



Pacific-Australia Climate Change Science and Adaptation Planning (PACCSAP) Programme Choiseul Bay Township Climate Change Project



Taro Island is the capital of the Choiseul Province in Solomon Islands. It is a relatively small, low lying island that is already exposed to tsunami risk. Into the future, the community on Taro Island will increasingly have to manage flooding and other coastal hazards as climate change drives rising sea levels.

The **Climate Change Adaptation Planning for Choiseul Bay Township** project assessed current and future hazards for the communities on **Taro** and **Supizae** islands. It assessed inundation and coastal erosion risks for the current capital, on Taro Island, and for a proposed expansion site of the capital on the adjacent mainland.

A team of engineers, scientists and planners talked with the Lauru community to understand what they valued and needed from their town. This information, as well an analysis of the climate hazards, was used by the team to develop a **Climate Change Adaptation Plan** – the Plan identifies how these needs can be met, and strategies to minimise or avoid exposure to existing and future hazards.



The Plan prepared for Choiseul Bay also maps out a path to manage a **staged relocation** of the Choiseul capital to the adjacent mainland over a **15 year timeframe**. The Plan includes:

- a **Vision** for the new township on the mainland
- a **strategic Masterplan** to guide the layout of the new township (see reverse of this factsheet), and
- a draft **Local Planning Scheme**, which includes the necessary planning and zoning controls to achieve the Masterplan.

The adaptation plan is the first of its kind for the Solomon Islands, delivering a detailed schedule of works, maps, and planning guidance.

This PACCSAP project was only possible because of strong partnerships with the Solomon Islands Government, Choiseul Provincial Government, community members of Choiseul Bay and the Choiseul Integrated Climate Change Programme (CHICCHAP).

