

The Climate-Smart Pacific Food Systems Programme – Solomon Islands



The goal is to build the wellbeing and resilience of communities to the impacts of climate change through Pacific-led, climate-smart food systems.

The Bioeconomy Science Institute is partnering with Pacific government agencies, civil society and industry to implement the four-year, Climate-Smart Pacific Food Systems Programme.

- The programme began in 2024 and is operating in Solomon Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Tonga is funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- The Climate-Smart Pacific Food Systems Programme has three themes:
 - Climate-smart food production
 - Stewardship of water, land and waste
 - Sustainable, resilient food value chains
- The programme is focusing on integrating scientific innovation with community-driven solutions to build food security, reduce postharvest losses, and improve agricultural sustainability and climate resilience.

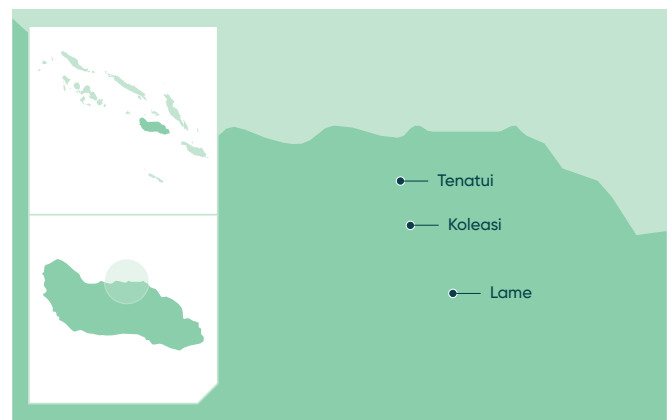
ABOUT SOLOMON ISLANDS

- Six major islands and over 900 smaller islands and coral atolls
- **Land Area:** 27,990 km²
- **Population:** 828,857
- **Agricultural Status:** Agricultural status: Accounts for around 18% of GDP; major agricultural products include coconuts (copra), cacao and oil palm, alongside food crops such as yams, taro, sweet potatoes, cassava and green vegetables



In Solomon Islands

- This exciting initiative is being delivered through anchor partnerships between Ola Fou, World Vision Solomon Islands and the Bioeconomy Science Institute.
- Bioeconomy Science Institute expertise combined with the experience, networks and knowledge of the local partners will create country-relevant solutions able to be scaled up
- Through validation visits, we confirmed food system challenges that communities in Honiara and Marau Sounds were experiencing, including declining soil fertility, emerging pest & disease pressures, expensive seeds and input materials, water and flooding, as well as saltwater intrusion
- To address soil fertility challenges, BSI, Ola Fou and WVSI have been collecting soil samples from around Solomon Islands to identify soil deficiencies. Results have been shared back with communities and interventions such as composting are being trialled.
- To address pest and disease pressures, BSI and in-country partners have conducted surveillance monitoring to identify specific pest and disease of significance to food systems in Solomon Islands
- BSI together with Greenminds and Ola Fou have supported farmer workshops and training to strengthen local capacity



Climate Change Challenges Identified from PAR



Soil
Fertility



Pests &
Diseases



Seeds & Planting
Materials



Water &
Flooding



Saltwater
Intrusion

Year 2 Highlights

- Formalised our collaboration agreement with Ola Fou as one of our anchor partners in Solomon Islands, to deliver work in the Guadalcanal

Next 6-12 months

- Establish crop selection, cropping system design and erosion reduction with Ola Fou on its demonstration farm
- Develop training material and run Integrated Pest and Disease Management trainings with an organic focus with Ola Fou communities
- BSI will support the peanut value chain in Solomon Islands through the provision of technical expertise into the design of a peanut processing facility, as well as training on postharvest management and food safety from farm to processing



What is the Bioeconomy Science Institute?

The Bioeconomy Science Institute is a New Zealand Government-owned Public Research Organisation. It brings diverse scientific expertise, including skills in land use suitability, achieving ecosystem balance, quantifying impacts and adapting to change, nutrient management, efficient water use, pest and disease management, and the reduction of postharvest losses and waste.

The organisation leverages its technical capabilities to drive its international development initiatives and has a long-standing history of working with Pacific partners to support sustainable and resilient food systems.



**Applying research to
support economic growth
and resilience, a healthy
environment and beneficial
social outcomes**

For more information

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