



# SOLOMON ISLANDS COUNTRY REPORT 2018

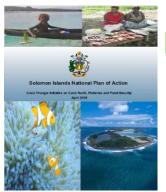


Solomon Islands CTI-CFF NCC| Compiled by the Solomon Islands CTI-SOM14 Delegation | December 2018

## I. INTRODUCTION

This is report prepared for the 14<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting (SOM14) to be held from the 12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> December in Manila, Philippines. The report records Solomon Islands 2018 programs, activities and actions taken by the Solomon Islands government through its lead agencies, the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management & Meteorology (MECDM) and the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR), its CTI-CFF National Coordinating Committee (NCC) and its development partners in implementing the CTI National Work Program and the five regional goals of the CTI-CFF.

The updates are summarized list of activities implemented from November 2017 to December 2018. The report does not include some of the country's updates reported under the regional Thematic Working groups and governance working groups.



#### (A) SI NATIONAL WORK PROGRAM

The Solomon Islands National Work Program is embedded into two of the lead agencies, MECDM and MFMR, specifically under the Environment and Conservation (ECD) Division and Inshore Fisheries Division (IFD) respectively. National implementation is guided by the Solomon Islands

National Plan of Action (NPOA) framework and its implementation plan. It is premised on implementing a Community-based Resource Management (CBRM) framework supported by policy and legislation, capacity building, knowledge management and enhanced awareness, outreach and education. The regional themes around Seascapes, Ecosystems-approach to Fisheries management, Marine Protected Areas, Climate change adaptation and threatened species are embedded within the CBRM framework. This year, the NPOA is in its 9<sup>th</sup> year of implementation. The Solomon Islands National Coordinating Committee (NCC) serves to provide an oversight and coordination of various activities, projects and programs related to the NPOA and RPOA goals. It also monitors progress and initiates partnerships and collaborations through complimentary programs/events to enhance national and local actions. NCC members included government agencies, NGOs, universities and other technical stakeholders.

The NCC is co-chaired by the Permanent Secretaries for MECDM and MFMR (SOM representatives) supported by two national coordinators from the two agencies. Throughout 2018, NCC meetings were called and conducted specifically for specific national consultations and the SINPOA review meetings. This year, NCC did not meet once a month as supposed to, however most correspondences were through regular emails.

The schematic below describes the national work platform and reports status of key projects for 2018 as of the writing of this report.

SI National Coordination Committee Chairs: PS – MECDM and PS – MFMR (or alternate: Undersecretaries or Directors)	Nationa (HOSTED BY ECD -	rk Program (20 CTI-CFF I Work Program		LEAD AG MECD National Focal Point	GENCIES – M/MFMR ts (SOM Representatives) ors (Secretariat to NCC)
Members: • MECDM • MFMR • Office of the Prime Minister & Cabinet • Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Ministry of Agriculture/Livestock • Ministry of Agriculture/Livestock • Ministry of Provincial Government • Ministry of Culture & Tourism • Attorney General's Office • Solomon Islands Locally Managed Marine Areas Network • Solomon Islands National University of the South Pacific • WorldFish • The Nature Conservancy • WWFSI • Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership • MACBIO/CEPF Projects Note: All MECDM Project Coordinators (rep) may serve as Co-opt Members. Some members also participate on needs-basis	USCTI and USAID Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP) – (2009-2013) - completed (Completed 2013 after 5 years of Implementation covering themes of Climate change adaptation. ecosystems approach to fisheries management and marine protected areas including supporting the CTI national work program and NCC) Implementations of activities were undertaken by MECDM and MFMR including WorldFish, TNC, WWF and Conservation International and also with other regional partners such as the Coral Triangle Centre.	AUS-CTI Support Program (2014-2018) Project: Expanding the reach of community-based manine resource management support MFMR/CI (2012-2018) This was executed with Conservation International.	(2010-201 Strengther resource n ANZDEC Im Plus Specia (1) (IFPI) - C Developmen 2) IUCN - E Regional Le 3) WorldFish Adaptation Extended 1. Sub-Pri Security in WorldFish Complete 2. Sub-Pri National S ECD - Co 3. Sub-Pri	limate Change & It strategies nvironment Governance and	SIG (2009-2018) NPOA Implementation (delivered through National Budget allocations under MECDM/MFMR) Key activities: 1) NCC meeting2/activities incl. TWGs 2) CBRM support e.g. Community grants 3) Contribution to CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat – annual contribution 4) Support for Workshopa/ conferences/ trainings (CTI- CFF related) 5) Communication/ Promotions – e.g. CT Days; CBRM Outreach/ materials/ guides Including Coordination with relevant programs.projects

### (B) NATIONAL LINKAGE TO RPOA, TWGS, GWGS & CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

The national work program is linked to the regional level through the country coordinators and designated focal points or agencies for five RPOA themes, three governance working groups and specific cross-cutting thematic groups. Below is the list of county focal points aligned with the regional TWGs and governance working groups. This provides the link to regional implementation of priority activities and coordination between Regional Secretariat and other partners. The leads are supported by a team of technical officers, assigned by the NCC, forming national working groups.

Solomon Islands Focal Points			
CTI-CFF TWGs	Leads		
Seascapes	MECDM (Environment & Conservation Division) and MFMR		
	(ERSI Project)		
EAFM	MFMR (Inshore Fisheries and Policy/Projects Divisions)		
Marine Protected Areas	MECDM (Environment and Conservation Division) and MFMR		
	(Inshore Fisheries)		
Climate Change Adaptation	MECDM (Environment & Conservation Division, Policy		
	Monitoring Unit and Climate Change Division)		
Threatened Species	MFMR (Inshore Fisheries) and MECDM (Environment &		
	Conservation Division)		
	Governance Working groups		
FRWG	MFMR and Ministry of Development Planning and Aid		
	Coordination		
CMWG	MECDM and MFMR		
MEWG	MECDM and MFMR		
	Cross-cutting groups		
University Partnership	SINU supported by MECDM/MFMR		
Local Governments	MECDM/MFMR supported by MPGIS		
Network			
Regional Business Forum	MFMR, MECDM supported by Ministry of Culture and Tourism		
Women Leaders Forum	MECDM, MFMR supported by Ministry of Women.		

# **II. PROGRESS/ACHIEVEMENTS TOWARDS NPOA**

The 2009 Solomon Islands NPOA detailed a collaborative and integrative framework for government, partners and stakeholders to achieve a common goal of "Solomon Islands sustainably manages marine and coastal resources to ensure food security, sustainable economic development, biodiversity conservation and adaptation to emerging threats through community based resource management approaches supported by government agencies and other partners" (SINPOA, 2009). The NPOA has four main themes:

- 1) Support and implementation of Community based resource management
- 2) Development of policy, legislation, partnerships and other strategies and guidance for CBRM
- 3) Data and information management for coordination and decision-making
- 4) Capacity building, education and awareness raising

National progress and achievements towards NPOA are tracked per the national themes and also the five RPOA themes. <u>This report uses the template provided by</u> <u>Regional Secretariat, however outputs and outcomes for most of these actions are</u> <u>not fully assessed or reported by partners.</u>

Title and Brief Description of Activity	Date and Venue (if applicable)	Funds Received and Partners or Funding Agency/ies	<b>Outputs</b> (no. of participants/beneficiaries )	<b>Outcome</b> (describe the result/impact)
A. Priority Seascapes are	e designed effectiv	vely managed		
CTI-CFF National Program	ms			
1. Managing Reef Resilience Under Climate Change in the Bismarck – Solomon Marine Ecoregion	August 13-15 <sup>th</sup> Brisbane, Australia	Australian Government and James Cook University	<ul> <li>8 NCC members participated</li> <li>Drafted points for possible BSME proposal</li> </ul>	• Awareness and understanding of the Bismarck Solomon Marine ecoregion issues and research opportunities gained.
2. Progress towards development of BSSE as priority seascape		WWF and SWG	WWF -     Provided technical     input into the     nomination     document for the     Bismarck Solomon     Seas Ecoregion     nomination as a	Information for SINCC on BSSE nomination

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			priority seascape for the CTI-CFF	
			<ul> <li>National discussions for BSSE nomination</li> </ul>	
Programs / Activities in r	elation to CTI-CFF	goals but not direct	y budgeted under national	CTI-CFF programs
1. Proposal for the Kavachi Seascape marine managed area		Wildlife Conservation Society and CM2	<ul> <li>Stakeholder consultations held</li> <li>Agreed roadmap for spatial planning of the seascape boundary</li> <li>WCS to lead and implement the Kavachi Seascape project 2018/2019 in collaboration with MFMR and MECDM</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Possible establishment of a national-level seascape program</li> </ul>
2. Series of National inter- governmental discussions in preparation for the ABNJ and BBNJ meetings	July – September 2018	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade	<ul> <li>Inputs to ABNJ discussions for Pacific and UN processes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>National –level Awareness and understanding of Transboundary issues under UNCLOS/ABNJ discussion gained</li> </ul>
3. In collaboration with the Marine and Coastal Biodiversity management for Pacific Countries project and with <i>Ocean12</i> , produced and launched the Solomon Islands Marine Bioregions and identified ocean zones		MACBIO Project – IUCN , SPREP and GIZ	<ul> <li>Identified 26 deep-water and 18 reef-associated marine bioregions being finalised for use in national marine spatial planning</li> <li>Produced technical brief for ocean zones placement guideline</li> </ul>	• Improved data and information for planning and decision making
B. An ecosystem approa		t of fisheries and oth	er marine resources is fully	applied
1. GEF/ADB CT Pacific Project – TA7753 completed <i>i. Strengthening</i>	2016 - 2018	GEF/ADB through WorldFish, Malaita Provincial	CBRM initiatives up-scaled to more than 20	Capacity of provincial fisheries office to implement

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community based natural resource management to safeguard food security in Malaita Province ii. Support to MECDM to development of national crocodile management plan		Government	communities in the Province > 23 LMMAs identified and established • Deployment of 8 Fish Aggregating devices for communities • Trainings, community exchanges and awareness programs conducted for communities, schools, government officers and stakeholders • Completed national crocodile survey	the Provincial Fisheries Ordinance enhanced • Capacity of Malaita Provincial Government in natural resource management planning enhanced • Roles and responsibilities of customary and government authorities for CBRM clarified and harmonized • Impacts of CBRM on food security demonstrated and disseminated to stakeholders • Improved data and information for development of the Crocodile management plan
2. Finalization and gazettal of the Fisheries Management (prohibited activities) regulations 2018 & Drafting of the WPMA Act regulations (amendment)		MFMR/MECDM - SIG	<ul> <li>Gazettal of inshore fisheries regulations for prohibited activities on coral, clam, dugong, size limits, crustaceans, shark finning,</li> <li>Drafting for wildlife protection and management regulations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>improved management of key fisheries</li> </ul>
Programs / Activities in re	elation to CTI-CFF	goals but not direct	y budgeted under national	CTI-CFF programs
<ol> <li>Development of the SI National Ocean Policy</li> </ol>		MACBIO Project – IUCN, GIZ, SPREP and SIG	Submitted     SINOP for     cabinet     endorsement	Improved integrated ocean governance

Title and Brief Description of Activity	Date and Venue (if applicable)	Funds Received and Partners or Funding Agency/ies	<b>Outputs</b> (no. of participants/beneficiaries )	<b>Outcome</b> (describe the result/impact)
2. Coral and invertebrate surveys		PROP - World Bank	Conducted coral and invertebrate surveys for Central Province.	<ul> <li>Improved data and information for MFMR</li> </ul>
3. Support for Establishment of Constituency Fisheries Centers (CFCs)		MFMR – SIG	Handover of 16 Constituency Fisheries Centers in Guadalcanal, Malaita, Central Islands, Makira and Western Provinces	Improved facilities for access to fisheries production, storage, marketing and management in constituencies
4. Fish Aggregation Devices (FAD) program		MFMR - SIG	• Deployment of 20 FADs for the CFCs and also in other selected locations around the country.	Access to pelagic fish and alleviate fishing pressure from reef areas that target declining reef fishes.
5. Development of Coral, Clam and Trochus management plans		SPC	<ul> <li>Drafted national coral, clam and trochus management plans for approval/ gazettal</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improved management strategies and plans for coral, clam and trochus</li> </ul>
6. WWF Solomon Islands – implementation of sustainable community-based fisheries co- management, linked to empowering women through financial inclusion		WWF in partnership with SPC, Australian Government, John West Australia, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), private Australian donors and WWF supporters in Australia and the Netherlands	<ul> <li>Deploying Inshore Fish Aggregating Devices (iFADs) and monitoring of fish species using Spawning Potential Surveys (SPS).</li> <li>Build capacity of Western Provincial fisheries officers</li> <li>Developed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Coral Triangle Fishers Forum (CTFF) Action Plan (Draft): Expanding Catch Documentation and Traceability to Reduce Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Incorporated Food security, ecosystem approaches to resource management, vulnerability and adaptation planning, and protection of key species and habitats.</li> <li>Building community and marine resource resilience through it Community-based Fisheries Co- management approach.</li> </ul>
7. JICA/MFMR - Livelihood		JICA	Work with Tiaro     Community in	Livelihood initiatives

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improvement through community based coastal resource management and utilization for SI			Guadalcanal Province to establish livelihood projects including collaborating with Kastom Garden • Conducted scoping visit to	incorporated into CB coastal resource management and use for communities – supported LMMA communities
			Malaita to initiate options for livelihood projects	
8. Pacific Ridges to Reefs Project		GEF, FAO, UNE, GEF and SPC	<ul> <li>Improving the waste management of Mataniko Catchment and the water quality of Honiara coastal waters through a monitoring program for pollution and nutrients entering Honiara Adjacent Coastal water</li> </ul>	• Improving integrated coastal management with better waste management and monitoring programs
C. Marine protected areas	s (MPAs) are estal	blished and effectivel	y managed	
CTI-CFF National Program	ms			
			Awareness for communities interested in MPAs/MMAs – Central, Guadalcanal and Malaita communities.	
1. Establishment of MPA/MMAs		MECDM and MFMR	Conducting baseline assessments of sites and drafting of management plans	<ul> <li>Capacity building and awareness enhanced</li> </ul>
			• Number of communities, practitioners and stakeholders trained in MPA/MMA themes including SINU	
2. MPA/MMA enforcement and compliance		SIG and partners	First poaching case – ACMP- PA Act 2010 goes to Magistrate court.	Enforcement and compliance supported

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	elation to CTI-CFF	- goals but not directl	Poachers fine \$8000sbd • Enforcement and compliance trainings conducted for government officers on coastal fisheries y budgeted under national	CTI-CFF programs
1. In collaboration with MACBIO Project: <i>i. produced the SI</i> special unique marine areas report <i>ii. produced typology</i> and placement guidelines <i>iii. Produced ACMP</i> lessons learnt report		MACBIO (IUCN, SPREP and GIZ) in partnership with Ocean12	• 12 offshore and 53 inshore biophysically Special Unique Marine Areas identified and described for Solomon Islands	• Improved information and data for marine spatial planning and establishing MPAs/MMAs in the future
2. Establishment /Support of MPAs or MMAs		WorldFish – Malaita SICCP, WCS – Western OceanWatch SI – Temotu SICCP – Makira TNC – Isabel and Choiseul	<ul> <li>Development of Standard Operating Procedures for processing of community fisheries management plans under the Fisheries Management Act 2015</li> <li>EOIs received from communities and awareness conducted for communities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improved strategies and guidance for establishment of MPAs/MMAs</li> <li>Data and information improved to support and planning of MPAs and MMAs</li> </ul>
3. WWF Support for Tetepare marine protected area		WWF and its private sector partner Bolton Alimentari Group	Supporting the Tetepare Descendants' Association to conduct the necessary consultations and marine surveys to nominate Tetepare Island as a Protected Area under the Solomon Islands Protected Area	• The aim is to nominate Tetepare Island as a protected areas under the PA Act in November 2019.

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			Legislation.	
D. Climate change adapta	ation measures ar	e achieved		
CTI-CFF National Program	ns			
1. National discussion on Blue Carbon opportunities		SINCC and CCA TWG	SINCC (2) rep attended Blue carbon workshop and conducted national discussions on Blue carbon potentials	<ul> <li>Improved awareness on Blue Carbon concepts</li> </ul>
2. Climate Change Division – MECDM		MECDM - SIG	<ul> <li>Conducted Integrated Vulnerability Assessment for 24 communities in Malaita Province</li> <li>Conducted education, awareness and trainings for Climate change topics for coastal communities, schools and stakeholders</li> </ul>	• Improved climate change adaptation for coastal communities including awareness and education on climate change topics
Programs / Activities in r	elation to CTI-CFF	goals but not direct	y budgeted under national	CTI-CFF programs
1. Solomon Islands Water Sector Adaptation program (2014-2018)		GEF/UNDP	<ul> <li>Climate change adaptation planning and support for three townships – Taro, Gizo and Tingoa and three communities – Ferafalu (Malaita), Santa Catalina (Makira) and Tuwo community in Temotu province.</li> </ul>	• Aimed to increase resilience for communities and townships
2. Community Resilience to Climate and Disaster Risk in Solomon Islands Project (CRISP)		Supported by the ACP-EU NDRR Program, GFDRR and the World Bank,	<ul> <li>48 community sub-projects rolled out in Guadalcanal, Temotu, Malaita and Central Islands</li> <li>Ongoing progress on integrating disaster</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Aimed to help communities better manage natural hazards and climate risks</li> <li>Improve climate change mainstreaming into</li> </ul>

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			risk reduction and climate change adaptation into sectoral planning for 3 ministries: MECDM), the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) and the Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC). • More than 50 communities have developed community-based disaster risk	sectoral plans
E. Threatened species' sta			management plans	
1. Development of national Threatened Species Report	13	MFMR- SIG	<ul> <li>Draft National Threatened Species</li> <li>marine turtles, dolphins, sharks and rays – Report</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improved management of threatened species – this will add to the Regional report on TS.</li> </ul>
2. Gazettal of new regulations on IUCN red listed species – Dugong, bump-head parrotfish and Maori Wrasse		MFMR- SIG	<ul> <li>Inclusion of dugongs protection under the fisheries regulations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Legal protection of dugongs as an endangered species and inclusion of harvest size limits for maori wrasse and bumphead parrotfish</li> </ul>
3. Marine Turtles conservation and management		MECDM, MFMR, CI, Australia Government, TNC/ACMP, Tetepare, SICCP and Wai-hau and Haevo Communities , CEPF, SPREP	• Awareness and training on turtle tagging and nest relocation	<ul> <li>Marine turtle management and conservation</li> <li>Improved information on turtles migratory patterns</li> </ul>
Programs / Activities in re	lation to CTI-CFF	goals but not directl	y budgeted under national	CTI-CFF programs
1. Completion of the GEF/Dugong		DSCP Project – GEF, UNEP, CMS,	Project     supported:	<ul> <li>Dugong and Seagrass</li> </ul>

Title and Brief Description of Activity	Date and Venue (if applicable)	Funds Received and Partners or Funding Agency/ies	<b>Outputs</b> (no. of participants/beneficiaries )	<b>Outcome</b> (describe the result/impact)
and Seagrass Conservation Project		MbZSCF, WorldFish, SICCP and CM2	i. Development of the Dugong and Seagrass Conservation and Management Strategy ii. Seagrass mapping and datasets produced in Lau Lagoon, Marau, Tetepare, Naro and Marovo sites. iii. Conducted Convention on Migratory Species questionnaire for seagrass and dugongs iv. Education and awareness raising including production of childrens storybook, sculpture installation and schools/open competitions v. Cultural values studies undertaken for Naro	conservation and management efforts strengthened and improved awareness of the value of dugongs and seagrass in SI.

Other cross-cutting activities conducted towards support of Regional efforts and themes included:

- ✓ Conducted in partnership with other government agencies, private sector, schools, NGOs and schools, the World Environment Day, World Ocean Day and Coral Triangle Day celebrations. Series of activities were held in Honiara and Western and Isabel Provinces to celebrate activities around the selected theme.
- ✓ MFMR in partnership with SPC produced 2018 Gender Analysis of fisheries sector in Solomon Islands.
- ✓ Serving regional roles as COM and CSO Vice-Chair and WLF Network Chair.

Noting also the SINPOA is in its final review stages thus more detailed activities, outputs and outcomes will be reported.

## **III. CHALLENGES, ISSUES AND CONSTRAINSTS**

Some of the key challenges in implementation of the CTI-CFF national work program:

- No regular NCC meetings for continuous coordination, communication and reporting of partner projects. Challenging to receive, compile and document timely reports/updates for SINCC and RS.
- Competing priorities priority to meet outstanding CTI-CFF annual contributions thus limited national budget for implementation; CTI Coordinators also tasked to support development of the national ocean policy thus unable to deliver on some regional/national tasks on time.
- Goal 1: Seascapes there is slow paced buy-in for the BSSE nomination from relevant stakeholders
- Goal 2: EAFM increasing demand for resources for income and food and unsustainable development activities including waste management (plastic pollution) are most threatening coastal and marine ecosystems. Improvements needed on policies and legislations such as the Environment Act, Forestry Resources and Timber Utilization Act. Enforcement capacities needed at community, provincial and even national levels.
- Goal 3: MPA lengthy processes and steps under the Protected Areas Act and Fisheries Management Act
- Goal 4 CCA limited focus of adaptation programs on marine and coastal sector. Multiple partners – difficulty to track and monitor activities outside of government and NCC partners.
- Goal 5 Threatened species needs for baseline data, monitoring programs for key threatened species, technical capacity and training needed.
- Generally, a reviewed SINPOA will need a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to identify national indicators and targets for tracking progress for national and international goals and outcomes.

# IV. NATIONAL ROADMAP 2019 AND BEYOND

The SINPOA Review and Investment plan is in its final review and development at this reporting period. Although no specific actions will be listed here, the proposed direction under the revised framework are:

- Continue CBRM scaling up and across increasing number of communities and/or CBRM efforts and initiatives.
- Continue with Provincial-level engagement and capacity building for improved sustainable management of marine and coastal resources.
- Climate change adaptation expand climate change and resilience interventions for coastal communities and marine and coastal ecosystems (coral reefs, seagrass and mangroves)
- Implementing CBRM efforts that emphasizes on livelihoods, health, food security, gender equality and equity and sustainable development outcomes.

The updated SINPOA will provide details for the 5 years plus 5 years (2019-2029).

The work program will need to consider other complementary national or regional programs and policy priorities, importantly RPOA 2.0 and the Solomon Islands National Ocean Policy 2018.

Solomon Islands will continue the second year as the Regional WLF network Chair. It will also continue to work with the RS and development partners, on its new role as Regional Chair of the Council of Ministers and Senior Officials Meeting (to be assumed during SOM14).



<u>Tangio tumas!</u>

#### Annex 1: SI Country Presentation

(See attached)

#### Annex 2: List of Delegates – SOM14

1. **Ms Ronnelle Panda**, Deputy Director – Policy, Planning & Project Management, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (SOM14 - Head of Delegation)

2. **Ms Rosalie Masu**, Deputy Director – Inshore Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources

3. **Mr Alick Misibini**, Financial Controller - Corporate Services Division, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources

4. **Ms Ivory Akao**, Principal Fisheries Officer Inshore Fisheries Division, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources

5. **Ms Agnetha Vave-Karamui**, Chief Conservation Officer - Environment and Conservation Division, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology