



SOLOMON ISLANDS COUNTRY REPORT

Sub-Regional Workshop on Effective Uses of the IP System for Economic Growth and Business Competiveness

Date :1st to 3rd DECEMBER, 2010
TANOVA INTERNATIONAL HOTEL , NADI, FIJI ISLANDS

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SOLOMON ISLANDS COUNTRY REPORT

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW:

1. COUNTRY PROFILE
 - a. History
 - b. Geography
 - c. The Economy
 - d. People.
2. CURRENT WIPO IP ACTIVITIES
3. GOVERNMENT SUPPORT IP ENVIRONMENT
4. CHALLENGES
5. OPPORTUNITIES
6. CONCLUSION



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1. COUNTRY PROFILE A.HISTORY DATA

- ❑ Prehistory known people lived on the larger islands as early as 1000 B.C.
- ❑ descendants of Neolithic Austronesian-speaking peoples who migrated from Southeast Asia.
- ❑ 1500 to 1800 Explorers and Missionaries Arrived
- ❑ 1893 to 1900 British Protectorate
- ❑ 1974 SI Adopted a Constitution Based on Westminster System



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2. COUNTRY PROFILE B.HISTORY DATA

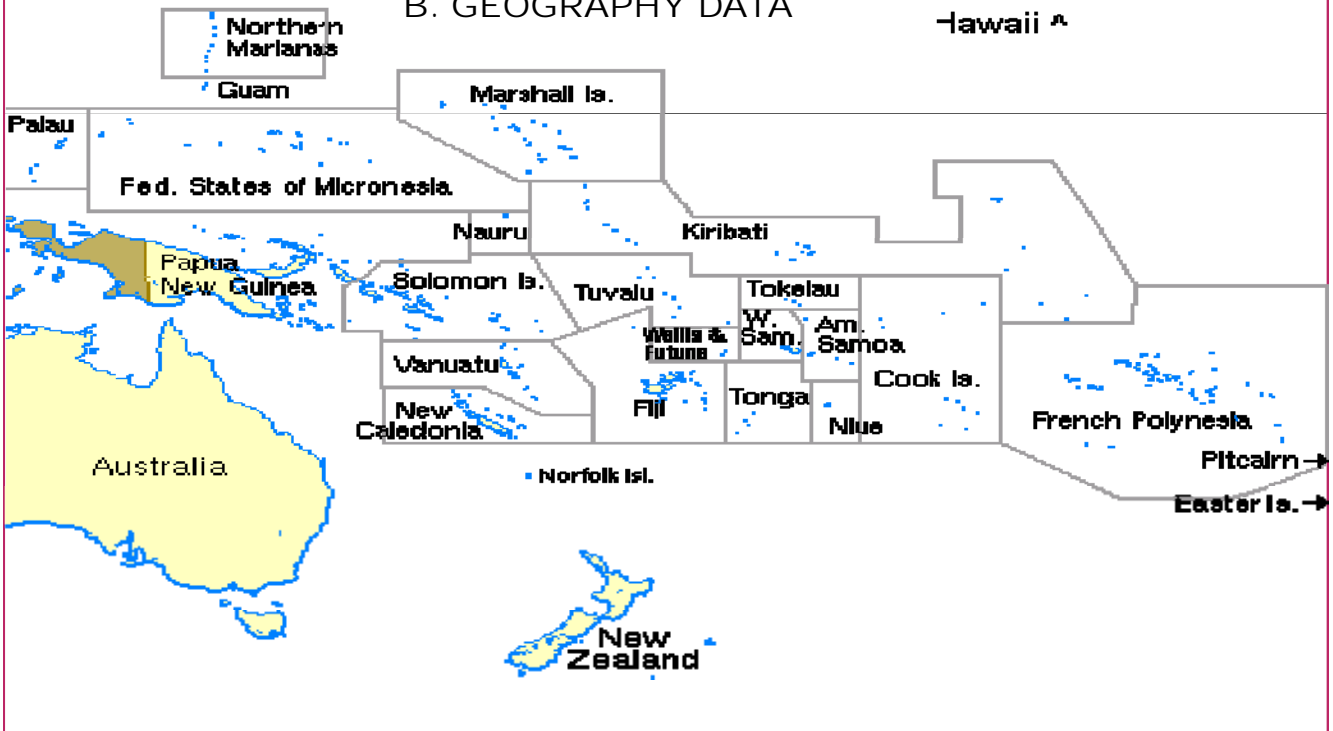
- ❑ Government and Legal Status : Independence in 7th July, 1978
- ❑ Head of State: Queen Elizabeth, Representative – Governor General
- ❑ Head of the Government: The Prime Minister





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COUNTRY PROFILE B. GEOGRAPHY DATA



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1. COUNTRY PROFILE B. GEOGRAPHY DATA

Location:

Oceania, group of islands in the South Pacific Ocean, east of Papua New Guinea

Geographic coordinates:

8 00 S, 159 00 E

Area:

total: 28,896 sq km

land: 27,986 sq km

water: 910 sq km

Islands : 900 islands

Area - comparative

slightly smaller than Maryland

Coastline:

5,313

Maritime claims:

measured from claimed archipelagic baselines

territorial sea: 12 nm

exclusive economic zone: 200 nm

United States, 16 000



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1. COUNTRY PROFILE C. ECONOMIC DATA

GDP (purchasing power parity):

\$1.565 billion (2009 est.)

note: data are in 2009 US dollars

GDP (official exchange rate):

\$668 million (2009 est.)

[see also: [GDP \(official exchange rate\) country ranks](#)]

GDP - real growth rate:

0% (2009 est.)

GDP - composition by sector:

agriculture: 42%

[see also: [GDP - composition by sector - agriculture country ranks](#)]

industry: 11%

[see also: [GDP - composition by sector - industry country ranks](#)]

services: 47% (2005 est.)

[see also: [GDP - composition by sector - services country ranks](#)]



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1. COUNTRY PROFILE C. ECONOMIC DATA

Exports:

\$237 million (2006 est.)

Exports - commodities:

timber, fish, copra, palm oil, cocoa

Exports - partners:

China 47.7%, Thailand 6.7%, Spain 5.4%, South Korea 5.2%, Philippines 4.6% (2008)

Agriculture - products:

cocoa beans, coconuts, palm kernels, rice, potatoes, vegetables, fruit; timber; cattle, pigs; fish

Industries:

fish (tuna), mining, timber, palm oil, coconut, cocoa, tourism

Imports:

\$256 million (2006 est.)

Imports - commodities:

food, plant and equipment, manufactured goods, fuels, chemicals

Imports - partners:

Singapore 26.7%, Australia 18.1%, India 7.5%, Fiji 4.4%, Malaysia 4.4%, Papua New Guinea 4.3%, NZ 4% (2008)



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1. COUNTRY PROFILE – D. The PEOPLE

- ❑ Population : 517,455 (2008 estimate)
- ❑ Race: Melanesian, Polynesian, Micronnesian and others
- ❑ Language : English, Pidgin English, more than 90 different language
- ❑ Religion : Christian, muslims, Bahai and non-religious



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2. CURRENT IP /WIPO RELATED ACTIVITIES

- ❑ Prior to 1987, Solomon Islands Rely on UK IP Laws
- ❑ SI enacted Copy Right Act in 1987
- ❑ Since then no registration is done under the Copyright Act(TK) under the registrar of companies
- ❑ Solomon Islands still awaiting adoption of the Model Draft law depending on its TK and EC as it varies from place to place(*WIPO Assisted Draft Draft IP Law*).
- ❑ MSG Initiatives – Treaty on Traditional Knowledge and Expressions of Culture(TradeCom funded through MSG Sec.)



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3. CURRENT IP /WIPO ACTIVITIES

- MSG Treaty Member Countries – SI, FIJI, PNG and Vanuatu
- PRINCIPLES:
 - Sustainable governance and management of Resources
 - Value of TKEC
 - Balance of right to express and Protect
 - Need to Empower TKEC Owner and Holders
 - Need to encourage Innovation in TKEC
 - Need to address misappropriations
 - Need for cooperation and collaboration



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3. GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO IP . ENVIRONMENT

- Government Reforms – Company Laws, Tax system, industries etc
- Policy support on SME's (SME definition, Survey nation wide on SME's)
- Training of New and Existing Businesses
Entrepreneurs(Business and Entrepreneurial Skill Training) in 50 constituencies (Urban and Rural areas) –*Service Outsourced to private sector.*
- Research and Development(partnership with Private Sector- identifying new areas for product development etc)
- Establishment of a strong Private sector network (Constituency Frame-work) –establishment of constituency business associations, cluster group associations, provincial business federations, chambers of commerce and SI national Business Council
- Access to Finance, Market and Capacity Building(SIG, Donors, Private sector support)



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GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO IP . ENVIRONMENT

- SI actively participate in regional and International IP activities - IP and TK
- Member of the WTO 1996
- Member of the Forum (PIF) supporting wider Cooperation and Regional Framework(Pacer plus etc)
- Institutional Strengthening of the Companies Registry- under the SIG Reform assisted by ADB/World Bank now housed under the Ministry of Commerce, Industries, Labour and Immigration
- New company Act- registration of unsecured properties for collaterals
- Creation of a DATA on SME's and other networks nationwide



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4 CHALLENGES

- Political instability (*sustainable Medium and long term strategies*)
- IP Laws to be Put in Place
- Skills and Knowhow to participate in Research and Product Development
- capacity building of IP agencies
- Skills and Knowhow in IP
- An institutional frame-work to Manage and administer IP in country



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2. OPPORTUNITIES



TOURISM AND CULTURE

AGRICULTURE-

COCOA, COCONUT (bio fuel, cosmetics), PALM OIL

FORESTRY-

TIMBER, CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABLE LOGGING, DOWNSTREAM PROCESSING ETC

FISHERIES

MINING-Gold, nickel

Banking sector

SME's-Handicrafts, oils and other TKEC



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6. CONCLUSION

Seek to speedup the process in establishing the IP laws and treaties immediately

Seek to increase protection, innovation, creativity and economic growth competitiveness in the region (SME's and human resources development and local resources utilization are our priority)

Seek the assistance of the Forum, WIPO, other member states of the Pacific Community



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THANK YOU
TAKIO TUMAS

