



Welcome to the Chamber's Newsletter!



NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2019



Business Excellence Awards 2019

General Manager of the Solomon Islands National Provident Fund (SINPF), Mr Mike Wate accepting the Prime Minister's Excellence Award from Prime Minister, Hon Manasseh Sogavare. *See articles and more photos on pages 8 - 17.*



Waka Mere
advances
workplace
equality



SICCI
congratulates
new CBSI
Governor



Varley
recognized
for support to
private sector



Business
Excellence
Awards
winners



Welcome

This is the official Newsletter of the Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI), published and distributed to members and stakeholders after every two months.

It contains updates on all Chamber activities, news, members' feature, interviews, upcoming events and department updates from the Secretariat.

This publication is produced by the SICCI Media & Communications Department.

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Doing business

SICCI committed
to realising
interest of
foreign direct
investment

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Critical years

The next five
years is shaping
up to be critical
years for
Solomon Islands
as a nation

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2019 BEA

The Business
Excellence Awards
in pictures & meet
the winners in all
eleven categories

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Membership update

Round up from
the Membership
& Services desk
and updates on
membership fees for
2020

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Celebrating the success of Waka Mere



Some of the women leaders in the Waka Mere participating companies (from left to right), Kathy Nori, Lily Lomulo Human Resource Manager SITCO, Regina Pokana from GPPOL and Lyn Fa'arodo from Bank South Pacific (BSP).

Tuesday 5 November, Honiara – Representatives from the private sector and the business community were joined by Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare on Tuesday 5th November 2019 for a Business Breakfast at the Heritage Park Hotel to celebrate the achievements of the fifteen (15) participating companies to the Waka Mere Commitment to Action.

This activity is led by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, and SICCI, with funding support from the Australian and New Zealand governments.

The Waka Mere Commitment to Action, launched in 2017 by IFC and SICCI, has been a two-year initiative to improve business outcomes in Solomon Islands through advancing workplace equality.

Fifteen (15) of the largest companies in the Solomon Islands signed up for up to three commitments to progress which included promoting women in leadership, building respectful and supportive workplaces and increasing opportunities for women in non-traditional jobs.

Participating companies undertook business case research and training, workshops, and peer learning opportunities through the two-year initiative.

According to a report assessing the Waka



The driving force behind Waka Mere, Ruth Maetala, IFC/SICCI Gender Coordinator (right) celebrating the completion of the program with Amy Luinstra, IFC Gender Program Manager and Vanessa Teutao from the Australian High Commission in Honiara.

Mere Commitment to Action, more than 6,500 employees working in the fifteen (15) participating companies are now benefiting from more equal, supportive and respectful workplaces in the wake of the two- year initiative on gender equality. SICCI Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Ms Atenasi Ata says that Waka Mere Commitment to Action has highlighted two important things.

"Firstly, it has successfully harnessed the power of the private sector to shift unhelpful gender norms that hurt women and men's well-being and reduce economic prosperity.

"And secondly, it has posed lessons for employers in Solomon Islands regarding how to support their workforce. Many of the tools and approaches developed

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under this program are being utilized in projects throughout the region and beyond.

"Being able to do this in a country such as Solomon Islands, and with stakeholders and target beneficiaries at differing levels of engagement and resourcing capacity, is something that the Chamber together with IFC is proud of," she said.

Ms Ata said the Waka Mere initiative recognizes that Solomon Islands is a country where women are underrepresented in paid work and decision making. And that at least two-thirds of our women are affected by violence, at great cost to the country's human development and the economy. Speaking during the occasion to celebrate the successful completion of the program, Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, HE Roderick Brazier reiterated that Australia is extremely proud to have supported these efforts.

"The participating companies have invested in making their workplaces safer and more supportive of their employees. They have also invested in

"Workplace gender equality and gender diversity in leadership is good for business."

- Former Australian High Commissioner, Roderick Brazier

building a pipeline of future leaders and in expanding jobs for women.

"We know from a growing body of evidence that workplace gender equality and gender diversity in leadership is good for business," he said.

"Having diverse leadership teams will assess risks and opportunities differently. Support for women and men facing family violence can help keep them employed. All of these things contribute to better business, which in turn contributes to growth and more job creation in Solomon Islands," HE Roderick Brazier, Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, said.

CEO Ata also acknowledged the participating companies including: Bank South Pacific; Bulkshop; Guadalcanal

Plains Palm Oil Ltd, GPPOL; Hatanga Construction Ltd; Heritage Park Hotel; National Fisheries Development; Solomon Airlines; Solomon Brewery; Solomon Islands National Provident Fund; Solomon Islands Ports Authority; Solomon Islands Tobacco Company Ltd; Water; Solomon Power; and Soltuna Company.

"The progress of Waka Mere has created a momentum for companies in Solomon Islands to continue advancing gender equality in their own workplaces, while advocating for more gender equal workplaces through the market. We are finalising plans to ensure that refresher courses, peer learning opportunities, and leadership trainings remain available for interested companies including those from outside this original 15 companies."

Government can learn from Waka Mere model: PM

Sunday 10 November, Honiara – Prime Minister Hon Manasseh Sogavare believes the national Government can learn from the Waka Mere model in improving gender equality in leadership roles in the country's public service.

Hon Sogavare was guest speaker at a business breakfast event to celebrate the successful completion and launch of the Waka Mere Commitment to Action report which shows 6,585 employees from fifteen companies in the private sector are now benefiting from more equal, supportive and respectful workplaces.

"I am of the view that Government can also learn from Waka Mere companies.

"We (Government) are the single largest employer in Solomon Islands but we are still a long way from gender equity in many of our leadership positions. The Waka Mere model is something we will be looking to learn from the role model companies here today," the Prime Minister said.

Prime Minister Sogavare said it is also important to note that Waka Mere wasn't



Prime Minister Hon Manasseh Sogavare speaking at the Waka Mere celebrations.

just about giving new opportunities for women in the workplace.

"It was also about making those workplaces safer and more supportive.

"Solomon Islands has very high rates of domestic violence. We know that this affects the health and happiness of our citizens. It also stunts the economy," he said.

Waka Mere worked with the participating companies on developing a structured approach to helping employees, both men and women, affected by violence so they could get the help they needed and stay

employed.

"Waka Mere has planted a seed. The seed has sprouted. We are beginning to see the fruits. I call on other companies in Solomon Islands join the Waka Mere team of companies as I commit to also lead my Government to adopt the same principles, the Prime Minister said.

IFC modelled the Waka Mere program on its global initiative, She Works, which saw leading companies adopt measures proven to enhance women's employment opportunities.

SICCI congratulates new CBSI Governor on appointment

Tuesday 19 November, Honiara – SICCI congratulates Dr Luke Forau on his appointment as the Governor of the Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI).

SICCI Chairman Jay Bartlett, on behalf of the Solomon Islands private sector, congratulated Dr Luke Forau and assured the Chamber's continuous support towards the important work of the Central Bank.

Mr Bartlett said the new Governor's wide-ranging experience in handling economic matters will undoubtedly help in managing the critical issues facing the country's economy.

"Dr Luke Forau has a good understanding of the financial issues facing the Solomon Islands economy and with his wealth of work experience, and high level of academic qualification, he is in a strong position to lead CBSI to newer heights.



Dr Luke Forau presenting an overview of the Solomon Islands' economy during the 11th Australia-Solomon Islands Business Forum in Honiara in September earlier this year.

We look forward to the entity continuing its sound and prudential oversight of the country's economy under his leadership," he said.

SICCI also acknowledges the former CBSI Governor, Mr Denton Rarawa for

his outstanding service to Solomon Islands and 36 years commitment to the Central Bank which included 10 years as Deputy Governor and another 10 years as Governor.



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For Membership enquiries contact Naomi Mara on phone 39542 or email services@solomonchamber.com.sb

Aust delegation encouraged to do business here

Thursday 7 November, Honiara – SICCI remains committed to realising interest for foreign direct investment and will work with potential investors who will genuinely contribute to the economic development of the country and create jobs for local Solomon Islanders.

This was reiterated at a Business Breakfast SICCI hosted on Thursday 7th November 2019 for a business delegation from Australia who are in the country looking at creating partnerships with local businesses.

The event featured presentations relating to doing business in the Solomon Islands.

The Australian delegation are companies who visited the country for briefings with Solomon Water regarding upcoming projects the State-Owned Enterprise (SOE) has in the pipeline.

SICCI Chairman, Jay Bartlett spoke briefly at the event to welcome the delegation before Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Atenasi Ata highlighted the work the Chamber does in representing the private sector and its advocacy efforts for a conducive business environment.

Former Australian High Commissioner to the Solomon Islands, HE Roderick Brazier also spoke at the event commending SICCI in engaging with the Australian delegation with opportunities to do business in Solomon Islands.

Andrew Schloeffel, Counsellor for Economics at the Australian High Commission, gave a presentation on Australia's substantial contribution to infrastructure development in the



Australian High Commissioner, HE Roderick Brazier (centre), SICCI CEO, Ms Atenasi Ata (right), Acting Director Foreign Investment Division, Ms Lynette Tuhonuku (second from right), some members of the visiting Australian delegation and senior officials from Solomon Water during the business breakfast event on Thursday 7th November at the Heritage Park Hotel.

Solomon Islands.

He also highlighted key infrastructure projects in planning and currently being finalised, that if implemented and completed will contribute to improving the environment for business in the country.

Lynette Tuhonuku, Acting Director of the Foreign Investment Division, Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration (MCILI) also made a presentation informing the visiting delegation about the ministry's guiding legal framework, the procedures and permits potential investors would need to know about in order to do business in Solomon Islands.

"Job creation for Solomon Islands' increasing youth population is of

utmost importance when encouraging investment into the country," SICCI Chairman, Mr Bartlett, said.

"If you're thinking of investing in the Solomon Islands, it is important to be part of the business community, as such, you are welcomed to reach out to the local Chamber of Commerce as we are always willing to work with you," the SICCI Chair told the visiting delegation.

The attendees heard of the many SThe Australian delegation was also joined by business people from Fiji, and New Zealand as well as other local contractors.

There were a total of approximately 80 people who attended the breakfast event.

SICCI commends PHAMA support for Kava standards in SI

Friday 15 November, Honiara – SICCI remains committed to working together with Pacific Horticulture Agriculture Market Access (PHAMA Plus) recognizing that Kava is an emerging cash crop in Solomon Islands that requires responsive and sustained support by stakeholders.

SICCI through its Export Industry Development Department has been working closely with PHAMA Plus to enhance the development of Industry Working Groups (IWGs) into representative and sustainable industry bodies. These IWGs are

instrumental to bring together the government and the private sector to further the interests of the industries.

Currently there are four (4) industry working groups; Cocoa, Coconut, Handicraft, and Solomon Islands Timber Processors and Exporters Association (SITPEA) supported by the Chamber through its Export Industry Development department, Mr Nelson Kere the Executive Officer for the Chamber explains.

"The Chamber has fostered a strong relationship with all partners through these IWGs. We have had a slight

pause in that facilitative support as the Chamber looks for a new Export Industry Development Officer to replace Mr John Paul Alasia the former EIDO."

"We hope to finalise recruitment and have orientation with the IWGs and partners by end of the year."

"In the meantime, it is encouraging to note that important Work continues to be carried out with PHAMA support in developing a National Kava Standard

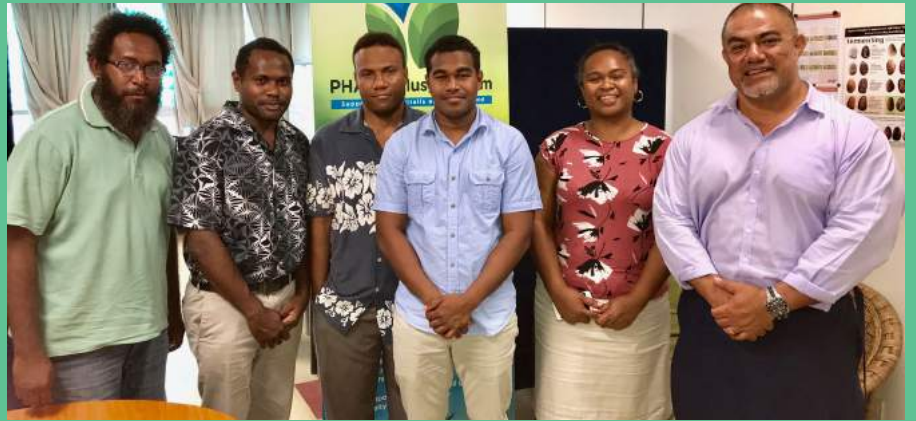
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which will enhance local growers' chances to tap into overseas markets," Mr Kere said.

Agriculture is an important sector for the Solomon Islands National Economy. It provides for and sustains 85 percent of the rural population with food crops, cash crops and livestock for their daily livelihoods, food and social security, according to the Solomon Islands Agriculture Policy (2015-2019).

As such, it is important for further development to take place and opportunities to be made use of.



(From right to left) Tanuvasa Semy Siakimotu, Biosecurity and Environmental Safeguard Adviser at PHAMA Plus; Atenasi Ata, SICCI CEO; John Ta'amora, SICCI Advocacy Officer; Patrick, Finance Officer PHAMA Plus Honiara office; Nelson Kere, Former SICCI Executive Officer and Freddie Namo, National Market Systems Facilitator at the PHAMA Plus Honiara office.

SICCI Media joins Journalists delegation to China



The Solomon Islands media delegation and officials from the Chinese Foreign Affairs Ministry at the Tourism City of Sanya on the southern end of China's Hainan island province.

SICCI's Media and Communications Officer Philip Lilomo was part of a delegation of Journalists representing the mainstream media, private sector and Government that travelled to China on a cultural exchange trip from 5-14 December 2019.

The trip comes under the Cultural Exchange component in the Education Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the Governments of Solomon Islands and China last year 2019.

This was an opportunity for the

delegation of media professionals to learn about the real situation on the ground and better understand China, the country with the world's second largest economy.

With the Solomon Islands Government having made the decision regarding its Taiwan and China foreign relations, SICCI is embracing these opportunities to explore more what this new relationship will entail.

In China the delegation visited sites and had meetings in Beijing, Guangzhou,

Jiangmen, Sanya and Shanghai.

Some of the places consist of China's best historical sites, tourism destinations, media companies, traditional medical hospital, Government and agriculture.

This was the first official media delegation to China since the establishment relations between the two countries.



Next five years is crucial for Solomon Islands: SICCI Chair

SICCI Chairman Jay Bartlett delivering his address at the Business Excellence Awards (BEA) 2019.

Tuesday 3 November, Honiara – Board Chairman Jay Bartlett says the next year and the coming years is shaping up to be critical years for Solomon Islands as a nation.

Mr Bartlett uttered this when delivering his official remarks at the Business Excellence Awards (BEA) on Saturday 30th November at the Coral Sea Resort and Casino.

"If we can push improvements in corporate and Institutional Governance, political and social stability, sound economic management we can achieve more in the next five years than we have in the last four decades," he said.

He said the delivery of essential services is set to broaden and improve with large infrastructure projects planned for our key State-Owned Enterprises (SOE).

"Solomon Water, Solomon Power and the Solomon Islands Ports Authority (SIPA) all with ambitious plans and capital infrastructure programs that will further develop and broaden accessibility, quality and affordability of services much needed in our economic and social development. Water, Electricity and Trade facilitation are some of the basics of any successful economy and society.

"We as a people are also embarking on the largest single infrastructure program our nation has undertaken and is only successful with a partnership with multilateral donors and resource owners and our Government. This is the Tina River Hydro Project," the SICCI Chair highlighted.

He also highlighted that Solomon

Islands is set to host the largest sporting event in the Pacific region with the construction of much needed sporting facilities that will leave a legacy that we all want to be proud of.

"Successful delivery of the Pacific Games will give our capital a face lift and provide sporting facilities that our young populace can enjoy," he said.

Connectivity with roads and infrastructure with the planned Airport Upgrade, East Honiara Road and other infrastructure developments will also improve Solomon Islands as a tourist and investment destination.

Bina Harbor Project will also ensure development progress.

Mr Bartlett said this all has to be

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achieved in the next five years.

"And this will only be achievable with successful partnerships," Mr Bartlett said, re-emphasizing the theme for the BEA 2019 'Partnerships for a Shared Future'.

"41 years ago, on the 7th July 1978 we were bestowed the destiny of self-rule and self-Governance. We woke up on the 8th of July 1978, reborn as independent people. We woke up that morning with the greatest of responsibilities to build this great nation. Today, for me, the concept has not changed, that responsibility has not left us. We must act like every day is the 8th of July 1978 with this great task ahead of us. We took the difficult path many years ago to seek peace, progress and prosperity by looking within ourselves for nationhood building," he said.

He continued: "The general rhetoric

"If we can push improvements in corporate and Institutional Governance, political and social stability, sound economic management we can achieve more in the next five years than we have in the last four decades."

- SICCI Chairman, Jay Bartlett

on development, the headline news, our discussions in the street, betel-nut markets and around the dinner tables. These conversations and discussions always seem to be focused on external parties and looking out outwards.

"But there is always a party that we seem to forget. That party is not a sovereign nation from the East or the West. It is the party amongst us tonight.

Our forefathers did not aspire to be independent only to become dependent - let us always keep their aspirations in our hearts.

"We are blessed with our strategic location with added abundance so coveted by many. Let us put our differences aside to take control of this nation ourselves," SICCI Chair, Mr Bartlett, said.

SICCI new BEA Award inaugural winner is former Police Commissioner for contribution to private sector

Friday 29 November, Honiara – As part of the awards given out at the Business Excellence Awards event, the SICCI Board has developed a new award that is for the most valued partner to the Chamber.

Former Police Commissioner Mathew Varley is the inaugural recipient of this award. It is in recognition of Mr Varley's tremendous service rendered to the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) in the last three years and his commitment in engaging with private sector in the country.

Long-time SICCI Board member, Sir Bruce Saunders said this award is for the most valuable Chamber partner and is a Board decision not like the other awards which are chosen by a panel of judges.

"The award goes to the individual that the SICCI Board decides is to be recognized for his or her contribution to private sector development in the country.

"The Board appreciates the Commissioner of RSIPF for his engagement and open communication at all the Executive Group meetings under the



(Left to right) SICCI CEO, Ms Atenasi Ata; Outgoing Police Commissioner, Mathew Varley with his Certificate of Appreciation and SICCI Board Member, Sir Bruce Saunders.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with the Chamber in 2018," Sir Bruce said.

He added: "The Board especially valued the organized approach that the RSIPF took under Mr Varley's leadership during the national elections in 2018, and then the election of the Prime Minister afterwards."

Sir Bruce, on behalf of the Chamber's members of the private sector, thanked

Mr Varley for his service to Solomon Islands and for his part continuing the development of the RSIPF into a police force that is responsive, professional and most importantly, instils confidence in citizens of the RSIPF institution.

"Special mention must be made to Mr Varley's approach in ensuring that businesses remained important stakeholders in all his communication efforts," he said.

Business Excellence Awards (BEA) 2019 in pictures



The beautiful setting at the BEA 2019



The FQ Dancers provided cultural entertainment at the BEA.



Keynote speaker, Dr Transform Aqorau.



Guests arriving for the event.



Former SICCI CEO, Dennis Meone (left), GPPOL General Manager and SICCI Board member, Craig Gibsone (centre) and former SICCI Advisor, Charles Persson.



The MCs, Mr. Owen Talo and Ms. Georgina Kekea.



Some of the guests at the BEA 2019.

Business Excellence Awards (BEA) 2019 in pictures



Chairman Jay Bartlett with the SICCI Team.



SICCI CEO, Atenasi Ata delivering her welcome remarks.



Representing Positive Developments.



Coral Sea Resort once again provided a venue for the BEA.



Staff of Heritage Park Hotel accepting the 'Tourism Business of the Year Award' on stage.



SITCO ladies at the BEA 2019



Prime Minister Hon Manasseh Sogavare arriving for the BEA.



The TV crew that brought the BEA live to TV viewers for the first time ever.

2019 BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Prime Minister's Excellence Award - Solomon Islands National Provident Fund (SINPF)



The leading for-profit organization in the country growing from strength to strength. Contributing a lot in the economy of the country and supporting the many citizens of the beloved country. This comes about due to good governance and leadership by its board, management and staff.

Contribution to Sustainable Development & Community Award - Solomon Islands National Provident Fund (SINPF)

The largest and only superannuation fund in the country. It supports retirees earn funds, as well as support its members in their financial products. Its contribution to members has the trickle-down effect. Its recent launching of the YOUSAVE product has surprised us with nearly 200k members especially in rural areas throughout the country.

Entrepreneur of the year - Ms. Belinda Botha - Dive Munda



A small business that has grown from strength to strength. The entrepreneur has really adopted the Public Private Partnership (PPP) principle that is encouraged and promoted by the National Government. The business also contributed to community while remaining profitable. Thus, this is truly the entrepreneur of the year.

Large Business of the year - Bank South Pacific (BSP)



A large business by all measures, its existence and contribution to the economy is significant to the development of the country. The largest commercial bank in the country with large reach into most provinces.

Medium Business of the year - SATSOL



Started very small in the telecommunication industry. But now its presence is being felt by many users of its services. A potential competitor in the telecommunication industry market in the not too distant future.

Small Business of the year - ATASI



Has existed for some years with its marketing focus not in the right place. However, in recent years the company has realized its potential and has refocused its attention to marketing and strategizing its product. It is starting to pay off and reaping the benefits progressively.

New Business of the year - Bred Bank



A commercial bank that started in recent years and has progressed profitability. Their contribution to the economy is significant.

Agribusiness of the year - Kokonut Pacific Solomon Islands



The only leading agribusiness in the country turning dry coconut into oil and other products that attract and impact the life of the people and in turn benefited our country. Their practices and ways of doing business have benefited all along the supply chain.

Innovation & Technology Award - Solomon Power



Currently undertaking activities that will modernize and revolutionizes the electricity system in our country. This includes investing in large hybrid solar system outstations, battery storage systems and grid connect solar farms throughout the country.

Tourism Business of the Year - Heritage Park Hotel



The premium hotel in the country. Its occupancy rate is higher than others especially the number of tourists staying at the hotel. This is a testament of the high standard and quality services provided by hotel management and staff.

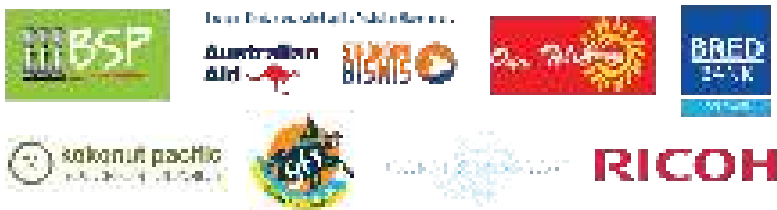
YECSI Entrepreneur of the Year - Ms. Florence Isihanua - Baby n Fashion



The YECSI entrepreneur started her business from chicken farming and moved to retail business selling quality products, mostly baby products to perfumes and quality clothing. She continues feeding chickens as the side line business as her retail business is growing stronger from one outlet to two outlet shops now. This is a sign of the business growing stronger and the measure of sustainability and affordable products for her customers.

SICCI acknowledges the sponsors for the 2019 Business Excellence Awards: Solomon Islands Government; BRED Bank; Bank of South Pacific (BSP); Strongim Bisnis; RICOH; Our Telekom; Coral Sea Resort; Kokonut Pacific (KPSI); Guadalcanal Travel Service (GTS); SATSOL; Solomon Star; Telekom Television TTV; Solbrew; Solomon Islands National Provident Fund; Island Sun; Millicent Designs; Sullivans; YECSI; Guadalcanal Plains Palm Oil Ltd (GPPOL); DJ Graphics and AdKonect.

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Bronze Sponsors





Naomi Mara
Membership & Services Officer

Season's greetings from the membership desk!

The year ended with two hundred and twenty-seven (227) financial members recorded in the membership database.

The Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) category which includes businesses employing less than twenty (20) employees has grown from sixty percent (60%) to seventy (70%) this year.

A total of six (6) trainings were delivered here in Honiara and the provinces we visited. Five (5) of these trainings were targeted at our SME members. The sixth training was the Directorship Program hosted annually with the Institute of Directors New Zealand.

We thank the training providers who delivered the trainings in partnership

with SICCI.

In terms of events, over forty (40) events were held across all the different SICCI departments. These events range from BA5s, Information Sessions, Stakeholder Forums to SICCI's prominent events such as the Business Excellence Awards, the Prime Minister's Breakfast and the Australia Solomon Islands Business Forum.

You, our members hosted a total of twelve (12) BA5 networking events this year – eleven (11) here in Honiara and one in Auki, just recently.

We would like to thank you for your attendance to the events, and your responses to our emails, phone calls and

surveys throughout the year and we look forward to your continued engagement in the new year.

Please note that all membership will expire on 31 December 2019. Membership renewal invoices will be sent out in January when the office reopens.

The membership fee structure remains unchanged.

Please see below.

Wishing you and your families a safe and enjoyable festive season!

Membership Category	Number of Employees	Annual Membership Fee
		(Including Tax)
<i>Businesses based in the provinces (out of Honiara) who have less than 20 employees, are entitled to a 50% discount to the annual fees</i>	1-9 Employees	\$550.00
	10-19 Employees	\$1,600.00
	20-49 Employees	\$3,300.00
	50-100 Employees	\$9,000.00
	100+ Employees	\$12,000.00
	Umbrella Membership *	\$12,000.00
	Associate Membership	\$4,000.00
	Honorary Membership	Nil Fee
* Umbrella Membership applies to a Registered Business or Organisation that owns two or more businesses or organisations		

MEET THE SICCI TEAM



Atenasi Ata

Chief Executive Officer

Atenasi is an emerging women leader who wants to see people in the Solomon Islands informed, engaged and invested in the future of the nation's development with dignity and a high quality of life. She started with SICCI as the CEO in September 2018. She sees the private sector and SICCI as having a significant role to play in enabling change that directly impacts people's lives. Atenasi holds a Masters in Law and Development from Melbourne Law School in Australia. Before she joined SICCI, Atenasi worked at the National Parliament, the Australian Government's bilateral aid program and UN Women.



John Kanai Ta'amora

Advocacy Officer

John Kanai is responsible for the Chamber's Advocacy Plan 2015-2019. Part of this role is to do researches that will help assist members of SICCI and the Solomon Islands Government in making better policies that are mutually benefiting. John Kanai was recruited in April 2017. He recently completed his Master of Arts thesis in International Affairs in February 2017 on Solomon Islands Foreign Policy and the Impact of RAMSI and has a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Economics and Politics at the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Fiji.



Shaun Konaga

Administrative Manager & Assistant Finance Officer

Shaun manages the SICCI Office administration through reception, office and printing supplies, events management as well as assisting financial duties on salaries and finance records. Before she came to SICCI she was an assistant administration officer with the events company Mac Group and made her potential known during Mac Group's preparation of the SICCI Business Excellence Awards in 2015.



Naomi Mara

Membership Officer

Naomi looks after the SICCI Membership database and takes lead in organising SICCI events such as the popular Business After 5. She joined SICCI in November 2017.

Naomi previously worked with the Youth@Work program following her completion of studies in early 2017. She has a degree in Social Science obtained at the James Cook University in Townsville, Australia.



Philip Lilomo

Media & Communications Officer

Philip drives the SICCI Communications Strategy. He maintains the Chamber's branding, design and graphic visibility, website administration, social media management and deals with the mainstream media contents. Philip also manages the flow of information in the SICCI network.

He previously worked in the mainstream media for nine years for Solomon Star, Sunday Isles and Island Sun Newspapers since 2008 as a news reporter, photographer and became sub-editor before he joined the Chamber in June 2018.



John Wopereis

Coordinator, Young Entrepreneurs Council Solomon Islands (YEC SI)

John is responsible for launching and building the Young Entrepreneurs Council (YEC) program. This is a new partnership program between the Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) and the Solomon Islands Government. He was recruited for the position in May 2018.

John previously worked with Skye Eye for two years in a management role. He graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Canterbury in New Zealand.



Chantelle Lincoln

YEC SI Organisational Development Advisor

Chantelle is on a five months Australian Volunteer Program assignment with the Chamber. His role at SICCI is to provide members some understanding of the opportunities for businesses with the arrival of the undersea cable.

Chantelle has a range of experience, her most recent role working at Auckland University of Technology. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Masters degree that focused on Social enterprise. She has a strong interest in education, growing strong communities and supporting young pacific peoples.



Moses Tadokata

ICT Strategy Analyst

Moses is on a five months Australian Volunteer Program assignment with the Chamber. His role at SICCI is to provide members some understanding of the opportunities for businesses with the arrival of the undersea cable.

I was previously employed by the ANZ bank, SINPF, and the Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI). Moses migrated to Australia in 2000 and for the last 13 years was working for Djerriwarrh Health Services, a medium to large Health organisation in Victoria, Australia as a senior IT technical officer.

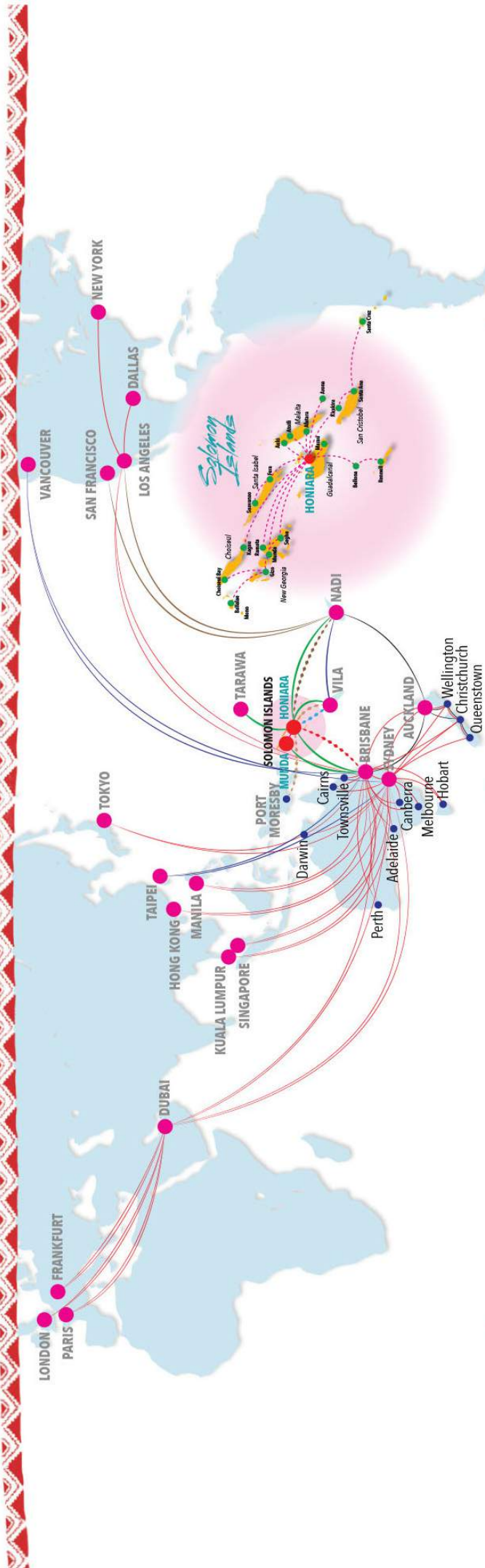


Ruth Maetala

Coordinator, IFC-SICCI Gender Program

Ruth will support delivery of the Pacific Investing in Women program, working closely with the IFC Gender Team in Sydney and the Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce (SICCI).

Prior to joining the SICCI-IFC gender project in October 2016, Ruth worked with the Solomon Islands Government as Director of Research and Policy Unit of the Ministry of Women, Solomon Islands NGO Partnership Agreement (SINPA) as the coordinator and undertook tasks such as providing advice to member NGOs, Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (facilitate annual reflection workshops) and reporting to DFAT.



CONNECTING OUR ISLANDS WITH ASIA AND THE WORLD

- Legend**
- Codeshare with Qantas
 - Qantas Domestic/International Interline
 - International Partner Airline
 - Interline with Air New Zealand
 - Codeshare with Fiji Airlines
 - Interline with Fiji Airlines
 - Codeshare with Air Niugini
 - Domestic island connections
 - Fly Solomons International services
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