experts from Tina Hydro Limited and Hyundai Engineering Company.

During the visit, Premier Atu expressed his satisfaction with the development's advancement, highlighting the importance of Tina Hydro as a milestone in the province's journey toward sustainable energy and economic

growth.

"We are impressed with the professionalism and dedication of everyone involved in the project," Hon Atu said. "Tina Hydro is not just about generating power — it's about creating opportunities for our people and demonstrating that Guadalcanal can lead in renewable energy development."

The Permanent Secretary also noted the project's potential to foster local employment, infrastructure improvement, and broader socio-economic benefits for surrounding communities.

The Tina River Hydro Development Project, a landmark initiative for the Solomon Islands, aims to deliver clean, renewable energy to reduce reliance on diesel and lower electricity costs.

With construction progressing steadily, project leaders remain confident that key milestones will be achieved on schedule.

The visit underscores the Guadalcanal Provincial Government's ongoing commitment to supporting sustainable development initiatives and ensuring transparency and community involvement in major infrastructure projects.

The Tina River Hydropower Development Project is being implemented by the Solomon Islands Government with financing and support from the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, the Asian Development Bank, the Government of Australia, the Green Climate Fund, the Korea EX-IM Economic Development Cooperation Fund, and the World Bank.



THL CEO Mr. Hwang discussing with the Premier at the Damsite



Visiting team during induction by HEC at campsite

K-water and THL hold donation event for Downstream Communities near Tina River



A K-water official handing over a box donation to one of the village women representative

K-water (Korea Water Resources Corporation), in partnership with Hyundai Engineering, has established Tina Hydropower Limited (THL) to construct the Tina River Hydropower Dam in the Solomon Islands, a landmark project aimed at providing a sustainable and stable energy source for the nation.

The Tina River Hydropower Project, with an installed capacity of 15 MW and an expected annual generation of 78.84 GWh, will play a critical role in reducing reliance on diesel power and lowering electricity costs across the Solomon Islands.

The project is being developed with the support of the World Bank (WB), Green Climate Fund (GCF), Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF), Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD), and the Australian Government, and is scheduled to commence commercial operations in February 2028.

As part of their ongoing commitment to community development, K-water and THL jointly hosted a donation event on 12 May 2025 near the Tina Dam powerhouse site. During the event, approximately sixteen (16) boxes of clothing and footwear brought from

Korea were distributed to residents of four villages namely, Namopila, Habusi, Pachuki and Komureo located upstream of the Tina River. This effort was made to extend tangible support to the communities living near the project.

The event was attended by key representatives, including Mr. Moon Jun-ho, Senior Vice President of the K-water Labor Union, Mr. Han-Yong Cho, CEO of THL, Mr. Tae-Jae Lee, Site Manager of Hyundai Engineering & Construction (HEC), and Mr. Pradip, Project Manager. Their presence underscored the importance that both organizations place on fostering strong, positive relationships with local communities. The donated items, recognized for their high quality, were warmly received by the villagers.

Many residents expressed their gratitude, noting that the clothing and shoes would enhance their daily lives by providing much-needed protection and comfort. Particularly in rural areas where access to such goods is limited, the donations are expected to have a meaningful and lasting impact.

Mr. Moon Jun-ho, Senior Vice President of the K-water Labor Union, stated at the event, "I sincerely hope that this donation will provide practical support

to the local residents. Moving forward, we will continue to seek ways to pursue mutual growth through various forms of cooperation, including job creation, in connection with the Tina Project."

A representative of the village residents also expressed heartfelt appreciation for the ongoing social contribution activities carried out by K-water and THL. They shared hopes that the successful completion of the Tina Dam would help resolve the ongoing power shortages in the Solomon Islands, thereby improving the quality of life for many.

Beyond this recent donation event, K-water and THL have consistently undertaken a variety of social contribution initiatives to support the local communities. In 2019, THL previously donated essential school supplies and medical kits to nearby schools, helping to improve educational and health conditions for children. In 2024, THL installed a borehole with two water tanks, a solar water pump system and four standpipes at the Antioch Community.

This mini water project serves as timely support to the community since there is also a primary school located in the village. This is to ensure that the students and community people have access to clean and safe drinking water, therefore, addressing one of the most critical needs in the region.

Through these activities, K-water and HEC demonstrate a deep understanding of the fundamental needs of the communities surrounding the project site. Their commitment goes beyond infrastructure development, embracing an integrated approach to community engagement by promoting education, health, and basic living conditions.

On behalf of the Government of the Solomon Islands and the Hon. Minister of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry Dr Vehe expressed his sincere appreciation

K-water and THL hold donation event for Downstream Communities near Tina River

for the continuous community engagement and tangible assistance provided by K-water, Hyundai Engineering, and Tina Hydropower Limited.

The PS on behalf of the Minister acknowledged the significance of these social initiatives, noting that they reflect a genuine commitment to local empowerment and inclusive development.

"We are proud to witness such cooperation that aligns with our national development goals," the PS stated.

"This partnership not only brings clean and affordable energy through the Tina River Hydropower Project but also demonstrates care for the well-being of our rural communities. We extend our heartfelt thanks to K-water and its partners for supporting our vision of a more sustainable and resilient Solomon Islands."

The Tina River Hydropower Project is not just an energy infrastructure



Community members standing with the boxes of donation donated by K-water, Hyundai Engineering & Tina Hydropower Limited

project; it is also a catalyst for broader social development. K-water and HEC's integrated approach—combining large-scale infrastructure delivery with impactful local engagement—sets a strong example of how major international projects can contribute to sustainable growth and community empowerment.

This initiative reaffirms THL's enduring dedication to the people of the Solomon Islands, ensuring that the benefits of the Tina River Hydropower Project extend

beyond power generation to fostering a brighter future for the local communities.

With the ongoing unwavering support K-water is putting on the overall project, the Solomon Islands Government is so pleased and so expresses thanks to the President and the whole organization in being part of the effort towards elevating Solomon Islands Government's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) towards reduction of greenhouse gases when the Tina Hydro Project kicks in.

Tina Hydro Development staff and Family participated in the Annual Easter Rotary Fun Run



Family and staff of Tina River Hydro Development Project Office celebrated the easter by joining in on the annual easter fun run, the event was a successful day for all as part of easter celebrations and also a part of promoting a healthy lifestyle through this initiative.

Strengthening Partnership for Sustainable Water Resource and



Sahibzada Tanzeel (Project Office ESSM), Richard Molea (Director Water Resources Management Division/MMERE), John Korinhona Deputy Project Manager PO, Robert-Deputy Director Water Resources Management Division.

The Tina River Hydropower Development Project Office (TRHDP PO) today held a meeting with the Water Resources Division of the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification (MMERE) on 16 April, aimed at deepening collaboration on environmental safeguards and advancing biodiversity and water resource management in the Tina River.

The meeting was attended by Director Richard Molea and Deputy Director Robert of the Water Division, alongside Project Office representatives Mr. John Korinhona (Deputy Project Manager), Mr. Sahibzada Tanzeel (Environmental and Social Safeguards Manager), and Mr. Daniel Tana (E&S Impact Coordinator).

Director Molea provided an overview of the Water Division's regulatory and policy functions, underlining its critical role in national water resource governance, early warning system (EWS) planning and sustainable watershed protection.

Key discussions centered on the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Technical Assistance program, which supports

the Government of Solomon Islands commitment to conservation and regulatory enhancement.

The program includes:

- Technical support for the draft Water Resources Bill, including concessional finance parties review and development of secondary legislation.
- Institutional capacity building for the implementation of water-related policy frameworks.
- Development of a long-term, revolving biodiversity offset financing mechanism, ensuring sustainable conservation of critical habitats around the project area.

Mr. Tanzeel reaffirmed the Project Office's support for these initiatives, stating:

"While these actions may proceed independently of the Tina River Project, this meeting served as a vital checkpoint to explore how the Project Office can align efforts with MMERE Water Division to deliver long-term environmental and

community resilience."

A significant outcome of the meeting was the mutual understanding to strengthen inter-agency collaboration, particularly around:

- Catchment management and protection efforts led under the Core Land and Upper Catchment Biodiversity Management Plans;
- Early Warning Systems (EWS); and
- Capacity-sharing arrangements for monitoring and enforcement of water use and conservation in vulnerable upstream areas.

The Project Office also reiterated its ongoing commitment to support the institutional strengthening, including technical expertise for these legislative tools and to build operational capacities within MMERE.

The meeting marks a renewed and strategic commitment to working together on environmental sustainability goals, while also fostering a whole-of-government approach to biodiversity protection and climate resilience planning.

The Project Office will now consult internally and with the developer and other stakeholders to assess the best approach for potential project alignment with ADB's Technical Assistance deliverables, especially as they relate to the broader objectives of the Environmental and Social Management Plans and the Biodiversity Offset Strategy.

GAP COMMUNITY WORK UPDATE

Women Lead the Way at Tina River Hydropower Development Project's Quarterly Consultation



Project Stakeholders, participants from Belaha, Malatoha and Bahomea with Mrs. Delilah Homelo, Solomon Power CEO

The Tina River Hydropower Development Project (TRHDP) successfully held its Women's Quarterly Consultation at Garivera Park in Guadalcanal Province under the theme "Empowering Women's Voices for Sustainable Development around the Tina River Hydro Project."

Organized by the TRHDP Gender Team, the three-day forum brought together 45 women leaders from community women's associations in Belaha, Malatoha, and Bahomea. They were joined by youth representatives and male leaders for a series of empowering presentations, interactive sessions, and participatory planning discussions.

The consultation served as a critical platform for rural women to directly engage with project stakeholders, build strategic partnerships, and strengthen their leadership and participation in development processes related to the Tina River Hydropower Project.

A standout moment was the keynote

address delivered by the CEO of Solomon Power on the final day. Her inspirational message — which resonated across women, men, and youth participants — emphasised the importance of unity, resilience, and inclusive leadership as drivers of progress and sustainable development.

Strengthening Grassroots Networks and Leadership

Day One featured sessions led by Ms. Afu Billy, President of the Solomon Islands National Council of Women (SINCW). She outlined the Council's national mandate and guided local associations on how to connect effectively from the community level to ward, provincial, and national structures.

Ms. Billy stressed the importance of institutional strengthening, good governance, and collective advocacy to enhance the sustainability and visibility of women's groups.

Day Two focused on human rights, leadership, and safeguarding. Julianne Wickham, a respected expert in gender, human rights, and disability inclusion, led a powerful session on women's rights in the context of development.

She encouraged participants to see leadership not just as a formal position, but as a daily practice rooted in voice, responsibility, and agency. Group discussions enabled participants to reflect on cultural and economic barriers and explore practical ways to overcome them.

Additionally, the Seif Ples Team conducted an important awareness session on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the SafeNet referral pathway. Participants learned about the legal, medical, psychosocial, and shelter services available to survivors, reinforcing the importance of seeking support in safe and confidential spaces.

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Advancing Inclusion at Tina River Hydropower Project



Group photo of the members of the Gender Steering Committee.

The Tina River Hydropower Development Project held its Quarter 1 Gender Steering Committee meeting, reaffirming the project's ongoing commitment to gender equality and inclusive development.

The meeting brought together key stakeholders, including Hyundai Engineering Company, Tina Hydropower Limited, Solomon Power, the Guadalcanal Provincial Government, and the Project Office, to assess progress on gender commitments outlined in the Project's Environmental and Social Management Plans.

Discussions focused on advancing inclusion, reviewing recent achievements, and planning the way forward to ensure equal and meaningful participation of men and women across every aspect of the project.

The committee was honoured to welcome Sergeant Alice Hillary from the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force as a guest

speaker.

She shared valuable insights on gender mainstreaming within the police force and spoke candidly about the impacts of gender-based violence (GBV), particularly in the context of large-scale infrastructure development like the Tina River Hydropower Project.

Also in attendance was Emmanuelle Mangalle, Policy and Research Advisor for the Guadalcanal Provincial Government, whose thoughtful contributions reinforced the importance of aligning efforts with provincial-level gender initiatives.

The Gender Steering Committee remains committed to promoting a project environment where both women and men are empowered, supported, and equipped to participate fully and equally, ensuring gender considerations are not only integrated but prioritized in sustainable development.

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Promoting Transparency and Community Inclusion

Day Three aimed to deepen understanding of the Tina River Hydropower Project's scope and its gender-related dimensions.

Representatives from TRHDP, Tina Hydropower Ltd (THL), and Hyundai Engineering provided updates on construction progress, environmental safeguards, and key infrastructure including the dam, powerhouse, and

roadworks.

These sessions reinforced the project's commitment to transparency and gender-inclusive development.

The day concluded with heartfelt personal testimonies from women leaders, who shared their experiences and the evolving role of their associations in project-related development activities.

Advancing Inclusive Development

The consultation reaffirmed the Project's

strong commitment to gender inclusion, social safeguards, and community empowerment. The TRHDP Women's Quarterly Consultation forms a key component of the Project's Gender Action Plan, which ensures that women are not only consulted but are actively engaged in development decisions and equitably benefit from the Project.

This latest consultation marks another meaningful step toward inclusive, community-led development in the Solomon Islands.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS SHARING PROJECT 2

CBSP Phase 2 Empowers Belaha Communities with Financial Planning and Management Training

The Community Benefits Sharing Project (CBSP) Phase 2 successfully conducted a five-day financial planning and management training from June 16th to 20th, 2025, in Belaha for communities including Ado, Vura, Kwai and Kaimomosa.

A total of 22 community members participated in the training, gaining valuable knowledge and skills to manage their finances effectively.

The training aimed to enhance the financial literacy of community members of Tina hydro project catchment area, to enable them to make informed decisions about their financial resources.

Through interactive sessions and practical exercises, participants learned about starting an income generating idea (action plans), planning for income generating activity, budgeting, saving, and managing debt and other topics.

"We are thrilled to see community members equipped with the knowledge and skills to take control of their financial futures and participated actively in the Community benefits sharing fund - project" (Lionald Tarairamo) representative of CBSP Phase 2.

"This training is a significant step towards promoting financial



Women of Belaha who participated in the financial planning & management training

stability and economic development of CBSP communities.

The CBSP Phase 2 is committed to supporting the social and economic development of communities, and this training is part of its ongoing efforts to empower community members with essential skills and knowledge.

Also, the M-SELEN and YouSave program presented during the training. participants and communities have the opportunity to registered and joined these financial saving schemes.



Our Telekom officer providing M-Selen service for the community



NPF officers registering interested youSave community members

Tina Hydro and CBSP 2 Collaborate with Solomon Power to deliver Electrical Safety Training to Communities in Belaha and Bahomea

The Tina River Hydropower Development Project (TRHDP) Office, through its Gender Action Plan (GAP), has collaborated with Solomon Power (SP) and the Community Benefits Sharing Project (CBSP) Phase 2 to deliver Electricity Safety Training and Awareness sessions in Belaha and Bahomea communities on the 5th, 6th and 10th of June 2025.

Solomon Power (SP) Project Management Unit (PMU) and Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) Team took the lead in all these sessions and completed the training sessions successfully along with the PO and THL team participation.

Solomon Power is the Project Implementing Entity (PIE) for the TRHDP Transmission Lines under Component-3 and CBSP Rural Electrification sub-component 2c.

These sessions aimed to educate community members particularly women on essential electricity safety practices in and around the home.

The awareness covered key topics such as the safe use of household electrical appliances, identifying electrical hazards, responding to electrical emergencies, and procedures for reporting faults

or Electricity identified risks through SP 24/7 lifeline numbers, and including sharing of other relevant information through printed brochures or pamphlets issued to the community participants.

The focus on women reflects their critical roles as household managers and primary caregivers.

As those who often look after both the home and young children, it is especially important that women are equipped with the knowledge and skills to ensure a safe living environment.

This initiative supports safer, informed communities and encourages gender-inclusive participation in the transition to homes with electricity connections.

The Electricity Safety Training and



Solomon Power officers that deliver the electrical safety training

Awareness program is ongoing and will continue to reach additional communities and schools across the Belaha and Bahomea regions, with Solomon Power leading its delivery.

The Project Office also appreciates the presence and support of Tina Hydropower Limited (THL) and Hyundai Engineering Company (HEC) at these awareness programs, strengthening the shared commitment to community safety and engagement.



Community members of Bahomea that attended the electrical safety training



Community participants of Belaha

Major Milestone achieved in Bahomea Community Water Supply Project

A significant milestone has been achieved in the drive toward clean and sustainable water access for rural communities, with the successful completion of deep borehole drilling works for the villages of Managikiki and Horohotu 2, under Phase 2 of the Community Benefit Sharing Project (CBSP 2).

The drilling works were carried out by local contractor Pacific Strata Drilling & Water Engineering Services, as part of a broader SBD 2.7 million investment.

This investment aims to develop three modern water supply systems across Bahomea Ward, including riverside communities such as Namopila, Habusi, and others.

At Managikiki, drilling reached a depth of 140 metres, enabling a system that will serve 56 households. In Horohotu 2, a borehole was completed at 60 metres depth, designed to support 44 households with a combined population

of 359 people. The third water system, currently in progress, will be gravity-fed.

Once fully completed, the project will supply safe, clean water to over 1,000 people (approximately 200 households), meeting an estimated community demand of more than 120,000 litres per day.

"This project is not just about infrastructure—it's about improving health, reducing the time and burden of collecting water, and building resilience in our communities," said Mr. Francis Kapini, Project Manager of CBSP 2.

"We're proud to deliver reliable water access to some of the most remote villages in the Tina area."

The CBSP 2 water supply initiative represents a critical investment in sustainable rural development, directly enhancing health outcomes, daily living conditions, and long-term community resilience in Bahomea Ward.



Children enjoying the running now connected

Great news from Antioch Village



Under its Work Readiness Training Program, CBSP 2 has signed two group contracts, creating job opportunities for 40 community members who will be working on the road improvement project in the village.

The workers have been organized into three groups; the first group has started working on the road as of 14th April 2025 and will continue over the next 12 weeks

Influx Working Committee Advances Tina River Hydropower Development Project



Key stakeholders making up the Influx Working Committee during one of their meetings

Hydropower Development Project. We are committed to addressing the challenges and ensuring the project's sustainability," said Dr. Amal Krishna Saha, a representative from THL. The meeting agreed on several action items:

- Conduct frequent joint site visits and improving reporting;
- HEC to share the monitoring app and to lead a joint monitoring drive;
- THL/HEC to jointly organize the next quarterly meeting; and
- PO to conduct a survey and to provide updates on the influx issues for the influx steering committee in Q-2.

The Influx Working Committee held its first quarterly meeting of 2025 to discuss the progress and challenges of the Tina River Hydropower Development Project (TRHDP).

Key stakeholders from the Project Office (PO), Community Benefit Sharing Project II (CBSP II), Tina Hydropower Limited (THL), and Hyundai Engineering Company (HEC) attended the meeting.

The committee reviewed recent activities and identified new encroachments within the 50-metre corridor.

Both HEC and PO conducted independent site surveys and will consolidate their reports to enhance monitoring efforts.

PO is tasked with formally inviting stakeholders to join the influx working group. HEC proposed two options to help field officers determine boundaries, including installing a monitoring app on officers' handsets and leading a trial joint monitoring drive.

"The collaboration between our teams is crucial for the success of the Tina River

The committee emphasized the importance of collaboration and proactive measures to address the challenges faced by the TRHDP.

They remain committed to ensuring the project's success and sustainability through effective management and stakeholder engagement.

Stay tuned for more updates on the Tina River Hydropower Development Project as we work towards a sustainable energy future for the Solomon Islands.

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For more information and update on the Tina River Hydropower Development Project, please visit our website www.tina-hydro.com.

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