



Solomon Islands

Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response through optimised Supply Chains

COUNTRY CONTEXT

The Solomon Islands, located in the Southwest Pacific, has a population of approximately 740,000, with most residents living in coastal areas across its nine provinces. The economy is primarily based on forestry, agriculture, fisheries, a modest service sector, and a growing reliance on remittances to support livelihoods. The country is heavily reliant on imports and highly **vulnerable to supply chain disruptions** caused by global and economic shocks.

Solomon Islands is exposed to various natural disasters and hazards, including tropical cyclones, storm surges, flooding, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic activities, and heavy swells. Climate shocks exacerbate human and economic losses leading to significant damage to livelihoods and infrastructure, hindering development efforts, and impacting food security.

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SUPPLY CHAIN CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

WFP collaborates with Pacific governments and partners to enhance systems and capacities to mitigate, prepare for, and respond to various shocks. Through **its Supply Chain Country Capacity Strengthening (SC CCS)** initiative, WFP aims to strengthen preparedness systems and processes, and enhance the coordination, optimization, and resilience of humanitarian supply chains and logistics, at both national and sub-national levels, **enabling governments to manage and respond to shocks effectively and efficiently.**

In May 2024, WFP expanded its **SC CCS** initiative to Solomon Islands and partnered with its National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) to further strengthen national systems and capacities for coordinating and optimising national and sub-national humanitarian supply chains and logistics.

Through a Capacity Needs Mapping (CNM) exercise, the NDMO and WFP mapped the humanitarian supply chain and logistics capacities through a **preparedness lens** as a **multi-stakeholder, multidisciplinary participatory process.**

Some key recommendations from the CNM included **strengthening legislations, regulations, policies, and procedures for disaster risk management, enhancing multi-sectoral coordination and preparedness capacities, and digitizing logistics management** to improve visibility and tracking of inventory, transportation, and procurement processes. These aims to **ensure more efficient responses during emergencies.**

Subsequently, the NDMO and WFP developed a **SC CCS engagement strategy** drawing on insights gathered from the CNM exercise, and lessons learned from the emergency response. The SC CCS strategy outlines key actions and steps aimed at **further strengthening national preparedness and response**

capacities through a systemic approach, addressing the interconnected elements of humanitarian supply chains (e.g. sourcing, upstream and downstream logistics, storage, delivery etc.).

WHAT'S NEXT

WFP will continue its partnership with the NDMO to conduct an **in-depth analysis and mapping of the its business processes,** workflow, and key actors, focusing on **optimising the operational aspects** of Solomon Islands' humanitarian supply chain and logistics coordination for emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

While the CNM identified gaps and outlined broad areas for capacity strengthening, the business process mapping exercise will allow for more precise adjustments to processes and the practical implementation of solutions that **enhance real-time decision-making,** coordination, and response efficiency. It will lay the groundwork for developing a digital Logistics Management Information System, which will enable NDMO's shift from **paper-based systems to digital processes.** This transition aims to enhance the coherence, operational efficiency, and accountability within humanitarian supply chains.

To strengthen the **enabling environment, capabilities and knowledge** required for effectively manage and coordinate emergency supply chain and logistics responses, opportunities exist to support the NDMO, relevant government agencies, and other key stakeholders. This support can be provided through various regulatory, strategic, and operational initiatives, alongside a range of capacity-building efforts.

WFP activities are supported by:



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