



SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs

Solomon Islands **NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY** **2017 - 2030**

Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Livelihoods

Leave No One Behind

8 NOVEMBER 2017

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List of Acronyms

CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of all Discrimination Against Women
ComSEC	Commonwealth Secretariat
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
ECCE	Early Childhood Care & Education
ESF	Education Strategic Framework
EVAW	Elimination of Violence Against Women
FBOs	Faith-based Organisations
GEWD	Gender Equality and Women's Development
HCC	Honiara City Council
HYSCMC	Honiara Youth Stakeholder Coordination and Monitoring Committee
IMF	Implementation and Monitoring Framework
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
ILO	International Labour Organisation
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organisations
MCCDMM	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology
MCILI	Ministry of Commerce, Labour, Industry and Immigration
MDPAC	Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination
MEHRD	Ministry of Education & Human Resources Development
MoFTT	Ministry of Finance and Treasury
MHMS	Ministry of Health & Medical Services
MHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MNURP	Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace
MPGIS	Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening
MPNSCS	Ministry of Police, National Security and Correctional Services
MPS	Ministry of Public Service
MWYCFA	Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NCYDE	National Committee on Youth Development and Empowerment
NDS	National Development Strategy
NEAP	National Education Action Plans
NPSBA	National Professional Sporting Bodies And Associations
NSO	National Statistics Office
NYC	National Youth Congress
NYEES	National Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Strategy
NYP	National Youth Policy
NYSA	National Youth Sports Academy
NYSCMC	National Youth Stakeholder Coordination and Monitoring Committee
NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisations
OIGF	Overarching Implementation and Governance Framework
PMF	Performance Management Framework
PPO	Priority Policy Outcomes
PISfYDE	Provincial Implementation Strategy for Youth Development and Empowerment
PS	Permanent Secretary
PYC	Provincial Youth Councils
PYSCMC	Provincial Youth Stakeholder Coordination and Monitoring Committee
SAA	Strategic Action Area
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SFYDSI	Strategic Framework for Youth Development in Solomon Islands

SIARTC	Solomon Islands Association of Rural Training Centres
SICA	Solomon Islands Christian Association
SICCI	Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industries
SIFGA	Solomon Islands Full Gospel Association
SINU	Solomon Islands National University
SSS	Senior Secondary Schools
TOR	Terms of Reference
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
UN	United Nations
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
Y@W	Youth At Work
YDE	Youth Development and Empowerment
YDI	Youth Development Indicators
YEC	Young Entrepreneurs Council
YDD	Youth Development Division
YLWD	Youths Living With Disabilities
YWA	Youth Workers Association
WHO	World Health Organisation

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Foreword

By Hon. Minister Freda Tuki



As Solomon Islands embarks on the new set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) officially known as 'Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'¹ and its 2016–2035 National Development Strategy (NDS)², it is important to recognise the role of young people as key stakeholders in achieving these development goals. Today's generation of young Solomon Islanders will inherit and drive the future development of Solomon Islands.

Solomon Islands is a youthful nation. 70 percent of the total population in Solomon Islands in 2015 (approximately 443,000 out of the estimated 636,750 people) were below 34 years of age³. By 2030 the population of persons under 34 years of age is projected to increase to about 605,000 people and further increase to about 839,000 people by 2050, equivalent to 62% of the estimated total population of 1.35 million people⁴ in 2050, and larger than the total Solomon Islands population in 2015.

For purposes of this Policy, and by implication all other policies referring to youths, the 'definition of Youths' in Solomon Islands are 'persons between the age of 15 years of age and 34 years of age' inclusive. This definition supersedes the previous definition articulated in the 2010 – 2015 National Youth Policy of persons between 15 and 29 years of age. Based on this definition the youth population in 2015 was estimated at 180,000 and is projected to increase to around 406,000 by 2050⁵.

This Solomon Islands National Youth Policy 2017–2030 exemplifies the government's commitment to prioritise and address the aspirations and wellbeing of the youths of Solomon Islands. It provides a guide for the development and empowerment of youths in the country over the next fourteen years – the same timeframe as the recently adopted SDGs. The policy articulates a vision of how the country's youths would like to see themselves, what they aspire to be and what they want to achieve. It also portrays a vision of the kind of Solomon Islands they want to see their children grow up and to live in, and a mission to help them achieve that vision. The policy articulates the values that will define the character and integrity of the country's youths, and presents some guiding principles that can help transform the dreams, the potentials and the natural talents and ability of every youth in Solomon Islands into opportunities and productive engagement that can empower them socially, culturally, spiritually, economically, and politically. The policy provides a platform for the country's youths to be good citizens and constructive nation builders.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 focuses on the following six priority policy outcomes (PPOs) during the period 2017 – 2030; (i) Educational Empowerment; (ii) Economic Empowerment; (iii) Health & Wellbeing; (iv) Sustainable Development; (v) Leadership, Governance, Peace Building, Social Inclusion and Citizenship; and (vi) Evidence-based Approaches, Access to Information and Provincial Implementation Strategies.

If successfully implemented these PPOs can revolutionise youth development and empowerment; enhance youth employment and entrepreneurship; promote youth wellbeing; pave the way for long-term peace and security; and promote sustainable social, cultural, spiritual, economic and political development.

The PPOs will lay the foundation to achieve the overarching goal of the NYP 2017 – 2030 ... **'Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Livelihoods - Leave no one behind'**.

The policy is neither comprehensive, nor set in concrete thereby providing flexibility to address emerging challenges during the policy period.

A blue ink signature of Hon. Freda S. Tuki, written in a cursive style.

Hon. Freda S. Tuki

1 United Nations, SDGs, <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>
2 Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination (MDPAC), 2016, NDS 2016 – 2035, Solomon Islands
3 Extrapolated from 2009 population Census data, SPC, 2016
4 Extrapolated from *Revised 2016 Pacific Island Countries Population Projections* – June 2016, SPC, 2016
5 Extrapolated from *Revised 2016 Pacific Island Countries Population Projections* – June 2016, SPC, 2016

Acknowledgement

By Permanent Secretary, Dr. Cedrick Alependava



During the last quarter of 2016, the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs commissioned a review of the 2010 – 2015 National Youth Policy and commenced the process to develop a new 3-tier Policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands comprising (i) a new national youth policy 2017 – 2030 [NYP 2017 – 2030] , (ii) a new strategic framework for youth development in Solomon Islands [SFYDSI], and (iii) a new national youth employment and entrepreneurship strategy [NYEES]. This National Youth Policy 2017 – 2030 is the first of the documents from the 3-tier policy framework for youth development. It sets the direction that will guide the next two documents.

The MWYCFA's pursuit of a new 3-tier policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands exemplifies the government's commitment to transform the country's youths and adolescents into effective and positive force for nation building that ensures every young person in Solomon Islands is given the opportunity to contribute to the social, cultural, economic, political and spiritual development of the country. Ensuring effective mechanisms to support youth empowerment, employment and entrepreneurship are key strategies in the new 3-tier policy framework. The Solomon Islands Government is committed to pursue appropriate measures to address youth development and empowerment throughout the country.

This policy has been guided by the country's long-term vision and mission espoused in its 2016 – 2035 National Development Strategy... 'Improving the Social and Economic Livelihoods of all Solomon Islanders' and ... help 'create a peaceful, harmonious and progressive Solomon Islands led by ethical, accountable, respected and credible leadership that enhances and protects people's culture, social, economic and spiritual well-being'¹. The policy epitomises the wishes of Solomon Islands' youths to be active and equal participants in the nation's social, cultural, economic, political and spiritual development agenda. It also aims to deliver on the SDGs targets that are most relevant to Solomon Islands' youths by 2030.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 is a product of substantial and comprehensive consultations with many stakeholders including national government ministries, provincial governments, national youth congress, provincial youth councils, youth groups, youths with disabilities, churches, the private sector, state-owned enterprises, civil society organisations, community groups, national and international non-government organisations, regional and international organisations and development partners. Consultations involved face-to-face interviews, focus group discussions and workshops. Prior to finalising the policy, representatives from the MWYCFA travelled to all provinces to present, discuss and solicit feedback on the key priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas covered in the Policy and also discussed how the priorities could provide the basis for provincial implementation strategies on youth development and empowerment. A high level multi-sectoral advisory committee provided guidance on the development of the policy.

To all stakeholders who have provided valuable time in contributing to the development of this policy, the ministry conveys its sincere appreciation. The ministry also acknowledge the substantial financial support provided by UN Women who brought provincial youth representatives to a national consultation workshop in Honiara to discuss the 3-tier policy development framework for youth development.

Finally acknowledgement is due to the hard working staff of the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and family Affairs for their tireless commitment, going beyond the call of duty to ensure the NYP 2017 – 2030 provides the launch pad for youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands into the future.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Cedrick Alependava', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr. Cedrick Alependava



PART 1

Introduction, Context and Policy Issues



1 | Introduction

As Solomon Islands embarks on the new set **Sustainable Development Goals** officially known as 'Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for **Sustainable Development**'² and its 2016 – 2035 National Development Strategy (NDS)³, it is important to recognise the role of young people as key stakeholders in achieving these development goals. Today's generation of young Solomon Islanders will inherit and drive the future development of Solomon Islands. They have a vested interest in creating a 'future Solomon Islands' that is prosperous and peaceful and a country *where children are nurtured in body and mind; environments invite learning and leisure; people work and age with dignity; ecological balance is a source of pride, and the oceans which sustains us is protected*⁴.

Development that does not fulfil the needs of young people nor equip them with the capacity to effectively transition into adulthood is unlikely to be productive or sustainable. 70 percent of Solomon Islands' population is below the age of 34 years⁵ (figure 1). This significant segment of the country's population is a critical force for change and development. It needs to be nurtured, empowered and transformed into an effective force to drive the long term sustainable development aspirations of Solomon Islands.

The Solomon Islands National Youth Policy (NYP) 2017 – 2030 forms part of a global trend where governments are formulating youth policies that respond to the changing conditions of young people in the 21st century. While this policy speaks to the particular needs and circumstances of Solomon Islands, it represents similar aspirations within the broader Pacific Islands family of small Islands developing states.

It is clear that the future of Solomon Island's youth, and thus the future of Solomon Islands as a whole, is intimately affected by the way current generation of leaders and decision-makers in the country acknowledge and address the challenges facing the country's youths, and provide the necessary opportunities for youths to be effective participants and partners in the country's development agenda and decision-making processes in all areas that affect their current and future wellbeing.

This calls for a new approach where government in partnership with all stakeholders, need to promote and provide opportunities for all young people who by virtue of their vulnerability and other constraints, often find themselves relegated to the margins of society and are often unable to benefit from development opportunities to ensure they grow, develop and prosper as fully engaged, responsive and productive citizens.

The development of this policy is guided by the country's long-term vision and mission espoused in its 2016 – 2035 National Development Strategy... *'Improving the Social and Economic Livelihoods of all Solomon Islanders'* and ... help *'create a peaceful, harmonious and progressive Solomon Islands led by ethical, accountable, respected and credible leadership that enhances and protects people's culture, social, economic and spiritual well-being'*⁶.

The policy epitomises the wishes of Solomon Islands' youths to be active and equal participants in the nation's social, cultural, economic, political and spiritual development agenda. The policy also aims to deliver on the SDGs targets that are most relevant to Solomon Islands' youths by 2030.



2 | Background and Context


2.1 Rationale for the National Youth Policy 2017 – 2030

The 2017 – 2030 NYP succeeds the 2010 – 2015 NYP. It proposes strategic policy interventions to address shortfalls and challenges identified in the review of the 2010–2015 NYP. These shortfalls included; (i) partial implementation of the NYP due to inadequate levels of financial resources and personnel, worsened by geographical factors; (ii) most implementation occurred in Honiara and Guadalcanal with remote provinces not receiving equal attention; (iii) many youth groups were established but had varied levels of commitments with many not functioning well; (iv) lack of clarity on avenues, mechanisms and opportunities to support youth-run and youth-managed programmes; (v) lack of a central information service that collects, collate, analyse and disseminate information to youths; (vi) lack of facilities for youths at national and provincial levels; (vii) absence of a strategy to disseminate policy information to people; (viii) inadequate coordination among partners working in the youth space, (ix) inadequate level of support to the national youth congress and provincial youth councils; (x) poor policy coherence resulting in inadequate networking, communication and coordination among government ministries and partners on implementation of NYP; (xi) Ineffective oversight by the National Steering Committee, and (xii) poor monitoring and evaluation.

The 2017–2030 NYP defines the strategic priority policy outcomes (PPOs) to be achieved in the policy period; outlines strategies to achieve the PPOs; proposes a mainstreaming platform that maps and captures different programmes supporting youth development and empowerment (YDE) run by different stakeholders in the country; positions policy implementation in the context of institutional responsibilities and processes; maps the process through which progress on policy implementation will be assessed; identifies areas where supplementary action may be required and proposes a performance management framework with a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) mechanism to enhance accountability and continuous improvement of policy interventions.

Two key events shaped the development of the NYP 2017–2030. First is the adoption by the Solomon Islands Government of its long-term National Development Strategy (NDS 2016 – 2035) and other key sector policies and plans including in particular the '2015 – 2018 Corporate Plan of the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs'. Second is the adoption by global community, of the 2030 sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The NYP 2017 - 2030 aims to deliver against the goals most relevant to youths in these aspirational documents and sets the foundation for the long-term social, cultural, economic, political and spiritual development and empowerment of youths in Solomon Islands.



2.2 Policy Context

2.2.1 Youth Development – a historical scan

Youth development has been a priority of successive governments in Solomon Islands dating right back to the early years of Independence.

In 1980, the 'National Parliament White Paper on Youth'⁷, set out the following aims for youth development in its Youth Policy:

- recognise the potentials, aspirations and expectations of all young people;
- ensure young people can and will take an active and positive part in all national affairs
- encourage young people to participate fully with members of their community in the social, economic, cultural, political and spiritual development of the country;
- provide relevant training for youths and other members of the community in skills needed for living in their own environment;
- ensure that economic development reaches out into the rural areas;
- ensure that mutual understanding for the purposes of good relationship in developing the rural areas is established between young and other people in the community;
- encourage young people to offer valuable service to their immediate and respective communities;
- provide proper institutions and facilities for those young people who have come before the courts or are in conflict with society; and
- recognise the roles and functions of church and voluntary youth organisations.

The National Youth Congress (NYC) and its network including Provincial Youth Councils (PYC), Area Youth Committees and Village Youth Associations were established under the White Paper to realise the aims of the Youth Policy. The White paper also called for:

- training programmes for youths and allocated a dedicated piece of land at Aruligo, in Guadalcanal for the development of a National Youth Training Centre to complement appropriate overseas training;
- ways to provide financial assistance to youth groups and individual youths for development work;
- the setting up of an information bureau for the collection and dissemination of ideas and views of young people regarding the social, economic, cultural and political development in the country;
- the provision of annual grants to the NYC to support its work at national and provincial levels; and;
- opportunities to promote voluntary services exchange between provinces through the establishment of a national Youth Service Scheme.

In 1988 the government articulated the 'guiding principles for youth development'⁸ with respect to training. These principles highlighted the importance of appropriate village and urban level training on; (i) leadership, managerial, negotiation and coordination skills; (ii) vocational skills in key areas including – agriculture, fishing, small engine maintenance, traditional crafts, woodworking; (iii) domestic, cultural and traditional skills and attributes; and (iv) where appropriate, provision of (a) small scale subsidies and small grants; and (b) revolving funds and youth loan guarantees suited to rural areas.

The aims and principles for youth development espoused in the 1980 National Parliament White Paper and the 1988 guiding principles remain as relevant for today's youths as they were then. Policy aspiration and development could not be faulted, however, effective implementation of the policies was found wanting. In some cases, poor policy implementation resulted from events such as the tensions experienced in the country between 1998 and 2003 and the riots in Honiara in 2006 which undermined the ability to achieve the noble objectives of successive youth policies. However in many instances, many well-intentioned youth policy objectives were not achieved simply as a result of inadequate prioritisation of youths by successive governments as evidenced by the continuous shifting of the youth portfolio between ministries; the minimal levels of budgetary allocations for youth development, and ineffective coordination of youth activities at national and provincial levels.

Unemployment is currently the most critical challenge facing the country's growing young population. There is a serious lack of opportunities to earn a decent and honest living. Faced with minimal chances of employment, many youths succumb to issues such as low self-esteem and a sense of helplessness and hopelessness which often manifest in anti-social behaviour including violence and involvement in crime, drugs and increasing tension amongst the adolescents and youths.

Complicating the pressures faced by youths are the 'urban pull factors and attractions' which continue to draw large numbers of youths from rural areas to major urban centres especially to Honiara. If left unchecked, rural-urban drift can pose major constraints on the urban environment in particular in relation to social, cultural, economic and law and order challenges within urban-based families and communities.

Despite these challenges, the period between 2000 and 2016 saw some promising developments. The youth budget progressively increased; the Convention on Elimination of all Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) was ratified in 2002; youth officers were recruited for national and provincial youth offices; the capacity of the Youth Division of the Honiara City Council was increased; provincial youth policies and action plans were developed; the number of NGO-run and managed youth programs increased; the Solomon Islands National Youth Award was initiated; the inaugural National Youth Parliament was held and successive Youth Parliaments conducted; the national youth congress was reviewed with plans in place to revitalise its role and functions; provincial youth councils are being supported; and the National Youth Stakeholders Committee was operationalised and policies on gender equality and women's development (GEWD) and Elimination of Violence Against Women (EVAW) both of which impact young women were developed and approved. Both these policies have recently been updated and have been approved for the period 2016 – 2020 together with the Solomon Islands Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan 2017 – 2021. The NYP 2017 – 2030 complements both these policies and provides an additional platform to implement aspects of both policies among youths.

A defining event in the progressive strengthening of the youth development and empowerment agenda during this period had been the incorporation of the Youth development Division within the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs in 2007. This incorporation signalled a re-vitalisation of youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands.

2.2.2 Youth empowerment - looking ahead

The MWYCFA's pursuit of a new 3-tier policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands exemplifies the government's commitment to transform the country's youths and adolescents into an effective and positive force for nation building that ensures every young person in Solomon Islands is given the opportunity to contribute to the social, cultural, economic, political and spiritual development of the country. Ensuring effective mechanisms to support youth empowerment, employment and entrepreneurship are key strategies in the new 3-tier policy framework. The Solomon Islands Government is committed to pursue appropriate measures to address youth development and empowerment throughout the country.

Youth challenges including those relating to unemployment cannot be tackled through fragmented and isolated interventions. They require sustained, concerted and coordinated action based on a common vision and supported by an integrated strategy that portrays a 'many partners and one team' approach, working together to address these challenges more effectively.

The 3-tier policy framework will provide a platform to link youth engagement programmes and services carried out by respective partners working in the youth space nationally and in all provinces including by government (national and provincial), churches, youth organisations, private sector companies, national / regional and international NGO's and development partners with the view to minimizing duplication of efforts and maximise impact.

Youth development will determine Solomon Islands' future. Experiences met by young people can shape their outlook and influence development outcomes. Young people are agents of change, not just passive recipients of services from governments and other service providers. The shaping of young people into active and productive citizens is critical to achieving a "demographic dividend", which refers to "a rise in the rate of economic growth due to a rising share of working age people in a population".

The proposals in this policy can help Solomon Islands achieve the demographic dividend through comprehensive and youth-inclusive development. The proposals acknowledge that, strong, effective, genuine and durable collaboration between government, churches, NGOs, civil society, the private sector, communities, families and individuals is crucial to ensuring opportunities are created to empower young people to deal with the challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality. Empowering youths socially, culturally, economically, politically and spiritually can pave the way for meaningful engagement by youths at national, provincial and community levels. It will also enhance greater civic engagement and more effective coordination among various key stakeholders involved in the provision of youth services.

Youth empowerment can also promote socio-cultural adjustment, social cohesion and economic development through comprehensive, integrated and cross-sectoral strategies and programmes that seek to bring about tangible improvements in the quality of young people's lives. Disadvantaged youths need to be empowered to overcome conditions which disadvantaged them. Marginalised youths and those that have fallen out of the educational, social and economic mainstream need to be reintegrated through appropriate measures and other supportive actions.

A multi-sectoral approach involving stakeholders in the public sector, civil society and the private sector where all these key players work together in promoting youth development and providing a platform for youths to develop and access services is essential. Providing this multi-sectoral platform for youth development and empowerment is the key tenet underpinning the NYP 2017 – 2030.

2.3 Youth Profile

2.3.1 Youth Definition

The United Nations define youths as persons between the ages of 15 and 24 without prejudice to other definitions by Member States⁹.

In the Pacific Islands region, the definition of youths vary between countries. For instance in Fiji, youths are defined as persons between 18 and 35 years of age¹⁰. In Samoa, Youths are defined as persons between 18 and 36 years of age^{11,12}. The definition of Youths in Solomon Islands in the 2010 – 2015 NYP was persons between 14 and 29 years of age¹³.

For purposes of this policy, youth in Solomon Islands is now defined as *'persons between 15 and 34 years of age, inclusive'*. This definition which has increased the upper age limit by 5 years from 29 to 34 but retains the lower age bracket of the UN definition enables greater recognition of youths wishing to engage in entrepreneurial activities. The new age profile also ensures a more consistent definition of youth with other countries in the Pacific islands region.

2.3.2 Youthful Population

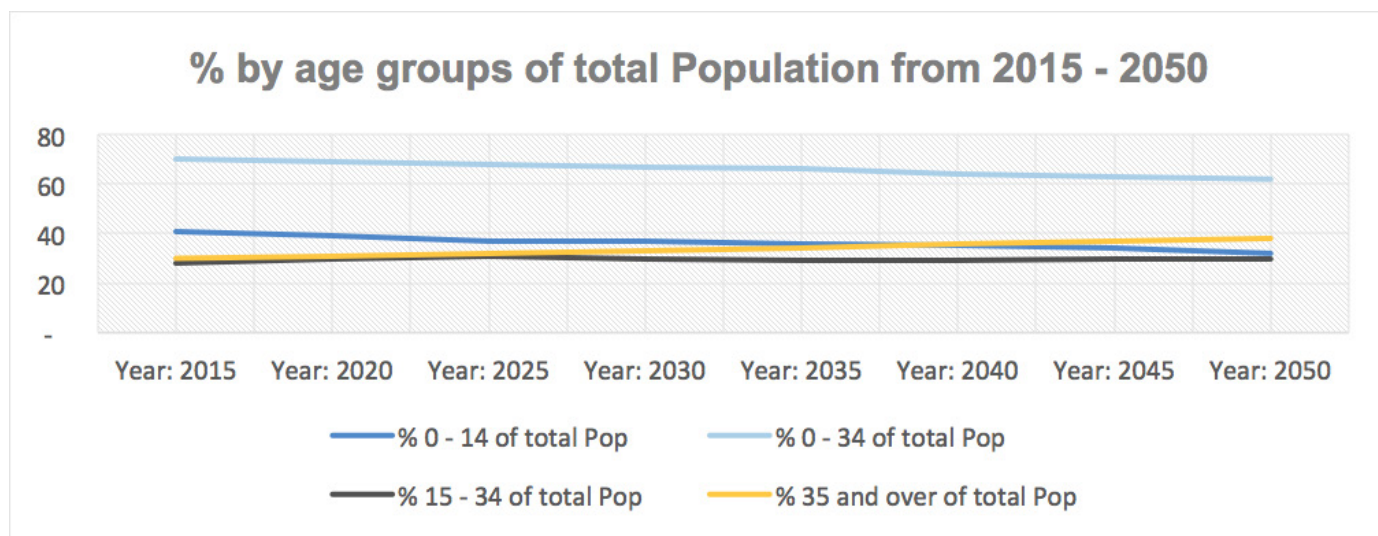
Solomon Islands is a youthful nation. 70 percent of the total population in Solomon Islands in 2015 (approximately 443,000 out of the estimated 636,750 people) were below 34 years of age¹⁴. By 2030 the population of persons under 34 years of age is projected to increase to about 605,000 people. It is further projected to increase to about 839,000 people by 2050 which while equivalent to 62% of the estimated total population of 1.35 million people¹⁵ in 2050. The estimated 'under-34 years' population in 2050 is larger than the total Solomon Islands population in 2015.

Youths, now defined as persons between 15 and 34 years of age comprised 28% of our nation's population in 2015¹⁶, approximately 180,000 persons. By 2030, the youth population is projected to increase to about 275,000 and will further increase to 406,000 by 2050, comprising 30% of the nation's population respectively in both years.

Solomon Islands has a very rapid population growth rate, currently the highest among all Pacific Island countries. It currently produces about 18,000 births per year¹⁷, about 50 births every day¹⁸, which translates to an equivalent of 2 full classrooms every day. This annual birth rate is about the same as the total combined estimated populations of 3 countries – Cooks Islands, Niue and Tokelau in 2015¹⁹.

While the percentage of the 0 – 34 year old population shows a decreasing trend as a proportion of the total population between 2015 and 2050 (Figure 1), mostly as a result of a corresponding increase in the '35 years and over age group', the percentage as well as the absolute numbers of youths (15 – 34 year olds) continue to increase during this period, as do the absolute numbers of persons in 0 – 34 years age group (Figure 2).

Figure 1 – Proportion of persons between 0 – 34 year old show a decreasing trend as a percent of the total population between 2015 and 2030, while proportion of youths continue to increase.



Source: Extrapolated from *Revised 2016 Pacific Island Countries Population Projections* – June 2016, SPC, 2016

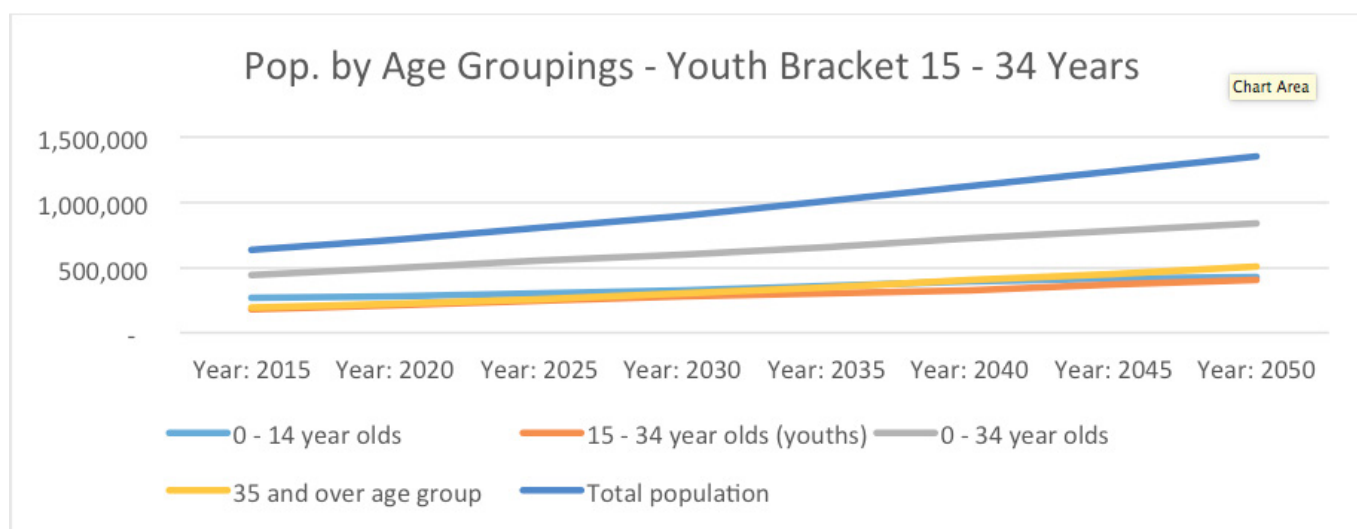
2.3.3 Policy Implications of the rapidly burgeoning youth population

The rapidly burgeoning youth population coupled with very limited employment opportunities in government, private and informal sectors call for innovative approaches to provide opportunities for social and economic empowerment to all young people as they leave the education system and join the employment and labour market.

Youths represent an untapped resource with tremendous potential. Youths can be effective nation builders. Engaging and empowering youths in social, cultural, economic, political and spiritual development needs to be a central part of the strategy to help Solomon Islands achieve long-term sustainable social and economic development and peace and security.

Looking ahead, this policy will help shape the country's response to the broader social and economic forces that are shaping the global and regional development agenda in the 21st century.

Figure 2 – Absolute numbers of persons between 0-34 years of age and youths continue to increase between 2015 and 2050.



Source: Extrapolated from *Revised 2016 Pacific Island Countries Population Projections* – June 2016, SPC, 2016



3 | Policy Issues and Constraints

Consistent with youths elsewhere in the world, youths in Solomon Islands aspire to be the best they can be. However their ability to achieve their dreams and aspirations are not entirely dependent on themselves. They are influenced by many factors, some of which are outside their scope of control and sphere of influence. These factors represent policy issues and constraints that need to be addressed to provide the enabling environment that will allow young people to cultivate their aspirations and help them realise their dreams.

This section provides a brief discussion on the major policy issues and constraints this policy aims to address. The policy issues are presented under 3 clusters for simplicity.

3.1 Key Sectoral policy Issues

3.1.1. Lack of employment & entrepreneurship opportunities

Employment is the most important challenge identified by youths in Solomon Islands. Limited employment opportunities in government and the private sector makes it difficult for the rapidly increasing young labour force to find formal or informal employment. Entrepreneurial opportunities, are limited. Young people have no access to investment funds and / or loans. Where these are available, stringent regulatory requirements make it much harder for youths to access these opportunities to start their own businesses or be self-employed. An International Labour Organisation (ILO) reports revealed that only 2 out of every 10 youths in Solomon Islands were gainfully employed highlighting the difficulty faced by young people to access income, and in 2005, it was estimated that the unemployment rate amongst 15 to 19 year-old youths in Solomon Islands was 75 percent²⁰.

Between 16,000 and 18,000 youths enter the job market each year²¹, with very little prospect that all will secure decent employment. A 2003 report on 'Youth in Solomon Islands – a participatory study of issues and priorities'²² noted a 2001 estimate by the Central Bank of Solomon Islands indicating a maximum annual increase of all jobs in Solomon Islands to be around 3,800 jobs annually. While no recent data is available, various anecdotal estimates suggest that the annual increase in all jobs in the Solomon Islands labour market in the 2016 / 2017 period is no more than 4,000 jobs annually. This only represents between 20 - 22% of the total number of jobseekers entering the labour market each year.

Innovative approaches to enhance employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for youths are central tenets of youth development and economic empowerment that can contribute to sustained economic growth.

3.1.2 Education and training not equipping students with livelihood & work ready skills

Education is the second most important issue voiced by youths in Solomon Islands. Education is the key to success. It opens doors for people of all backgrounds, and expands the human mind with knowledge. The vast amount of knowledge gained through education prepares individuals to solve problems, teach others, function at a higher level and implement transformational ideas. Without education, one's chances for securing good and decent jobs and ascending to a higher economic and social status are often limited²³.

The late President of the Republic of South Africa, the late Honourable Nelson Mandela once stated that... "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. Education is the key to eliminating gender inequality, to reducing poverty, to creating a sustainable planet, to preventing needless deaths and illness, and to fostering peace"²⁴.

In the context of Solomon Islands, there has been some improvements in the country's education system, noting in particular the intent of the 2016 – 2030 Education Strategic Framework (ESF)²⁵ and its associated National Education Action Plans (NEAP)²⁶ to achieve universal education by 2030. However three critical challenges remain that need to be urgently addressed to ensure effective delivery of appropriate education services and curricula in Solomon Islands in particular with reference to youths. These three challenges are:

i. Addressing the impact of the country's rapid population growth on government's universal education policy

The government aims to achieve universal education for all children up to junior secondary schools by 2030 and increased access to senior secondary schools in the same period²⁷. However, the ESF also noted ... *"the policy issue is how to provide universal basic education for all Solomon Islands students of junior secondary school age when the number of places is restricted and population growth in the age cohort is expanding"*²⁸. Analysis of the total school enrolment in Solomon Islands covering children from Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) right up to year 13 (Form 7) in all provinces for the 5 year period from 2012 to 2016²⁹ showed a very worrying trend of attrition during the 5 year period ranging between 17% to 91% (Table 1).

The country's rapid population growth will continue to undermine government's capacity to achieve universal education by 2030. In 2016 there were 18,000 births, about 50 births a day or an equivalent to two classrooms of children every day¹. By 2050, 30,000 births are projected based on current population growth; about 84 births a day or an equivalent to 3 classrooms of children every day². The pressure on enrolment is particularly severe at the senior secondary school level due to limited spaces available. In 2015 for instance only 62 senior secondary schools (SSSs) provided education up to form 5 level (year 11); 21 SSSs to form 6 (year 12), and only 12 SSSs to form 7 (year 13). Only 20% of all students enrolling at year 1 reach form 6 (year 12) and about 4.5 % reach form 7 (year 13) in 2015 and 2016³

Table 1 - Attrition rate of students who were in 'ECCE level to year 9' in 2012 by the time they progressed to 'year 3 to year 13' in 2016.

2012 Level	2012 enrolment	2016 remaining	Progressive 2016 level	Numbers dropped out	% attrition rate from 2012 enrolment to those remaining in 2016
ECCE	23,066	19,069	Year 3	3,997	17%
Prep	24,028	17,713	Year 4	6,315	26%
Year 1	19,774	16,021	Year 5	3,753	19%
Year 2	18,220	13,463	Year 6	4,757	26%
Year 3	17,655	12,438	Year 7	5,217	30%
Year 4	15,950	10,949	Year 8	5,001	31%
Year 5	14,408	10,064	Year 9	4,344	30%
Year 6	12,090	7,511	Year 10	4,579	38%

Source: MEHRD (2016), Education Enrolment data by Provinces; 2012 – 2016

ii. Current education curricula DOES NOT equip students with appropriate livelihood and 'work ready skills' by the time they are pushed out of the education system.

The single biggest challenge with education articulated by youths and students who dropped out or were forced out of the education system is that *'the current education curriculum does not prepare students with the appropriate levels of skills, knowledge and attributes to prepare them for the labour market'*. **Students are not work-ready when they leave school.** Plans in the ESF to introduce technical and vocational stream in senior secondary schools are commendable, but will not address the 'skills gap' for 70 – 80 percent of all students who are forced out of the education system before they can even reach senior secondary schools. There is an immediate and urgent need to introduce livelihoods, technical and vocation education right from the senior primary school and junior secondary school levels in addition to rapidly expanding the technical and vocational education institutions in the country to provide a dedicated technical & vocational education stream in the country's education sector. There is also an urgent need to introduce entrepreneurial education in the junior and senior secondary school curricula.

1 National health Strategic Plan, 2016 – 2020.

2 Extrapolated from *Revised 2016 Pacific Island Countries Population Projections* – June 2016, SPC, 2016

3 Extrapolated from MEHRD (2016), Education Enrolment data by Provinces; 2012 – 2016

iii. Non-proportionate higher level of financial investment in overseas tertiary scholarships for fewer students at the expense of investing in universal basic education and technical and vocational training in country for a majority of students.

The current education system accords much higher priority and resources per capita to overseas scholarships for relatively fewer students (less than 2% of each year's cohort) at the expense of directing such much needed resources to achieve universal education up to junior secondary level in the first instance and ultimately to senior secondary school level, as well as toward the expansion of technical and vocational training capacity in the country. Improvements in the basic education, livelihood skills, vocational and entrepreneurial skills for all students holds the key to effective participation of all young people in the labour market to help drive the country's economy.

3.1.3 Lack of effective strategy to enhance health and wellbeing for young people

Health and wellbeing is the third most important issue for youths in Solomon Islands after employment and education. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines health as "a state of complete physical, mental, social *and spiritual*³³ well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity³⁴." Wellbeing is defined as 'a state of being comfortable, healthy and happy'³⁵.

Many illnesses and diseases that affect youths are behavioural in nature. This means they can be either prevented or their effects can be minimised **or** worsened by one's behaviours, attitudes, actions or inaction. This being the case, strategies aimed at influencing the behaviour of young people to prevent or minimise their exposure to, or participation in known behavioural risk factors of diseases can be a very effective way to promote youth health and wellbeing.

The WHO estimates that 70 percent of all premature deaths in adults result from behaviours begun during adolescence and youth, with two of the key risk factors for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) - tobacco and alcohol use - starting or become established during youth³⁶. Research³⁷ also shows that:

- Nearly three out of four obese adolescents remain obese as adults, increasing their risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, stroke and cancers;

- 90% of adult smokers begin before age 18 and one in four adolescents who smoke started using tobacco before the age of ten;

- Adolescents who start to drink before they are 15 years old are five times more likely to abuse alcohol as adults than those who start drinking at age 19 or older;

- Adolescent mothers are more likely to have low birth weight infants, which is associated with increased risk of adult heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes;

- By the age of 15, more than 25% of obese adolescents have early signs of diabetes; and

- By the age of 20, one in four young people will suffer from at least one mental health disorder and 75% of all mental health diseases start before the age of 24.

Non-communicable diseases are currently the biggest killers in Solomon Islands accounting for 6 out of every 10 deaths in 2008⁴. Deaths and morbidity related to NCDs have increased markedly since 2008, accounting for at least 7 deaths out of every 10 deaths in 2016. The four main NCDs and their shared risk behaviours is shown in Table 2⁵. The vast majority of these risk behaviours start during adolescents and youth. By empowering youths to combat these behavioural risk factors it is possible to reduce the incidence and prevalence of NCDs in Solomon Islands substantially.

Table 2. *The four main NCDs and their shared risk behaviours*

		Common modifiable risk behaviours for NCDs (most starting during adolescents and youths)			
		Tobacco Use	Harmful Use of Alcohol	Physical Inactivity	Unhealthy Diet
NCDs	Cardiovascular Disease	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Diabetes	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Cancer	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Chronic Respiratory Disease	✓			

Source: Global Status Report on NCDs 2010, Geneva, WHO, 2010

Other priority areas in health where youths need to be empowered to address include:

- sexual and reproductive health including teenage pregnancy;
- Communicable diseases such as tuberculosis; sexually transmitted infections and malaria. Youths can become the key instrument to eradicating malaria from Solomon Islands;
- Mental and psycho-social health issues including drug abuse and suicides; and,
- Spiritual health, cultural wellness and social wellness.

3.2 Cross-cutting Policy Issues

3.2.1 Lack of a strategy for sports, recreation and health for young people

Sports and recreation are essential ingredients for youth development, health and wellbeing. Skills learned through sports can be transformed into skills for life and employment. The overarching impact of programs that use sports for social and economic development go beyond transforming the individual participants, they reach the communities where these young people live and work⁶.

Sport is a strong tool to empower children and youth with life skills. It facilitates rehabilitation & re-

4 World Health Organisation (2011). Non-communicable Diseases Country Profiles, 2011.

5 WHO (2010), Global Status Report on NCDs 2010

6 Inter-American Development Bank; available at; <http://www.iadb.org/en/topics/sports/why-sports,1650.html>

integration of the marginalized children and youths including those with disabilities into mainstream society. Sports activities by their nature demand perseverance, teamwork, discipline and leadership, which in turn nurture confidence and motivation for self-development⁴¹.

While a notable omission in the 2010 – 2015 NYP, sports and recreation will be a key strategy in the NYP 2017 – 2030.

3.2.2 Gender equality and inclusiveness needs further strengthening

Gender equality which espouses equal rights, responsibilities, opportunities, resources, and protections of girls and boys, women and men is a key principle of the NYP 2017 – 2030. The NYP shares the vision behind the goal of the Solomon Islands National Gender Equality and Women's Development Policy (2016 – 2020) to advance gender equality in all areas of life and at all levels so that women and men in Solomon Islands can fully enjoy their human rights to participate and access equal opportunities and development outcomes in-order to fulfil their needs and support their well-being⁴² and will endeavour to incorporate this goal into its activities.

3.2.3 Integrate cultural and spiritual values and virtues into all youth programmes

Culture and religion underpin social harmony and cohesion. Both are integral parts of the Solomon Islands way of life and both can have unifying or divisive influence on Solomon Islands society. Solomon Islands was founded on strong Christian principles and values within the context of its rich cultural heritage. However culture has often been used as a scapegoat for actions that do not respect cultural norms and go against Christian principles.

Acknowledgment of useful aspects of culture that underpin social cohesion, social inclusion, unity, peace and reconciliation were among the key findings of the review of the 2010-2015 NYP which also stressed the importance of incorporating cultural awareness and wellness into future policies. The review also commended the tremendous role played by the churches both as first responders to social ills and challenges affecting young people as well as nurturers of the country's young generation in accordance with the accepted Christian principles upon which the country was founded.

True sustainable development can only be achieved if the sum-total of the country's rich cultural, social and spiritual heritage are harnessed, and their combined potential brought to bear and directed at driving the long term sustainable development of Solomon Islands in all facets of development encompassing social, cultural, economic, political and spiritual development.

The NYP 2017 - 2030 aims to build on the country's rich cultural and spiritual heritage, recognising the key roles played by actors in these areas, and mobilising the country's youths to apply their cultural heritage and spiritual gifts as tools for nation building in their pursuit to contribute to the country's national development agenda.

3.2.4 Prioritise youths with disabilities

Youths with disabilities (YWD) often face marginalization and severe social, economic, and civic disparities compared to those without disabilities due to a range of factors from stigma to inaccessible environments [UN Youth]⁴³. The wellbeing of YWD will be a key focus for the NYP 2017-2030.

3.2.5 Address Rural – urban drift and urbanisation

Rural-urban migration occurs at will in Solomon Islands. While people's democratic rights allow free movement around the country, rapid urbanisation can cause huge social, cultural and economic challenges in urban centres such as Honiara. Rapid unplanned urbanisation has resulted in expansion of informal settlements in many parts of the national capital and increased numbers of people in urban households. Urbanisation contributes to an increasing population of the 'urban poor' who are more susceptible to poverty and diseases such as NCDs as well as being more likely to participate in unsocial behaviours and crime. Inadequate employment opportunities in urban centres worsen the impact of rural-urban migration.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 aims to address the rural-urban drift challenge through its new employment and entrepreneurship strategy and other innovative strategies including creation of entrepreneurial and economic development opportunities in rural areas that connect to an established commodity chain pathway that links rural-based production systems to provincial, national and international market outlets. Opportunities for innovative social entrepreneurial initiatives will be explored in urban areas as one of the strategic responses to the continually increasing urban populations.

3.2.6 Poor access to relevant information on youth issues

Lack of access to relevant information on youth issues was a key constraint identified in the review of the 2010 – 2015 NYP. There was no mechanism to collect, collate and disseminate information that could be useful for youths. Paucity of information undermined informed decision-making on important matters affecting youth such as for instance youth employment rates. The proposals under NYP 2017-2030 will prioritise strategies to enhance access to information and evidence-based decision-making.

3.2.7 Lack of facilities for youths

Lack of facilities that youths can use either for social events or specific youth related programmes such as meeting or recreational halls and sporting facilities was a major constraint identified by youths. The NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes investment in appropriate facilities to support youth development and empowerment.

3.2.8 Embrace appropriate technology

Technology is an important tool for development. It impacts people, the environment and society as a whole and can have positive or negative impacts on the society. For instance modern communication platforms such as internet or social media platforms such as Facebook, skype, hangouts, WhatsApp and search engines such as google, chrome or yahoo, all have the capacity to provide 'real time' information to users which promotes communication and assist development. However the same technologies can also be used to target individuals or groups to create disharmony and potential conflict between individuals, groups of people, or in some instances nations.

The NYP 2017-2030 will promote technological innovation that assist development, strengthen awareness, understanding and cohesion among the country's young people and provide the necessary platforms that will help nurture their talents and direct their abilities into effective nation building.

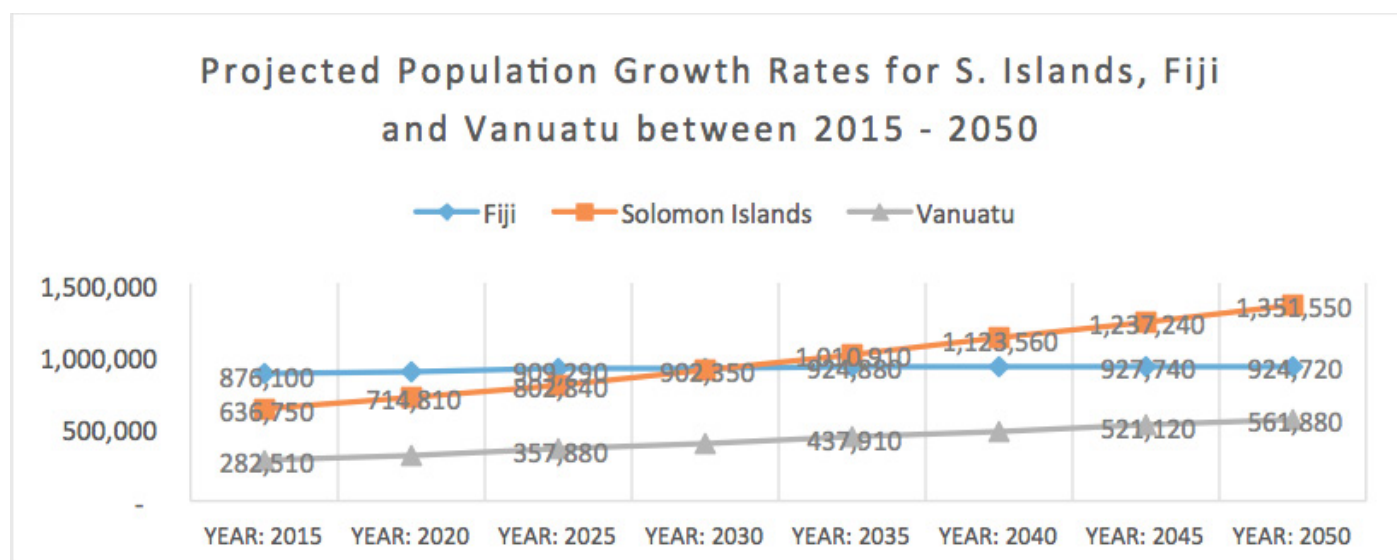
3.2.9 Implications of population growth

The future of Solomon Islands will be largely determined by the intricate balance between; its rapidly growing population, the level of natural and other resources available to support the population's growing demands and the quality of governance of its people and resources.

Solomon Islands has one of the highest population growth rates in the Pacific, currently estimated at around 2.5%⁴⁴. The number of births in 2016 was 18,000 (about 50 births / day) and projected to increase to around 30,000 by 2050 (about 84 births / day). At current population growth rate, Solomon Islands is expected to overtake Fiji as the Pacific region's second most populated country by 2031, on its way to an estimated total population of around 1.35 million people by 2050⁴⁵ (Figure 3).

70% of the country's population in 2015 was under 34 years of age, and while it is projected that this percentage will progressively drop to 62% of the total population by 2050, the absolute numbers of people in this age group almost double during the period, from an estimated 443,000 people in 2015 to an estimated 839,000 people in 2050. Youths comprise 28% of the total population (180,000 persons) in 2015 and is projected to increase to 30% of the population (406,000 persons) by 2050 (Figures 1 & 2).

Figure 3 - Projected Population Growth Rates for S. Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu: 2015 - 2050



Source: Extrapolated from *Revised 2016 Pacific Island Countries Population Projections* – June 2016, SPC, 2016

3.3 Policy Implementation, Coordination and Performance Management Issues

3.3.1 Poor Policy Coherence

The National Development Strategy (2016 – 2035) and the National Population Policy (2017 – 2026) articulate a number of strategic objectives supporting youth development and emphasised the importance of addressing the population growth and the increasing youth bulge. However, poor policy coherence among government ministries and other stakeholders working in the youth space resulted in fragmented and uncoordinated implementation of youth related initiatives during the 2010 – 2015 period making it extremely difficult to measure results and quantify the impact of all youth related initiatives undertaken by all actors nationally.

A brief review of current policies / strategies / plans of all government ministries revealed that while youth is mentioned in virtually all of them with many of them supporting youth development, most did not link their youth related activities to the NYP priorities, nor to other ministries or actors outside of government such as the private sector, churches, NGOs and other civil society organisations.

Each province has its own youth policy which derives from the NYP and while excellent on intent and content are very poorly resourced. Going forward the NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes one single national youth policy for the country to be supplemented in each province by a 'provincial implementation strategy for youth development and empowerment (PISfYDE)' that is specific to each province, and links directly to the NYP. Provinces have been consulted in the development of the NYP 2017 – 2030 to ensure it captures their priorities. These priorities will provide the platform for each province-specific implementation strategy.

Youth development and empowerment is everybody's business. All ministries, the private sector, churches, NGOs, civil society organisations, and development partners investing in youth development in the country need to ensure policy coherence to enhance effective coordinated action that demonstrates a 'many partners and one team approach'. Strengthening policy coherence is one of the primary objectives of the 2017 – 2030 NYP.

3.3.2 No common Framework linking all stakeholders working in the youth space

The review of the 2010 - 2015 NYP revealed that the youth space is a crowded environment characterised by many 'well-intentioned' stakeholders, each successfully doing their own thing and achieving their own goals and objectives but not in a coordinated manner. It was difficult to link the various activities and outputs of each stakeholder's initiatives to the priority outcomes articulated in the NYP. There was a notable absence of a 'common framework' that linked all the actors working in the youth space together, be they government, private sector, churches, CSOs, international or regional partners and development partners. *The end result was that a lot of good youth development work was done by many well-intentioned stakeholders, but in a fragmented manner that was poorly coordinated and did not necessarily deliver against the NYP priority policy outcomes.* It was neither possible to quantify the overall impact of the various interventions nor the total expenditure on youth development from all the stakeholders.

The Strategic Framework for Youth Development in Solomon Islands, will provide the common platform that will capture and link all actors working in or providing support to work being done in the youth space in the country with each other and to the NYP 2017 – 2030. The framework will require all stakeholders working in or supporting work in the youth space to link the objectives and activities of their respective programmes toward achieving the priority policy outcomes articulated in the NYP 2017 – 2030 inclusive of information relating to their financing, implementation, and performance management to monitor and measure success. This framework will provide the foundation for greater policy coherence among all stakeholders working in the youth space.

3.3.3 No clear financing strategy for youth development

Financing for youth development traditionally comes from government budgets through the central ministry responsible for the youth development portfolio and the ministry of provincial government and institutional strengthening by way of fixed services grants to each province. Provincial budget allocations to support youth activities range from \$5,000 to \$300,000 per annum⁴⁶ in each province, hardly adequate to make much impact on what is currently the country's most pressing challenge. The MWYCFA has a relatively small budget compared to the magnitude of the challenge facing youths and can only provide limited financial support to provincial youth services, mostly by way of grants.

While there are many actors in the youth space including other government ministries with youth programmes, churches, civil society organisations, national and regional NGOs, the private sector, regional and international organisations, and development partners, it is difficult to quantify the sum total of all the investments from all stakeholders addressing youth challenges in the country. Having some information on the 'total expenditure' on youth from all sources annually would be helpful in improving the base knowledge about the various programmes implemented by all stakeholders addressing youth priorities as well as improving coordination amongst all implementing partners and enable identification of funding gaps that could then be targeted.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes to map the current (and future) expenditure on youth related activities invested by all stakeholders and their links to the NYP to quantify their investments in youth development. The policy will also explore innovative ways to finance youth development, employment and entrepreneurship initiatives in addition to the traditional support from government. The NYP 2017 – 2030 will be supported by a financing mechanism to help implement the key actions identified in the Policy.

3.3.4 Ineffective Implementation

Successful implementation of any policy or strategy is dependent on three key drivers - (i) the level of support the policy enjoys from political leaders, which often translates to (ii) the level of resources provided to successfully implement and achieve the objectives of the policy and, (iii) the governance framework that oversees its execution. The review of the 2010 – 2015 NYP revealed shortcomings in all three facets – which collectively contributed to its poor implementation at both the national and in particular provincial levels.

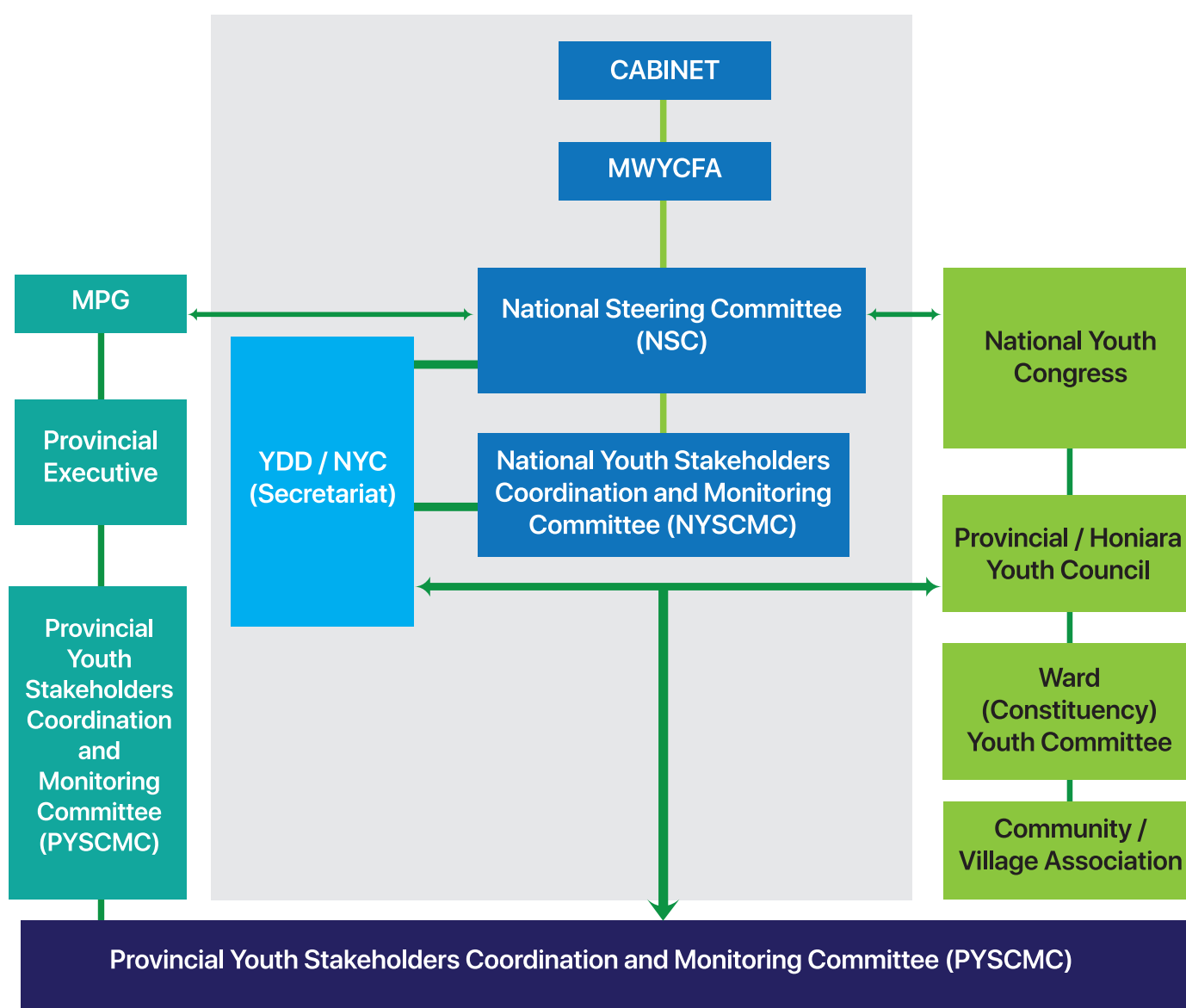
The proposals under this policy aim to address many of these constraints to ensure effective and successful implementation of the priority policy outcomes and their strategic action areas in all provinces.

3.3.5 Ineffective governance and institutional arrangements

The governance arrangements overseeing the implementation of the 2010 – 2015 NYP involved the central government through the MWYCFA, the provincial governments (through the MPG&IS, and individual provincial executives), the national youth congress (NYC) and provincial youth councils (PYC) coordinated through the national and respective provincial youth stakeholders coordination and monitoring committees. The national steering committee – was the highest collective decision-making body overseeing the implementation of the youth policy. Figure 4 shows the operational, functional and governance arrangements for the 2010 – 2015 NYP.

Figure 4: Governance arrangement of the 2010 – 2015 National Youth Policy

STRUCTURE OF THE 2010 - 2015 NYP COORDINATION AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

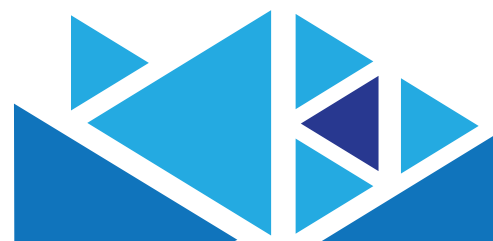


Source: 2010 – 2015 NYP

This mechanism did not function as well as was intended resulting in poor implementation and monitoring. The national steering committee did not convene a single meeting during the policy period. The proposed governance framework for the NYP 2017 – 2030 will provide a more effective coordination platform to ensure effective implementation of the policy at the national and provincial levels.

3.3.6 Poor performance management Framework – for monitoring and evaluation

The 2010 – 2015 NYP espoused a monitoring and evaluation mechanism, but it was not implemented effectively. The NYP 2017 – 2030 will be supported by a performance management framework that will monitor its implementation and measure its achievements and failures.





PART 2

The Policy



4 | Purpose, Objectives, Guiding Principles, Values, Vision and Mission

4.1 Purpose

The National Youth Policy 2017 - 2030 sets out the overarching long-term vision and mission for youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands within the framework of the NDS 2016 - 2035 and the SDGs 2030.

It sets out the guiding principles, the core values, the key objectives and the strategic priority policy outcomes it aims to achieve during the period 2017 - 2030.

The NYP provides an enabling environment where youth development and empowerment can be mainstreamed into other key sector strategies for sustainable national development and nation building.

4.2 Objectives

The NYP 2017 - 2030 seeks to achieve the following objectives:

Create an appropriate institutional framework to facilitate the delivery of an integrated and mainstreamed agenda for youth development at the national and provincial levels

Guide effective and efficient delivery of national youth programs and services informed by 'evidence based' approaches;

Mainstream youth development and empowerment into multi-sectoral policy and programming arrangements within government and other key stakeholders and institutions;

Foster genuine participation of and partnership with young people in all aspects of national and provincial development;

Ensure investments in youth are appropriate to their circumstances;

Guide the development of a sustained research, information and knowledge management agenda on the situation of youths in the country; and

Foster awareness and appreciation by youths of the Solomon Islands identity and culture.

4.3 Guiding Principles

The 2017 -2030 NYP is underpinned by the following guiding principles.

Asset & Strength-Based approach – recognises youths as enablers, models, integrators and a vital source for ‘peer to peer’ development, attitudes and positive reinforcement. All initiatives for or involving youths must see youths as assets for national development and nation building that enhance Solomon Islands’ culture and identity.

Evidence-based approach – characterized by systematic collection and analysis of data to inform the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programming for and by young people at all levels supported through regular impact assessment to determine their impact and outcomes.

Rights-based approach – places young people at the centre of development; recognises their right to participate in decision-making in all matters which affect their lives and their communities in partnership with adults; and ensures adequate focus on youth who are most vulnerable, excluded or are discriminated against.

Ownership and active participation – recognises ownership, participation and involvement of young people as key to ensuring that development initiatives respond to their specific needs, and that they are positively engaged in activities that affect their lives and build positive and quality relationships in their social and work environments.

Partnerships and cooperation – embraces effective, trusting, genuine and durable partnerships based on shared values, mutual trust, transparency and mutual accountability between young people and their communities, institutions, agencies and governments to facilitate integrated multi-sectoral and multi-level commitment to achieve common goals.

Sustainability – recognises development that *integrates environmental, economic, social, spiritual and cultural perspectives toward the responsible management of marine and land resources, disaster preparedness, climate readiness, food, water and energy security and enhanced resilience of present and future generations of Solomon Islanders* is at the core of all policies, strategies and initiatives that impact on youth.

Innovation – encourages innovative, creative and critical thinking and use of strategic communication technology platforms. Promoting new ways of thinking and working to offer young people new opportunities to help them transform their talents and potentials into assets for economic development and nation building.

Visionary, ethical, transformative leadership – acknowledge that ‘youths have an eye for the future’ and recognise that youths are aspiring leaders of today and can be greater leaders of tomorrow. Youths can shape the future of a nation. They can have a significant impact on national growth. The experiences of youth will weigh heavily on how they act as adults. Empowering youths with the values and principles embodied in this policy will provide a platform for visionary, ethical and transformative leadership and integrity among young people as they transition into adulthood.

Good Governance, Transparency and Accountability – mainstreams youth development throughout government policies and programmes and strengthens the capacity of key youth development institutions and involvement of youths in social accountability mechanisms.

Diversity, gender equality and inclusiveness: Leave no one behind – embraces cultural diversity, spiritual maturity and gender-equality as the cornerstones for nation-building and long term peace, reconciliation and national unity that underpins sustainable socio-economic development that leaves no one behind.

4.4 Core Values

The NYP 2017 – 2030 are underpinned by the following core values.

Creativity and innovation,

Youth leadership and integrity.

Respect for the law; the principles of democracy; freedom of religion and rights of citizens;

Respect for the principles on UN Convention against corruption and violence;

Zero-tolerance on corruption, bribery and dishonesty and any form of discrimination and violence including gender based violence

Respect for cultural values, customs and traditions where these empower people and country;

Promote of peace, security, harmony, justice and national unity;

Commit to (i) honesty, transparency and accountability; (ii) the highest standards of governance and leadership; (iii) gender equality and equity, cultural diversity and human rights, and (iv) open and transparent communication; and

Commit to the achievement of the National Development Strategy 2035, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030.

4.5 Vision

The NYP 2017 – 2030 is guided by two visions – a vision for youths in Solomon Islands, complemented by a vision for the type of Solomon Islands youths wish to see and live in. The vision for the country sets the goal youths will work toward in nation-building.

4.5.1. Vision for Youths in Solomon Islands ... *“empowered, talented, innovative and valued young people who are able to realise their full potential and understand their roles and responsibilities to make meaningful contributions to the long-term sustainable development of Solomon Islands socially, culturally, economically, politically and spiritually”*

4.5.2. Vision for the type of Solomon Islands youths wish to see and live in ... ‘a strong, stable, secure, peaceful and prosperous Solomon Islands that is founded on strong Christian principles and values; practices good governance; and characterised by a creative and enterprising economy where young people are appreciated, valued and fully integrated into national development’.

4.6 Mission

To promote and enhance opportunities for the development and empowerment of youths in Solomon Islands to ensure:

they achieve their full potential through a range of integrated programmes and coordinated package of services and activities that address their needs, promote positive outcomes, and support the holistic development of all young people, particularly those outside the social, political and economic mainstream including youths with disabilities, and;

youth programmes offer choices and assist youths to make informed decisions about their futures and their roles and responsibilities in the social, cultural, economic, political and spiritual development of Solomon Islands.



5 | Policy Goal and Priority Policy Outcomes

5.1 Priority Policy Outcomes

The NYP 2017 – 2030 has one overarching policy goal – Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Livelihoods – Leave no one behind. Six (6) priority policy outcomes [PPOs] underpin the achievement of this overarching goal during the 2017 – 2030 plan period (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Overarching goal and 6 Priority Policy Outcomes (PPOs) of the NYP 2017 – 2030



Table 3 summarises the focus for each of the 6 priority policy outcomes. Each PPO will be implemented through a number of strategic action areas (SAAs), each with specific indicators to measure success.

Table 3: Principle focus of each of the 6 PPOs

<p>Priority Policy Outcome 1</p> 	<p>Educational Empowerment – by 2030, the scope and content of education curricula delivered at all levels of the education system including formal, technical & vocational and non-formal education will; (i) properly equip students who progress to higher levels of education; and (ii) ensure all students leaving the education system at any level are adequately equipped with ‘appropriate skills sets’ to make them ‘work-ready’ and help them engage effectively in the labour market’.</p>
<p>Priority Policy Outcome 2</p> 	<p>Economic Empowerment – by 2030; at least 75% of youths who are not in educational institutions have secure career pathways through formal or informal employment opportunities, entrepreneurship and other innovative economic opportunities to improve their livelihoods and quality of life.</p>
<p>Priority Policy Outcome 3</p> 	<p>Health & Wellbeing – by 2030; (i) 100% of youths are aware of and are practicing health living and lifestyles; and (ii) actively engage in cultural, spiritual, sporting and other physical activities to improve their health and holistic wellbeing.</p>
<p>Priority Policy Outcome 4</p> 	<p>Sustainable Development – By 2030; youths are empowered and equipped to be effective catalysts and enablers of sustainable development – (i) <i>enhancing opportunities for green and blue economies</i>; (ii) <i>strengthening resilience to natural disasters and climate change</i>; (iii) <i>ensuring food, water and energy security</i>; (iv) <i>promoting the use of appropriate and sustainable technological innovations and interventions to support sustainable development</i>; and (v) <i>implementing activities to achieve the SDGs relevant to Solomon Islands</i>.</p>
<p>Priority Policy Outcome 5</p> 	<p>Leadership, Governance, Peace Building, Social Inclusion and Citizenship – by 2030; (i) youths are empowered as agents of positive change, participating in leadership, decision making and governance mechanisms including traditional leadership and governance at all levels including household, village, community, provincial and national levels; and (ii) contributing to long-term social harmony and cohesion, peace and security, gender equality, equal opportunity and national unity that leaves no one behind.</p>
<p>Priority Policy Outcome 6</p> 	<p>Evidence-based Approaches, Access to information and Provincial implementation strategies - By 2020, (i) decision-making on strategies, plans and programmes on youth development and empowerment will be evidence-based; (ii) youths will have greater access to information; and (iii) all provinces have developed and are implementing their respective provincial implementation strategies for youth development and empowerment, cognizant of established traditional leadership and ward governance arrangements in empowering youths within each province; (iv) the NYC will be rejuvenated and; (v) capacity of staff in the MWYCFA, Provinces and partner agencies are strengthened to effectively implement the NYP 2017 – 2030.</p>

Progress against each of the PPOs will be measured against the indicators for each specific strategic action area (SAA) under each PPO. In addition the overarching headline youth development indicators (YDIs) will also measure the overall progress of youth development including assessing progress against the relevant medium term strategies of the NDS 2016 – 2035 and the SGGs 2030.


5.2 Strategic Action Areas under each PPO

The PPOs incorporate thematic issues that transcend national and provincial priorities. This calls for a 'unified and well-coordinated and integrated whole-of-country approach' to implementation, utilising a 'whole of government and whole of society mechanisms'.

Each PPO will be achieved through implementation of a number of interrelated Strategic Action Areas (SAAs). Each SAA will have specific activities and targets to guide implementation efforts, and indicators to measure progress and impact.

Table 4 provides a summary of the SAAs for each of the 6 PPOs. Annex 1 presents a summary of the implementation and monitoring framework (IMF), showing for each PPO; the strategic action areas; the indicators; and the drivers, implementers and implementing partners.

Table 4: Strategic Action Areas (SAAs) for each of the 6 PPOs

 <h1>Educational Empowerment</h1>	
Priority Policy Outcome 1	By 2030, the scope and content of education curricula delivered at all levels of the education system including formal, technical & vocational and non-formal education will; (i) properly equip students who progress to higher levels of education; and (ii) ensure all students leaving the education system at any level are adequately equipped with 'appropriate skills sets' to make them 'work-ready' and help them engage effectively in the labour market'.
Strategic Action Areas	
1.1	Advocate for and ensure establishment of a 'youth education and empowerment programme' that focusses on bridging the skill-gaps of youths to actively participate in socio-economic activities
1.2	Actively advocate for the introduction of basic livelihood skills at senior primary school level, commencing at year 4 primary school and establish a joint mechanism between the MEHRD and MWYCFA to implement and monitor this initiative - <i>to ensure children pushed out of the education system from year 6 primary school can engage effectively in the labour market.</i>
1.3	Advocate for and ensure inclusion of Entrepreneurial education and training in school curricula from Junior high school level
1.4	Advocate for and ensure TVET education and training is accorded the same status and priority that is accorded to formal education in government education policies, and rapidly expand the TVET sector in the country
1.5	Introduce & implement formal internship and apprenticeship programmes during the 'school to work transition period' for all youths leaving the education system.
1.6	Develop & implement regular 'labour market forecast and workforce skills surveys' to assess labour market job opportunities, their skills requirement, the 'skills level' of available workforce, appropriateness of the skills levels of youths leaving the education system to the labor market requirements, and establish the 'gaps in skills' relative to those required by the labour market (See also 6.4)



Economic Empowerment

Priority Policy Outcome 2

By 2030; at least 75% of youths who are not in educational institutions have secure career pathways through formal or informal employment opportunities, entrepreneurship and other innovative economic opportunities to improve their livelihoods and quality of life.

Strategic Action Areas

2.1	Develop and implement a National Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Strategy NYEES (3 rd tier of the 3-tier policy development framework) that will address:
	<p>a. Career Pathways through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Employment – formal & informal, national & provincial, rural & urban, village & communities [National Stream] <input type="checkbox"/> Regional / international stream – including through established labour mobility mechanisms <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Ambassadors <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Volunteers – National / Regional / International <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Workers Association S. Islands <input type="checkbox"/> Internships and apprenticeships inclusive of the full incorporation and expansion of the Youth@Work internship programme.
	<p>b. Entrepreneurship including through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Young Entrepreneurs Council (YEC); and <input type="checkbox"/> The incorporated and expanded Youth@Work Entrepreneurship programme <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural / Fisheries / Trade opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural industries & tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Development of a simple and standardised training manual on economic entrepreneurship to be used by all stakeholders conducting entrepreneurship training for youths in throughout country.
	<p>c. Other innovative economic opportunities including cultural industries – arts, crafts & music, credit schemes, social entrepreneurship and business incubator services.</p>
2.2	<p><i>Establish a youth employment, empowerment and young entrepreneurs programme</i> - that will focus on assisting young people to obtain employment; provide support to young entrepreneurs in business registration, business training and mentoring, access to start-up financing or financing to expand small businesses; support youth workers association; and support development of a business incubators programme.</p>



Health & Wellbeing

Priority Policy Outcome 3

By 2030; (i) 100% of youths are aware of and are practicing healthy living and lifestyles and, (ii) actively engage in cultural, spiritual, sporting and other physical activities to improve their health and holistic wellbeing.

Strategic Action Areas

3.1	Develop and implement a Youth-to-Youth Strategy for Health & Wellbeing that will help youths achieve a state of complete physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being including for youths with disabilities that aims to:
	a. Improve the knowledge, attitude and behaviour of young people to prevent or minimise their exposure to, or participation in known behavioural risk factors of diseases
	b. Empower youths to combat and reverse the rapidly increasing threat of Non-Communicable Diseases (<i>diabetes, stroke, heart attack, hypertension, obesity, asthma, cancers</i>) that currently causes 7 out of every 10 deaths in S. Islands and increasing.
	c. Empower youths to combat communicable diseases and help eradicate malaria and tuberculosis
	d. Address Sexual and reproductive health including teenage pregnancy
	e. Address mental and psycho-social health issues including drug abuse and suicides
3.2	f. Nurture spiritual health, cultural wellness and social wellness
	Develop and implement a 'Youth-to-Youth Strategy for the wellbeing of Youths with Disabilities and other marginalised youths' that addresses the various socio-cultural and economic development and health challenges they face (See also 6.3)
3.3	Develop and implement 'A strategy for sports, recreation and health for youths' - that utilises sports as an essential tool to empower children and youth with life skills including through: (See also 5.5)
	a. Inclusion of physical education in school curriculum;
	b. Establishing / formalizing annual in-school, inter-school and out-of-school sports competitions
	c. Establishing a national youth sports academy (NYSA) to nurture and develop young sporting talents
	d. Linking school sports to the NYSA and respective 'national professional sporting bodies associations' (NPSBAs)



Sustainable Development

Priority Policy Outcome 4

By 2030, youths are empowered and equipped to be effective catalysts and enablers of sustainable development – (i) *enhancing opportunities for green and blue economies*; (ii) *strengthening resilience to natural disasters and climate change*; (iii) *ensuring food, water and energy security*; (iv) *promoting the use of appropriate and sustainable technological innovations and interventions to support sustainable development*; and (v) *implementing activities to achieve the SDGs relevant to Solomon Islands*.

Strategic Action Areas

4.1	Develop a 'youth-to-youth strategy on youth engagement on sustainable development' that aims to (i) inform youths about the issues underpinning the Sustainable Development Goals; (ii) inspire youths to take an active role in implementing, monitoring and evaluating the SDGs, and (iii) invite policymakers to facilitate meaningful participation of youths in the national discourse, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs. The strategy should among other things include:
	a) a standardized and simplified training programme for youths on sustainable development, the sustainable development goals, their underlying rationale and indicators that can be delivered through a workshop or a short course;
	b) a youth participation strategy outlining specific activities youths can engage with under each SDG that is relevant to Solomon Islands with particular emphasis on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ youth-led programmes on poverty, health & wellbeing, quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, sustainable cities and communities, sustainable & responsible consumption and production patterns, peace justice and strong institutions and partnership for goals [SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17]; □ youth-led programmes that maximize the 'blue economy' – a marine-based economic development that leads to improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental and ecological risks to preserve the environment and ecosystems for future generations [SDG 14]; □ youth-led programmes that maximize the 'green economy' - economic development that maximise the economic value of a country's terrestrial resources and environment (land, agricultural crops, forests, terrestrial minerals, rivers, renewable energy) while significantly reducing environmental and ecological risks to preserve the environment and ecosystems for future generations including establishing a 'youth for sustainable forest and tree-planting network' [SDGs 6, 7, 15]; □ youth-led programmes on disaster preparedness and response; climate readiness and resilience; and food and water security [SDGs 2, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15]; and □ use of appropriate and sustainable technology to aid sustainable development and disaster preparedness, mitigation and response [SDG 9].



Leadership, Governance, Peace Building, Social Inclusion & Citizenship

Priority Policy Outcome 5

By 2030; (i) youths are empowered to be agents of positive change, participating in leadership, decision making and governance mechanisms including traditional leadership and governance at household, village, community, provincial and national levels; and (ii) contributing to long-term social inclusion, social harmony and cohesion, peace and security, gender equality, equal opportunity and national unity, leaving no one behind.

Strategic Action Areas

5.1	Create enabling environment to increase opportunities for youths including disabled and marginalised youths to participate in, lead, plan, make decisions, implement, monitor and evaluate development opportunities within and outside of government systems.
5.2	Facilitate leadership, social accountability and civic engagement opportunities for young people to acquire more knowledge and awareness about the role of government, parliament, parliamentarians, traditional leadership and governance, provincial and ward governance, businesses and civil society to strengthen their roles in democratic society.
5.3	Develop and implement youth-to-youth programmes that embrace cultural diversity, traditional leadership and governance, social cohesion and inclusion, spiritual maturity, and equal opportunity and gender-equality as the cornerstones for long term peace and security, understanding, tolerance, reconciliation and national unity that builds a nation and leaves no one behind
5.4	Ensure involvement of youths in development of peace-building plans in particular as they relate to their roles in cultural and traditional governance structures and issues that directly affect them
5.5	Invest in sports and recreation activities to empower children and youth with life-skills and facilitate opportunities to rehabilitate & re-integrate marginalized children and youths and disabled youths into mainstream society. Sport activities by their nature demand perseverance, teamwork, discipline and leadership, which in turn nurture confidence and motivation for self-development (See also 3.3)
5.6	Establish and run Youth-to-Youth Radio-Broadcast programme to be run and managed by young women and men to enhance communication, networking and programing on civic education, peace building and security between and among youths, starting in Honiara and expand nationally as resource allow





Evidence-based Approaches, Access to Information & Provincial Implementation Strategies

Priority Policy Outcome 6

By 2020;
 (i) decision-making on strategies, plans and programmes on youth development and empowerment is evidence-based;
 (ii) youths have greater access to information;
 (iii) all provinces have developed and are implementing their respective provincial implementation strategies for youth development and empowerment, cognizant of established traditional leadership and ward governance arrangements in empowering youths within each province;
 (iv) the NYC is rejuvenated and;
 (v) capacity of staff in the MWYCFA, provinces and partner agencies are strengthened to effectively implement the NYP 2017 – 2030.

Strategic Action Areas

6.1	Strengthen evidence-based decision-making: <i>Encourage and support research on youth related issues to inform planning, policy development and decision-making.</i>
6.2	Enhance timely access by youths to relevant information on youth related issues and opportunities for youth development and empowerment.
6.3	Assist all provinces develop and implement their respective 'provincial implementation strategies for youth development and empowerment (PISFYDE) that recognises and incorporates established traditional leadership and ward governance arrangements that empower youths in each province.
6.4	The National Youth Congress network and its network is revised and operational
6.5	Capacity of staff in the MWYCFA, Provinces and partner agencies are strengthened to effectively implement the NYP 2017 – 2030.



PART 3

Implementation and Governance



6 | Implementation and Governance Arrangements

The implementation and governance arrangements espoused in this policy recognises and draws from already existing mechanisms outlined in the 2010 – 2015 NYP together with those utilised by churches, and other actors including national and international NGOs and CSOs. The underpinning principle is '*to not invent new modalities unless they add value, but rather, to learn from lessons of the past and the realities of today, to build, strengthen and make existing mechanisms more effective, transparent and accountable for results*'. Successful implementation will depend on availability of financial resources, commitment and buy-in from all stakeholders, and capacity of staff and partners to coordinate and facilitate implementation.

6.1 Implementation arrangements

The National Youth Policy 2017 – 2030 is a 'whole of government and whole of society' initiative. The Youth Development Division of the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs will coordinate and monitor its implementation and evaluate its impacts.

The YDD will also support the operationalisation of the 'overarching implementation and governance framework (OIGF)' that will oversee the effective implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the NYP 2017 – 2030 (Figure 6).

Key implementing partners include all government ministries and departments; provincial governments, the national youth congress and its provincial youth councils, the churches; the private sector; the youth workers association, national and international non-government organisations and civil society organisations; regional and international organisations; development partners and all other sectors of society at the national, provincial, constituency, ward, village and community levels.

The revitalised national youth congress and its network of provincial youth councils, constituency youth committees, ward youth groups and village youth associations will play a key role in the overall implementation, monitoring and reporting of the NYP 2017 – 2030 throughout the country. The NYC network will be strengthened and financed to ensure effective implementation of the priorities of the NYP and respective provincial implementation strategies on youth development and empowerment so that they reach all rural and remote areas in the country.

A Cabinet-sanctioned high-level multi-sectoral 'National Committee on Youth Development and Empowerment (NCYDE)' will take carriage of driving the overall implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the NYP 2017 – 2030. This committee with membership at the CEO level will have an Independent Chair and will meet twice annually to monitor implementation of the policy and make appropriate decisions including resource replenishment and allocations to facilitate effective implementation of the policy (Annex

2.1 outlines the suggested membership and Terms of Reference (TORs) of the NCYDE).

The NCYDE will be supported in its work by a multi-sectoral 'National Youth Stakeholders Coordinating and Monitoring Committee (NYSCMC)' at the national level (Annex 2.2). A 'Provincial Youth Stakeholders Coordinating and Monitoring Committee (PYSCMC)' in each province will monitor implementation of the NYP at the provincial level (Annex 2.3). The PYSCMC reports to the NYSCMC (Figure 6).

Each implementing partner will drive implementation of policy priorities and strategic action areas aligned to their respective work plans and monitored through their respective internal mechanisms. Their various outputs are reported to the NCYDE through the PYSCMC and / or NYSCMC respectively (Figure 6).

Where a number of implementing partners share a common grouping, such as churches or NGOs/CSOs, the policy recommends that these partners (who represent a sub-set of the larger group) consider establishing a collective framework (such as a Committee) in addition to their respective individual mechanisms to drive collective implementation, monitoring and reporting on policy areas common to all partners within the group - such as for instance, a 'Faith-based Organisations Youth Coordination and Monitoring Committee – FBOYCMC' (Annex 2.4).

Successful implementation of the policy will ensure achievement of its overarching goal of 'Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Livelihoods – Leave no one behind'. This in turn will ensure the realisation of the policy's long term vision that 'sees the youths of Solomon Islands' as ... *"empowered, talented, innovative and valued young people who are able to realise their full potential and understand their roles and responsibilities to make meaningful contributions to the long-term sustainable development of Solomon Islands socially, culturally, economically, politically and spiritually"*.

6.2 Governance arrangements

Inclusiveness and broad multi-sectoral ownership are among the key principles underpinning the governance framework for the NYP 2017 – 2030. Implementing partners are represented in the structures and processes of the governance framework to ensure ownership, accountability, transparency, responsiveness, stability, equity, inclusiveness, empowerment, and broad-based participation in the oversight, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the policy (Figure 6).

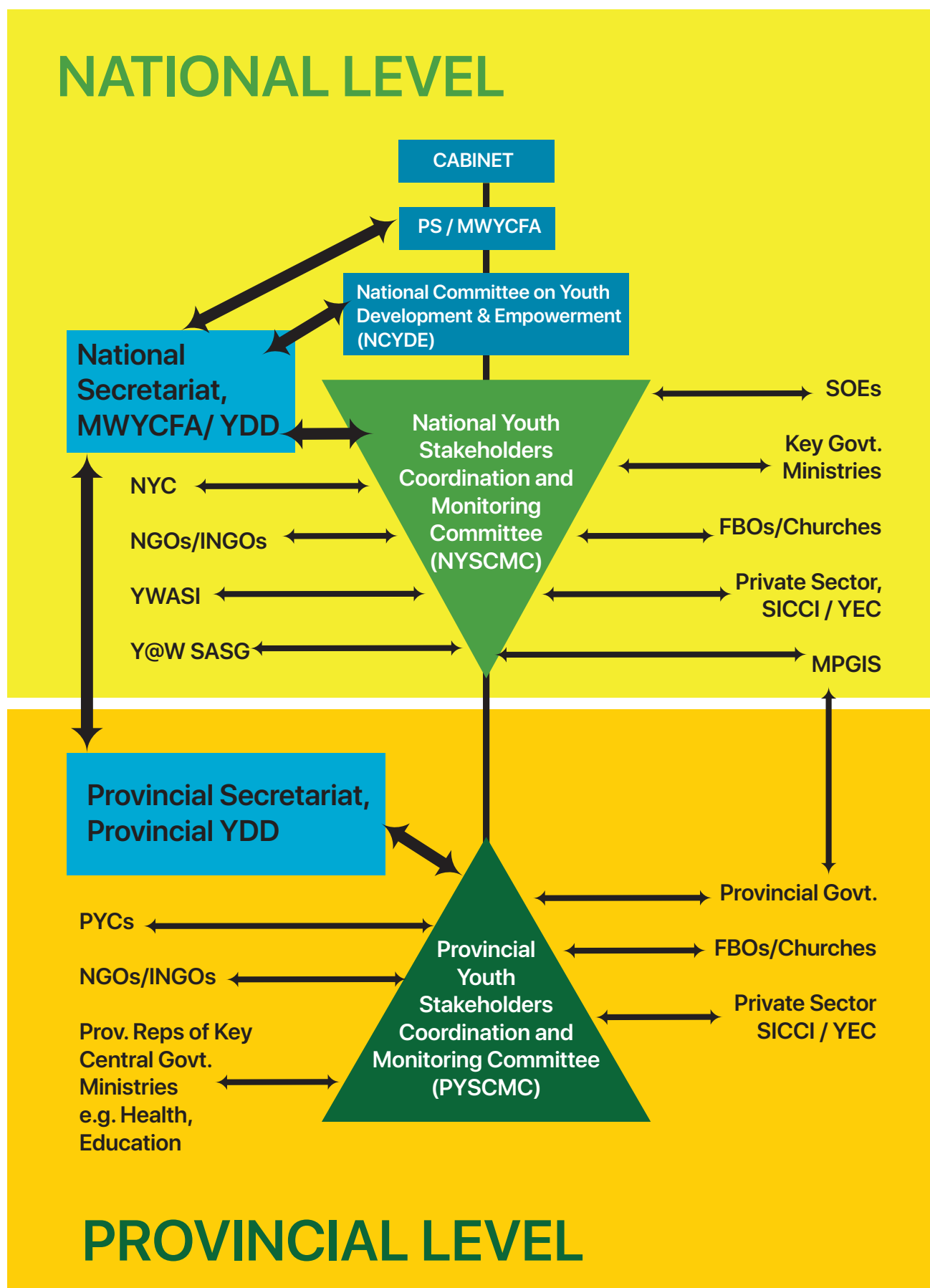
The overarching implementation and governance framework (OIGF) operates at 3 levels.

A Cabinet-sanctioned, high-level multi-sectoral 'National Committee on Youth Development and Empowerment (NCYDE)' is the highest level decision-making body on youth development and empowerment in the country. It will meet twice annually and drives the overall implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NYP 2017 – 2030. Annex 2.1 presents the suggested membership and draft terms of reference (TORs) for the NCYDE.

A multi-sectoral 'National Youth Stakeholders Coordination and Monitoring Committee (NYSCMC)' is the second level. The NYSCMC will meet six-monthly and report to the NCYDE. It receives and collates reports from each PYSCMC for onward transmission to the NCYDE with recommendations for consideration. Annex 2.2 presents the suggested membership and draft terms of reference (TORs) for the NYSCMC.

A multi-sectoral 'Provincial Youth Stakeholders Coordination and Monitoring Committee (PYSCMC)' is the third level. Each province will have a PYSCMC. Each PYSCMC will meet quarterly and report to the NYSCMC on a six-monthly basis. Annex 2.1 presents the suggested membership and draft terms of reference (TORs) for the PYSCMC.

Figure 6: Overarching Implementation and Governance Framework (OIGF) for the NYP 2017 – 2030



The terms of reference (TOR) for each of the groups involved in the governance and performance management framework other than for the NCYDE, NYSCMC and PYSCMC will be developed as these become operational

6.3 Linking work plans and budgets to the NYP 2017 – 2030 priorities.

6.3.1 Linking / aligning of the work plans of each implementing partner to NYP 2017 – 2030 PPOs. To simplify 'measurement of progress against the policy's overarching goal and its long term vision', all implementing partners will be required to make direct links to or align their respective youth development and empowerment programmes and activities to any, some, or all of the six priority policy outcomes of the NYP. If successfully implemented, this requirement will (for the first time) facilitate a process that can measure the collective impact of a single policy implemented by many partners, reflecting a 'many partners and one team approach'.

6.3.2 Quantifying the total collective investment on youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands. To enable quantification of the 'total collective financial investment' accorded to youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands, all implementing and funding partners will be required to reflect in their respective youth development and empowerment strategies / plans / programmes / activities, their respective financial plans to implement their planned programmes and activities including relevant budget details and sources of funding. If implemented, this requirement will (for the first time) provide a mechanism that can potentially quantify the total financial investment accorded to youth development and empowerment in the country by all partners and also identify the sources from which the financial investments come.

6.4 NYP 4-Year Strategic Action Plans

The NYP 2017 – 2030 will be implemented through 4-year Strategic Action Plans (SAPs). The 6 PPOs of the NYP will remain constant for the whole plan period. The respective strategic action areas (SAAs) under each PPO will also remain constant, until they are achieved or are surpassed by other priorities. New SAAs may be added as priorities evolve during the plan period. Each 4-year Strategic Action Plan will be guided by specific targets to be achieved during each 4-year SAP period. The indicators for the 4-year strategic action plans for the periods 2017 – 2021; and 2022 – 2026 are outlined in Annex 4.

A mid-term review of the NYP 2017 – 2030 will be conducted toward the end of the second 4-year SAP, in 2025, to revalidate the PPOs and the SAAs, and make changes as maybe warranted for the rest of the plan period.

6.5 Capacity to successfully implement the NYP 2017 – 2030

In addition to availability of financial resources the numbers and capacity of staff in the Youth Development Division of the MWYCFA, the Honiara City Council and all provinces need to be expanded and strengthened to ensure the priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas of the NYP are implemented effectively.

Capacity building will be provided to staff of the MWYCFA, HCC, provinces, implementing partners and other stakeholders to ensure the long term vision and objectives of the NYP are achieved.

7 | Performance Management Framework

The degree to which one single policy of government makes effective and worthwhile contributions to the country's national development outcomes, can only be measured and quantified through an effective performance management framework that; (i) tracks the implementation of policy actions; (ii) measure their impact against the intended policy goals and priorities; (iii) assess their contribution to the higher level national development goals, and the SDGs; and (iv) has the capacity to incorporate or implement additional or corrective actions that need to be taken to ensure the agreed policy goals and priorities are achieved.

Currently, it is difficult to quantify the total investment accorded to youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands by all stakeholders – including contributions from central and provincial governments, churches, the private sector, national and regional NGOs & CSOs, international and regional organisations, and development partners. This makes it difficult to measure the collective impact of such investment.

To address this gap, each partner working in the youth space in Solomon Islands will be required to link and / or align their planned programmes, activities and budgets on youth development and empowerment to the priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas of the new policy. This will ensure the collective impact of the policy and the total financial investment accorded to youth development and empowerment by all partners can be measured and quantified (Section 6.3 of the NYP 2017 – 2030).

As alluded to in section 6.1 above, each implementing partner will drive implementation of policy priorities and strategic action areas that are aligned to their respective work plans. Each partner will monitor their progress using their respective internal mechanisms and report through the PYSCMC and / or the NYSCMC to the NCYDE (Figure 6).

The overarching implementation and governance framework for the NYP 2017 – 2030 (Figure 6) also provides the foundation for the performance management framework (PMF) to measure the impact of the policy.

Annex 1 presents the implementation and monitoring framework (IMF) showing for each PPO, the strategic action areas (SAAs) and their respective indicators; and the drivers and implementing partners for each SAA.

Together, the overarching implementing and governance framework (Figure 6) and the implementation and monitoring framework (Annex 1) comprise the performance management framework (PMF) for the NYP 2017 – 2030.

8 | Financing Mechanisms to Enhance Implementation

The success of the NYP 2017 – 2030 will depend on the level of financial resources that will be made available to support its implementation. To date government policies have mostly been implemented through government financing. However government is not the only financier of youth development and empowerment programmes in Solomon Islands. Other key stakeholders including the churches, the private sector, national and international NGOs and CSOs, regional and international organisations and development partners have also financed youth development and empowerment programmes. Currently no effort has been made to try to quantify the total level of funding that had been invested in youth development and empowerment from these stakeholders. As a result the actual level of financial investment into youth development and empowerment in the country could be grossly under reflected.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 heralds a new approach to financing policy implementation in a sector addressing a national priority that involves many different stakeholders committed to achieving the same development outcome: 'youth empowerment for sustainable livelihoods that leaves no one behind'.

The financing model for youth development will aim to maximise effective partnership in funding through public-private partnerships that focusses on:

- increased levels and better targeting of financing from government (central and provincial) including through innovative government financing;

- recognising and quantifying the level of financial resources contributed to youth development by churches, the private sector, local and international NGOs and CSOs;

- recognising and quantifying the levels of financing provided by traditional development partners; and

- exploring new innovative financing models including empowerment trust funds, philanthropic sources, taxes, market-based financing and venture capital financing.

Annex 3 provides a brief summary of the financing options that will be explored to support the effective and successful implementation of the NYP 2017 – 2030.



9 | Communication Strategy

A communication strategy will be developed to support the effective implementation of the NYP 2017 – 2030.

The communication strategy will aim to achieve four key objectives:

to create greater public awareness about the 3 –tier policy framework for youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands, comprising (a) a national youth policy 2027-2030; (b) a strategic framework for youth development in Solomon Islands and, (c) a National youth employment and entrepreneurship strategy;

to inform the general public and various audiences about the intent, purpose, activities and expected outcomes of each of the three policy frameworks, and how their successful implementation can empower and transform youths in Solomon Islands and enhance their livelihoods;

to promote 'broader acceptance and ownership' of the 3-tier policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands as 'a whole of society and whole of country initiative' to enhance and empower the young people of Solomon Islands, and

to provide a platform for communication, debate and monitoring the implementation of the NYP 2017 - 2030.

The Communication strategy, which will be a short and punchy document will include the following features:

Purpose of the communication strategy – *why the need to communicate?*

Target audiences – *who needs to be communicated to about the plan?*

Plan and design of key messages / types of messages – *what needs to be communicated; what are the messages?*

Channels of communication – *how will the messages be communicated? strategies on how to connect with media & others to spread the messages*

Timescales – *what timeframes are involved?*

Resources – *what is the budget needed to implement communication strategy?*

Role delineation – *who is responsible for what?*

Plan for obstacles and emergencies – *what back-ups might be needed in case of emergencies?*

Evaluation, validation, adjustments of the communication strategy – *what mechanisms are in place to evaluate and / or adjust the strategy as necessary?*



Annexes

Annex 1:

Implementation and Monitoring Framework showing for each PPO, the Strategic Action Areas; the Indicators and the Drivers, Implementers and Partners.

Priority Policy Outcome 1

Educational Empowerment – by 2030, the scope and content of education curricula delivered at all levels of the education system including formal, technical & vocational and non-formal education will;

(i) properly equip students who progress to higher levels of education; and

(ii) ensure all students leaving the education system at any level are adequately equipped with the 'appropriate skills set' to make them 'work-ready' and help them engage effectively in the labour market'.



Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)		Indicators	Drivers	Implementers	Partners
1.1	Advocate for and ensure establishment of a 'youth education and empowerment programme' that focusses on bridging the skill-gaps of youths to actively participate in socio-economic activities	By 2021; a dedicated 'youth education and empowerment programme' is established to bridge skills gaps of youths not in education system.	MWYCFA	MEHRD	Church Education Authorities; SIARTCs, MCILI.
1.2	Actively advocate for the introduction of basic livelihood skills at senior primary school level, commencing at year 4 primary school and establish a joint mechanism between the MEHRD and MWYCFA to implement and monitor this initiative - <i>to ensure children pushed out of the education system from year 6 primary school can engage effectively in the labour market.</i>	By 2020; basic livelihood skills incorporated into primary education curricula at senior primary school level, commencing at year 4 in all primary schools; By 2021; a joint monitoring mechanism between the MEHRD and MWYCFA established to oversee the roll-out of the curricula implementation from year 4 primary school level.	MWYCFA	MEHRD, Church Education Authorities	MWYCFA, MEHRD, MCILI, SIARTCs
1.3	Advocate for and ensure inclusion of Entrepreneurial education and training in school curricula from Junior high school level	By 2020; (i) entrepreneurial education and training is incorporated into the curricula of junior and senior high schools and implemented progressively in all junior and senior high schools in Solomon Islands by 2030.	MWYCFA	MEHRD	MWYCFA, MEHRD, MCILI, SIARTCs

1.4 1.5 1.6	Advocate for and ensure TVET education and training is accorded the same status and priority that is accorded to formal education in government education policies, and rapidly expand the TVET sector in the country	By 2020; (i) Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) is accorded equal importance to that accorded to formal education in government education policy, with (ii) a corresponding increase in allocation of resources to the TVET sector to (a) accommodate the push-outs from, and (b) address the skill gaps inherent in, the formal education system. By 2030; (iii) triple the current numbers of RTCs and community learning centres from 56 and 85 respectively in 2017 and currently producing between 3,000 – 4,000 graduates annually to produce between 10,000 and 15,000 graduates annually by 2030.	MWYCFA	MEHRD	MWYCFA, MEHRD, MDPAC, MCILI, SIARTCs
	Introduce & implement formal internship and apprenticeship programmes during the 'school to work transition period' for all youths leaving the education system.	By 2020; government implements a 'formal internship and apprenticeship policy' to assist all youths leaving educational institutions during the 'school to work transition period' By 2021; government repeal and replace Part VIII, of the Labour Act [Cap 73], (1996), dealing with apprentices, with a more appropriate 'youth internship and apprenticeship legislation' that requires all employers in Solomon Islands to make provisions within their employment structures for interns and apprentices during the young people's school to work transition. The new legislation should be developed in collaboration with employers in government, private sector, churches, NGOs and CSOs to mainstream youth internship and apprenticeships in all employment sectors.	MWYCFA	MDPAC, MPS, SICCI, YEC,	MWYCFA, MDPAC, SICCI, YEC, MEHRD, MCILI, SIARTCs
	Develop & implement regular 'labour market forecast and workforce skills surveys' to assess labour market job opportunities, their skills requirement, the 'skills level' of available workforce, appropriateness of the skills levels of youths leaving the education system to the labor market requirements, and establish the 'gaps in skills' relative to those required by the labour market (See also 6.4)	By 2018, start implementing a combined 'labour market forecast and workforce skills survey' (to be repeated every 5 years) to better understand: a) the likely upcoming job opportunities in the labour market over the next 5 years; b) the skills that will be required by the labour market for current and upcoming job opportunities; c) the skill level of the currently available workforce; d) the appropriateness of the skill levels of youths leaving the education system to the labor market requirements; and e) the gaps in skills that need to be addressed to correct the mismatch between skills provided through current education curricula and skills required by the labour market.	MWYCFA	MoFT/NSO, MICLI, MPS	MWYCFA, MoFT/NSO, MICLI, MPS, MEHRD, MDPAC, SIARTCs, YEC, Provinces



Priority Policy Outcome 2



Economic Empowerment – by 2030;

(i) at least 75% of youths who are not in educational institutions have secure career pathways through formal or non-formal employment opportunities, entrepreneurship and other innovative economic opportunities to improve their livelihoods and quality of life.

Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)	Indicators	Drivers	Imple- menters	Partners
<p>2.1</p> <p>Develop and implement a National Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Strategy NYEES (3rd tier of the 3-tier policy development framework) that will address:</p> <p>a. Career Pathways through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Employment – formal & non-formal, national & provincial, rural & urban, village & communities [National Stream]; <input type="checkbox"/> Regional / international stream – including through established labour mobility mechanisms; <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Ambassadors; <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Volunteers – National / Regional / International; <input type="checkbox"/> Youth workers Association, S. Islands; and <input type="checkbox"/> Internships and apprenticeships inclusive of the full incorporation and expansion of the Youth@Work internship programme <p>b. Entrepreneurship including through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Young Entrepreneurs Council (YEC); and <input type="checkbox"/> The incorporated and expanded Youth@Work Entrepreneurship programme <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural / Fisheries / Trade opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural industries & tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Development of a simple and standardised training manual on economic entrepreneurship to be used by all stakeholders conducting entrepreneurship training for youths in throughout country. <p>c. Other innovative economic opportunities including cultural industries – arts, crafts & music; credit schemes; social entrepreneurship and business incubator services.</p>	<p>By March 2018; the National Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Strategy (NYEES) completed together with relevant indicators to measure success.</p> <p>By January 2019; Youth@Work internship programme incorporated into the expanded 'internships and apprenticeships' programme of the NYEES and fully operational under SIG management by 2020.</p> <p>Employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in the cultural (arts, handicrafts, music, etc.) and tourism industries fully incorporated into the NYEES</p> <p>By January 2019; Youth@Work entrepreneurship programme incorporated into the expanded 'entrepreneurship programme' of the NYEES and fully operational under SIG management by 2020.</p> <p>Increased entrepreneurial opportunities and participation in key sectors including agriculture, fisheries, trade, cultural industry and tourism.</p> <p>By 2020; a simple and standardised national training manual on entrepreneurship to be used by all stakeholders conducting entrepreneurship training for youths in the country is completed and implemented.</p>	<p>MWYCFA</p>	<p>MWYCFA, MCILI</p>	<p>MWYCFA, ComSEC, MICLI, MCT, MAL, MFMR, MPS, SICCI, YEC, Y@WSASG, SIARTCS, YWA, Provinces</p>

2.2

Establish a youth employment, empowerment and young entrepreneurs programme - that will assist young people obtain employment; provide support to young entrepreneurs in business registration, business training and mentoring, access to start-up financing or financing to expand small businesses; support youth workers association, and support development of a business incubators programme.

Young Entrepreneurs Council (YEC) in place by March 2018

NYEES in place by March 2018

Youth@Work programme strengthened and transitioned into the YEES with YEC

Priority Policy Outcome 3

Health & Wellbeing – by 2030;

(i) 100% of youths are aware of and are practicing healthy living and lifestyles and; (ii) actively engage in cultural, spiritual, sporting and other physical activities to improve their health and holistic wellbeing.

Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)

Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)		Indicators	Driv-ers	Imple-ment-ers	Part-ners
3.1	Develop and implement a 'Youth-to-Youth Strategy for Health & Wellbeing' that will help youths achieve a state of complete physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being including for youths living with disabilities that aims to:	By December 2018; a Youth-to-Youth Strategy for Health & Wellbeing of all youths developed and implemented.	MWYCFA	MHMS	MWYCFA, MHMS, WHO, MEHRD, Churches, SIPPA, Disability Association, MPGIS, Provinces
	a. Improve the knowledge, attitude and behaviour of young people to prevent or minimise their exposure to, or participation in known behavioural risk factors of diseases	By 2020; 20% of youths aware of and avoid exposure to / or participation in behavioural risk factors to diseases, and increasing to 100% of youths by 2030.			
	b. Empower youths to combat and reverse the rapidly increasing threat of Non-Communicable Diseases (diabetes, stroke, heart attack, hypertension, obesity, asthma, cancers) that cause 7 – 8 deaths of every ten deaths in S. Islands	By 2019, implement an youth advocacy and empowerment programme aimed at ensuring that by 2030: <input type="checkbox"/> 100% of youths are aware that the four most important preventable causes of NCDs and NCD related deaths and morbidity are - cigarette and tobacco smoking, alcohol consumption, consumption of sugar, salt and fatty foods and lack of physical activity; <input type="checkbox"/> smoking prevalence in youths is reduced by 100%; <input type="checkbox"/> excessive consumption of alcohol by youths is reduced by 100%; <input type="checkbox"/> prevalence of obesity in youths is reduced in 100%; <input type="checkbox"/> participation of youths in physical activities increase by 100%; <input type="checkbox"/> at least 75% of all youths adopt good nutritional practices leading to, (i) reduced consumption of sugar (<i>less than 3 teaspoons of sugar/day</i>), salt (<i>less than half tea spoon of salt/day</i>) and fatty foods, sugar sweetened beverages (SSBs) and, (ii) increased consumptions of fruits and vegetables.			
	c. Empower youths to combat communicable diseases and eradicate malaria and tuberculosis	By 2019; implement a Y2Y programme aimed at; (i) eradicating malaria and tuberculosis by 2030; and (ii) reducing sexually transmitted infections among youths by 100% by 2030.			

	d. Address Sexual and reproductive health including teenage pregnancy	By 2030; (i) 75% of youths have better understanding of sexual & reproductive health and adopt effective family planning practices; and (ii) prevalence of teenage pregnancy reduced by 100%.			
	e. Address mental and psycho-social health issues including drug abuse and suicides	By 2030; drug abuse including of Kwaso reduced by 100 %; (ii) youth suicides rate reduced by 100%; and (iii) every province has at least one dedicated 'counselling centre/service' for youths.			
	f. Nurture spiritual health, cultural wellness and social wellness	By 2030; (i) participation of youths in community civic and social accountability programmes increased by 100%; and (ii) prevalence of crime committed by youths reduced by 100%.			
3.2	Develop and implement a 'Youth-to-Youth Strategy for the wellbeing' of Youths living with Disabilities and other marginalised youths that addresses the various socio-cultural and development and health challenges they face (See also 6.3)	By 2020; a Youth-to-Youth Strategy for the wellbeing of all youths living with disabilities developed and implemented together with the relevant indicators to define and measure success (See also 6.3).	MWYCFA	MWYCFA, MHA, MEHRD	MWYCFA, MHA, MEHRD, MDPAC, SINU, MPGIS, Provinces
3.3	Develop and implement 'A strategy for sports, recreation and health for youths' - that utilises sports as an essential tool to empower children and youth with life skills including through: (See also 5.5)	By 2019, a strategy for sports, recreation and health for youths is developed and implemented, together with relevant indicators to define and measure success (See also 5.5). The strategy involves the establishment of a national Youth Sports Academy (NYSA) and creating links with national professional sporting bodies' associations (NSBPAs).			
	a. Inclusion of physical education in school curriculum;	Physical education incorporated in school curriculum by 2020			
	b. Establishing / formalizing annual in-school, inter-school and out-of-school sports competitions	Annual inter-school sports completion piloted in Honiara based secondary schools by 2018 with planned expansion to include provinces by 2020			
	c. Establishing national youth sports academy (NYSA) to nurture and develop young sporting talents	National Youths Sports Academy (NYSA) established by 2020			
	d. Linking school sports to NYSA and national professional sporting bodies and associations (NPSBAs)	School sports linked to NYSA and NPSBAs by 2020			



Priority Policy Outcome 4

Sustainable Development – By 2030, youths are empowered and equipped as catalysts and enablers of sustainable development working to build a sustainable future for Solomon Islands –

- (i) enhancing opportunities for green and blue economies;
 (ii) strengthening resilience to natural disasters and climate change;
 (iii) ensuring food, water and energy security;
 (iv) promoting the use of appropriate and sustainable technological innovations, interventions to aid sustainable development; and (v) implementing activities to achieve the SDGs relevant to Solomon Islands.



Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)		Indicators	Drivers	Implementers	Partners
4.1	<p>Develop a 'youth-to-youth strategy on youth engagement on sustainable development' that aims to (i) inform youths about the issues underlying the Sustainable Development Goals; (ii) inspire youths to take an active role in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs, and (iii) invite policy-makers to facilitate meaningful participation of youths in the national discourse, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs and includes:</p> <p>a) a standardized and simplified training programme for youths on sustainable development, the sustainable development goals, their underlying issues and indicators that can be delivered through a workshop or a short course,</p> <p>b) a youth participation strategy outlining specific activities youths can engage on under each SDG that is relevant to Solomon Islands with particular emphasis on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> youth-led programmes on poverty, health & wellbeing, quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, sustainable cities and communities, responsible and sustainable consumption and production patterns, peace justice and strong institutions and partnership for goals [SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17] <input type="checkbox"/> youth-led programmes that maximize the 'blue economy' – a marine-based economic development that leads to improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental and ecological risks to preserve the environment and ecosystems for future generations [SDG 14]. <input type="checkbox"/> youth-led programmes that maximize the 'green economy' – economic development that maximise the economic value of a country's terrestrial resources and environment (land, agricultural crops, forests, terrestrial minerals, rivers, renewable energy) while significantly reducing environmental and ecological risks to preserve the environment and ecosystems for future generations including establishing a 'youth for sustainable forest and tree-planting network' [SDGs 6, 7, 15]. <input type="checkbox"/> youth-led programmes on disaster preparedness and response; climate readiness and resilience; and food and water security [SDGs 2, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15]. <input type="checkbox"/> use of appropriate and sustainable technology to aid sustainable development and disaster preparedness, mitigation and response [SDG 9] 	<p>By 2020; a strategy on 'youth engagement on sustainable development' completed and implemented together with relevant indicators to measure progress including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> a simplified, standardized training programme for youths on sustainable development (SD) completed and implemented by 2020 <input type="checkbox"/> a youth participation strategy outlining specific activities youths can engage on under each SDG that is relevant to Solomon Islands completed by 2020 <input type="checkbox"/> a 'youth for sustainable forest and tree-planting network' established and operational by 2020 	MWYCFA	MWYCFA, MECCDMM	MWYCFA, MECCDMM, MDPAC, MPGIS, all other government ministries, Provinces, SICCI, NGOs, CSOs

Priority Policy Outcome 5

Leadership, Governance, Peace Building, Social Inclusion and Citizenship – by 2030;

(i) youths are empowered to be agents of positive change, participating in leadership, decision making and governance mechanisms including traditional leadership and governance at household, village, community, provincial and national levels; and

(ii) contributing to the long-term social harmony and cohesion, peace and security, equal opportunity and national unity that leaves no one behind.



Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)		Indicators	Drivers	Implementers	Partners
5.1	Create enabling environment to increase opportunities for youths including disabled and marginalised youths to participate, lead, plan, make decisions, implement, monitor and evaluate development opportunities within and outside of government systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2030; at least 75% of youths (women and men) participating in planning, consultative and decision making forums, at national, provincial and community levels including in policy processes, campaigns and advocacy and delivering and monitoring programmes By 2021; youth forums on themes such as youth leadership for sustainable development; youth empowerment, employment and entrepreneurship convened annually at national level and biennially in at least 2 provinces, and increasing to all provinces by 2030. By 2021; number of youth-to-youth organisations involved in leading, planning, implementing and evaluating development projects in at least 4 provinces, and increasing to all provinces by 2030. By 2030; at least 75% of all marginalised youths and youths living with disability have equal opportunity and access to all development benefits including in health, education, employment, and training in entrepreneurial skills, planning, leadership, decision-making, management, implementation, performance assessment, including on-the-job training, by 2030 (See also 3.2) 	MWYCFA, MPNSCS, MPGIS, all other government ministries, Provinces, SICCI, NGOs, CSOs	MWYCFA, MDPAC	MWYCFA, MDPAC, National Parliament, MNURP, MHA
	Facilitate leadership, social accountability and civic engagement opportunities for young people to acquire more knowledge and awareness about the role of government, parliament, parliamentarians, traditional leadership and governance, provincial and ward governance, businesses and civil society to strengthen their roles in democratic society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2021; youth-led 'social accountability'¹ mechanisms' demanding greater accountability from service providers and public officials including through use of social accountability tools such as participatory budgeting, public expenditure tracking, monitoring of electoral processes, using online and mobile technology, and citizen evaluation of public services through citizen report cards, community score cards and social audits are established nationally, and by 2030; in all provinces. By 2018; National Youth Parliament is convened annually and at least 2 Provincial Youth Assemblies are convened every 2 years, and increasing to all provinces by 2030. By 2019; young people establish a 'youth-led national youth against corruption Network – NYACN'; By 2021; young people; (i) have greater access to information through more effective 'open government policies' including through promulgation of Citizens Charters and Rights to Information Acts; (ii) enjoy increased level of 'youth civic engagement'² in all communities, provinces, and nationally. 	MWYCFA	MWYCFA, MDPAC	MWYCFA, MDPAC, National Parliament, MNURP, MHA, MPNSCS, MPGIS, all other government ministries, Provinces, SICCI, NGOs, CSOs

5.3	Develop and implement youth-to-youth programmes that embrace cultural diversity, traditional leadership and governance, social cohesion and inclusion, spiritual maturity, equal opportunity and gender-equality as the cornerstones for long term peace and security, understanding, tolerance, reconciliation and national unity that builds a nation and leaves no one behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2030; at least 50% of villages & communities have programmes & activities aimed at strengthening community social and family cohesion, creating cross-cultural and ethnic understanding to prevent conflict and help reintegrated young people who may have violated the law into mainstream community life' By 2030; at least 50% of all youths participate in cultural activities including cultural festivals, cultural events at village / community level, concerts or music festivals, arts and craft markets & stalls; visitation to cultural sites; national museum & art gallery; traditional singing and dancing, traditional story telling & oratory, traditional money making; traditional peace settlement process including payment of compensation; traditional enthronement for chiefs; traditional marriage ceremonies by 2030 By 2030; 100 % of villages have church youth groups and at least 90 % of all youths in each village participate in church led youth activities / events by 2030. <p>BY 2030; (i) number of youths participating in or leading civic education activities increase by 100%; (ii) 75% of youths living with disability have equal access to all development opportunities; (iii) ratio of females and males receiving tertiary scholarships is within 5 percentage points of parity; (iv) ratio of female and male employment is within 5 percentage points of parity; and (v) youth crime rates reduced by 100%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2021; the youth sector has established some capacity to design and implement effectively integrated youth-to-youth development programmes, which foster social inclusion and cohesion By 2030; at least 75% of youths participate in nation building activities through sports, arts, business, community work, church work, youth groups, etc. 	MWYCFA	MWYCFA, MNURP, MDPAC, MHA, MPNCS, SICA, SIFGA	MWYCFA, MDPAC, MNURP, MHA, MPNCS, MPGIS, all other government ministries, Provinces, Churches (SICA & SIFGA), SICCI, NGOs, CSOs
	Ensure involvement of youths in development of peace-building plans in particular as they relate to their roles within the cultural and traditional governance structures and issues that directly affect them	□ By 2030; at least 50% of all youths are equipped and able to participate in, lead or take ownership of peace building and security mediation, negotiation, conflict resolution and communication at community levels to prevent violence, promote gender equality, and strengthen inter-generational partnerships.	MWYCFA	MWYCFA, MNURP	MWYCFA, MNURP, all govt. ministries, NGOs, CSOs
	Invest in sports and recreation activities to empower children and youth with life-skills and facilitate opportunities to rehabilitate & re-integrate marginalized children, youths and disabled youths into mainstream society. Sport activities by their nature demand perseverance, teamwork, discipline and leadership, which in turn nurture confidence and motivation for self-development (See also 3.3)	□ <i>By 2019, a strategy for sports, recreation and health for youths</i> is developed and implemented, together with relevant indicators to define and measure success (See also 3.3). The strategy involves the establishment of a national Youth Sports Academy (NYSA) and creating links with national professional sporting bodies' associations (NSBPAs).	MWYCFA	MWYCFA, MHA, MEHRD	MWYCFA, MHA, MEHRD, MDPAC, SINU, MPGIS, Provinces

5.6	Establish and run Youth-to-Youth Radio-Broadcast programme to be run by young women and men to enhance communication, networking and programing on civic education, peace building and security between and among youths, starting in Honiara and expand nationally as resource allow	□ By 2019; a pilot 'Youth-to-youth [Y2Y] Radio-Broadcast Station' established and operational in Honiara City Council	MWYCFA	MWYCFA, HCC/YDD, NYC	MWYCFA, HCC/YDD, NYC MDPAC, MPGIS, Provinces
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Priority Policy Outcome 6

Evidence-based Approaches, Access to information and provincial implementation strategies- By 2020;

(i) decision-making on strategies, plans and programmes on youth development and empowerment is evidence-based; (ii) youths have greater access to information;

(iii) all provinces have developed and are implementing their respective provincial implementation strategies for youth development and empowerment cognizant of established traditional leadership and ward governance arrangements in empowering youths within each province;

(iv) the NYC is rejuvenated and;

(v) capacity of staff in the MWYCFA, provinces and partner agencies are strengthened to effectively implement the NYP 2017 – 2030.

Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)		Indicators	Drivers	Implementers	Partners
6.1	Strengthen evidence-based decision-making: <i>Encourage and support research on youth related issues to inform planning, policy development and decision-making</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">□ By 2018; a priority list of research areas to address important gaps in information that can enhance decision-making and resource allocation on youth development and empowerment agreed.□ By 2019; a strategy outlining research priorities, and the gathering, analyses and utilisation of information on priority youth development issues developed and implemented	MWYCFA	MWYCFA, NSO, MDPAC	MWYCFA, NSO, MDPAC
	Enhance timely access by youths to relevant information on youth related issues and opportunities for youth development and empowerment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">□ By 2020; a 'youth information and communication service' charged with the collection, collation and dissemination of relevant information on youth development to youths established and operational.	MWYCFA	MWYCFA, MDPAC	MWYCFA, Provincial governments, MPGIS, MDPA and other government ministries, NCYDE, NYSCMC, and PYSCMC.
	Assist all provinces develop and implement their respective 'provincial implementation strategy for youth development and empowerment (PISFYDE) that recognises and incorporates established traditional leadership and ward governance arrangements to empower youths in each province	<ul style="list-style-type: none">□ By 2020; all provinces have developed and are implementing their respective PISFYDE.	Provincial Governments, MWYCFA,	Provincial Governments, MPGIS, MWYCFA	Provincial Governments, MPGIS, MWYCFA, other government ministries, churches, NGOs, CSOs, private sector

6.4	The National Youth Congress network is revised and operational	□ By 2018; the NYC network is fully revived, strengthened and fully operational with dedicated work-plan to support the implementation of the NYP strategic PPOs and SAAs throughout the country.	MWYCFA, NYC	:MWYCFA, NYC	MWYCFA, NYC, MPGIS, Prov. Governments, other ministries.
	Capacity of staff in the MWYCFA, Provinces and partner agencies are strengthened to effectively implement the NYP 2017 – 2030.	□ By 2021; (i) technical and operational capacity of the MWYCFA & provinces are strengthened; and (ii) implementing partner agencies such as churches, local NGOs and CSOs are supported / strengthened through capacity building training and / or provision of financial resources.	MWYCFA, MPGIS,	MWYCFA	Partners: NGOs, CSOs, FBOs, Provincial Governments, other Govt. Ministries.

Annex 2.1:

National Committee on Youth Development and Empowerment [NCYDE]

Draft Terms of Reference [TORs]

1. Background/Context

The new 3-tier Policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands comprising; (i) the new national youth policy 2017 – 2030 [NYP 2017 – 2030]; (ii) the new strategic framework for youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands [SFFYDESI]; and (iii) the national youth employment and entrepreneurship strategy [NYEES] will be overseen by a governance structure comprising; (a) a Cabinet-sanctioned national committee on youth development and empowerment [NCYDE]; (b) a national youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committee [NYSCMC]; and (c) a provincial youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committee [NYSCMC] from each of the provinces and the Honiara City Council.

2. Status of the NCYDE

The National Committee on Youth Development and Empowerment is a Cabinet Sanctioned and Mandated Multi-sectoral Committee charged with the overarching responsibility to drive the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the new National Youth Policy for the period 2017 – 2030 and its associated SFFYDESI and the NYEES.

The NCYDE is the highest decision-making body on youth development and empowerment in the country. It reports directly to Cabinet through the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Women, Youth,

Children and Family Affairs who provides the Secretariat function.

3. Roles and functions of the NCYDE

The NCYDE has the following roles and functions:

- 3.1 Highest level authority overseeing the implementation of the 3-tier policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands.
- 3.2 Drives the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NYP 2017 – 2030, the SFYDSI, and the NYEES.
- 3.3 Receives and considers 6-monthly progress reports from the NYSCMC
- 3.4 Makes decisions on additional resource allocations and / or additional actions that may need to be considered to enhance effective implementation of the NYP priorities.
- 3.5 Holds implementing partners accountable for the successful delivery of NYP PPOs that are incorporated in the respective work plans of each implementing partner.

4. Chairing Arrangements

4.1 Chair

In keeping with the high-level nature of the Cabinet-mandated multi-sectoral NCYDE and its role to hold implementing partners including the MWYCFA accountable for the successful implementation of the NYP 2017 – 2030, the NCYDE will be chaired by an Independent Chair, to be appointed by the Minister responsible for the Youth Development Portfolio.

The person to be appointed as chair will be a person:

- ☐ with strategic vision and leadership;
- ☐ of high moral values and integrity;
- ☐ with lateral thinking and thinking outside the box
- ☐ is passionate about youth development and empowerment;
- ☐ has a track record of driving and leading positive change among young people;
- ☐ commands trust and respect;
- ☐ not prone to corruption and / or corrupt practices;
- ☐ works well with all stakeholders and sections of communities including governments (national and provincial), churches, the private sector, CSOs, national, regional and international NGOs, development partners; and
- ☐ has a track-record of resources mobilisation.

4.2 Vice Chair

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs will be the Vice Chair for the NCYDE.

5. Membership and Level of Representation at the NCYDE

5.1 Level of Representation

Representation to the NCYDE is at level of the Permanent Secretary and Chief Executive Officer. In exceptional circumstances where the PS or CEO is not able to participate, a senior level officer at the level of the Under Secretary and / or deputy CEO may be delegated to attend a meeting of the NCYDE on his / her behalf.

5.2 Membership.

Youth development and empowerment is every body's business. It is important that all partners working in the youth space are represented or involved with the governance arrangements overseeing the 3-tier policy framework for youth development. All government ministries and many churches, NGOs, CSOs play key roles in youth development and empowerment, however including everyone will make the committee unwieldy large and ineffective.

To address this, the NCYDE will have two groups of members; (i) permanent core members, and (ii) Co-opted members that could be invited to join any sitting of the Committee.

5.2.1 Permanent Core Members

The NCYDE will have a total of 27 permanent core members including the Chair and Vice Chair and excluding the Secretariat. Table 1 is the proposed composition of the core members of the NCYDE.

Table 1: Proposed Composition of the Core Members to the NCYDE.

Categories	Member	Nos
Chair	Independent Chair	1
Government Reps	Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs - Vice Chair	2
Perm. Secretaries	Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening	3
	Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development	4
	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Employment	5
	Ministry of Development, Planning and Aid Coordination	6
	Ministry of Finance and Treasury	7
	Ministry of Health and Medical Services	8
	Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs	9
	Ministry of Police, National Security and Correctional Services	10
	Ministry of Home Affairs	11
	Ministry of Culture & Tourism	12
	Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation & Peace	13
	Ministry of Rural Development	14
	Ministry of Public Service – Representing all other ministries	15
Youth Reps	General Secretary, National Youth Congress	16
	Representative of Youths with Disability	17
Private Sector	CEO, Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce & Industries	18
Churches	President or GS – Solomon Islands Christian Association (SICA)	19
	President or GS – Solomon Islands Full Gospel Association (SIFGA)	20
SOEs	GM - Solomon Islands National Provident Fund (SINPF)	21
	GM – Our Telekom	22

National NGOs / INGOs / CSOs	CEO – Development Services Exchange (DSE), representing all national and international NGOs & CSOs	23
Sports Reps	President - National Sports Council	24
TVET Institutions	Director - Solomon Islands Association of Rural Training Centres	25
International Organisations	Representative UN Agencies	26
Development Partners	Representative, Development Partners	27
Secretariat	Director, Youth Development Division, MWYCFA	

5.2.2 Co-opted members

Co-opted members could be invited to attend the meetings of the NCYDE. They include:

- ☐ Permanent Secretariats of all other government ministries not included as core members,
- ☐ Provincial Secretaries of Provincial governments
- ☐ Heads of Churches
- ☐ Heads of private sector organisations supporting youth development / empowerment
- ☐ Heads of CSOs / NGOs / INGOs implementing youth development / empowerment programmes
- ☐ Provincial Youth Council Representatives

6. Agenda

The NCYDE will have (i) standing agenda items that will be addressed in all meetings and (ii) other items which can be suggested by any member of the committee.

Following are suggestions for the agenda:

6.1 Standing Agenda Items

- i. Welcome and opening prayer
- ii. Apologies
- iii. Acceptance of Records of last meeting
- iv. Follow-up on Decisions from previous meeting (except for items that will be covered under the meeting agenda)
- v. Consider the 6 monthly Report on Implementation of the NYP 2017 – 2030 by each priority policy outcome – the achievements, shortcomings and suggested way forward:
 - a. Educational Empowerment
 - b. Economic Empowerment
 - c. Health & Wellbeing
 - d. Sustainable Development
 - e. Leadership, Governance, Peace Building, Social Inclusion & Citizenship
 - f. Evidence-based approaches, Access to Information & Provincial Implementation Strategies

- vi. Decide on actions that need to be taken to enhance effective implementation of the NYP and its associated strategic framework for youth development and the national youth employment and entrepreneurship strategy

6.2 Other Items

(To be added as identified by committee members).

7. Records of Meetings and follow-up on decision points

The Director of the Youth Development Division will provide the secretariat role for the Committee and will be responsible for recording the major points of discussions, major decisions and action items from each meeting. The record of decisions will be circulated to all members following clearance by the Chair and Vice Chair of the meeting.

Decision points will be incorporated into an Action Matrix which identifies for each action item, what action(s) is/are required; person(s) responsible for their implementation; and date for reporting back (See example below).

8. Frequency of Meetings

The NCYDE will two times a year.

9. Quorum

The quorum for the Committee will be 14 members.

NCYDE Decision – Action Matrix (An Example)

NYDE Meeting No	1/2018	Date	
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No	Decision Point	Action to be Taken	Responsible Party	Date to Report Back
1				
2				
3				



Annex 2.2:

National Youth Stakeholders Coordination and Monitoring Committee [NYSCMC]

Draft Terms of Reference [TORs]

1. Background/Context

The new 3-tier Policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands comprising; (i) the new national youth policy 2017 – 2030 [NYP 2017 – 2030]; (ii) the new strategic framework for youth development in Solomon Islands [SFYDSI]; and (iii) the national youth employment and entrepreneurship strategy [NYEES]; will be overseen by a governance structure comprising; (a) a Cabinet sanctioned 'national committee on youth development and empowerment [NCYDE]'; (b) a national youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committee [NYSCMC]; and (c) a provincial youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committee [NYSCMC] from each of the provinces and the Honiara City Council.

2. Status of the NYSCMC

The national youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committee is the operational multi-sectoral committee charged with the responsibility to ensure better coordination of policy implementation among implementing partners, and to monitor the implementation of the NYP 2017 – 2030, evaluate its impacts **at the national level** and report to the NCYDE.

The NYSCMC compiles its report to the NCYDE from the 6-monthly reports received from each of the provincial youth stakeholders coordinating and monitoring committees, supplemented by 6 monthly reports from each implementing partner not reporting through the respective PYSCMCs.

3. Roles and functions of the NYSCMC

The NYSCMC has the following roles and functions:

- ☐ Assume responsibility for coordinating any whole-of-government, whole-of-private sector and whole-of-civil society approaches that will enhance effective implementation of the NYP 2017 – 2030 within the framework of the 3-tier policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands at the national level;
- ☐ Enhance better coordination between implementing partners at national level to minimise potential for duplication and maximise impacts;
- ☐ Monitor implementation by each participating partner of the strategic action areas within the priority policy outcomes and evaluate their impact;
- ☐ Coordinate reporting on the NYP 2017 – 2030 with 'provincial (and Honiara) youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committees'.
- ☐ Prepare & present 6-monthly progress reports highlighting achievements, shortfalls and areas requiring attention and / or additional resources to be considered by the NCYDE.

4. Chairing Arrangements

4.1 Chair

The Under Secretary of the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and family Affairs shall Chair the NYSCME.

4.2 Vice Chair

The Director of Youth Development, MWYCFA shall be the Vice Chair.

5. Membership and Level of Representation at the NYSCMC

5.1 Level of Representation

Representation to the NYSCMC is at level of the Undersecretary, deputy CEO, director, manager, or at an appropriate senior level which in the case of some partners may even be at the CEO level.

Some members to the NYSCMC may be the Chairpersons of groups of implementing partners such as for instance the churches.

5.2 Membership.

Youth development and empowerment is every body's business. It is important that all partners working in the youth space are represented or involved with the governance arrangements overseeing the 3-tier policy framework for youth development. All government ministries and many churches, NGOs, CSOs play key roles in youth development and empowerment, however including all of them will make the committee unwieldly large and ineffective.

To address this, the YSCMC will have two groups of members; (i) permanent core members, and (ii) Co-opted members that could be invited to join any sitting of the Committee.

5.2.1 Permanent Core Members

The NYSCMC will have a total of 28 permanent core members including the Chair and Vice Chair and excluding the Secretariat.

Following are the proposed core members to the NYSCMC.

Categories	Member	Nos
Chair	Under Secretary, MWYCFA	1
Government Reps	Director, Youth Development Division, MWYCFA - Vice Chair	2
US / Directors	Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening	3
	Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development	4
	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Employment	5
	Ministry of Development, Planning and Aid Coordination	6
	Ministry of Finance and Treasury	7
	Ministry of Health and Medical Services	8
	Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs	9
	Ministry of Police, National Security and Correctional Services	10
	Ministry of Home Affairs	11
	Ministry of Culture & Tourism	12

	Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation & Peace	13
	Ministry of Rural Development	14
	Ministry of Public Service – Representing all other ministries	15
Youth Reps	National Youth Congress	16
	Youth Workers Association, S. Islands	17
	Rep from Youth with disability	18
Private Sector	Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce & Industries	19
Churches	Solomon Islands Christian Association (SICA)	20
	Solomon Islands Full Gospel Association (SIFGA)	21
National NGOs / CSOs	Development Services Exchange (DSE), representing all national and international NGOs & CSOs	22
SOEs	Solomon Islands National Provident Fund	23
	Our Telekom	24
TVET Institutions	Solomon Islands Association of Rural Training Centres	25
Sports	National Sports Council	26
International Organisations	Representative UN Agencies	27
Development Partners	Representative, Development Partners	28
Secretariat	Youth Development Division, MWYCFA	

5.2.2 Co-opted members

Co-opted members could be invited to attend the meetings of the NYSCMC. They include appropriate representatives from:

- ☐ all other government ministries not included as core members,
- ☐ Provincial governments
- ☐ churches
- ☐ private sector organisations supporting youth development / empowerment
- ☐ NGOs / INGOs / CSOs implementing youth development / empowerment programmes
- ☐ Provincial Youth Councils

6. Agenda

The NYSCMC will have (i) standing agenda items that will be addressed in all meetings and (ii) other items which can be suggested by any member of the committee.

Following are suggestions for the agenda:

6.1 *Standing Agenda Items*

- i. Welcome and opening prayer
- ii. Apologies
- iii. Acceptance of Records of last meeting
- iv. Follow-up on Decisions from previous meeting (except for items that will be covered under the meeting agenda)
- v. Consolidate 6 monthly Reports on Implementation of the NYP 2017 – 2030 to submit to the NCYDE by each priority policy outcome – the achievements, shortcomings and suggested way forward
 - a. Educational Empowerment
 - b. Economic Empowerment
 - c. Health & Wellbeing
 - d. Sustainable Development
 - e. Leadership, Governance, Peace Building, Social Inclusion & Citizenship
 - f. Evidence-based approaches, Access to Information & Provincial Implementation Strategies
- vi. Identify priorities / gaps that need to be addressed and (a) address those areas that can be addressed by the committee and / or respective implementing partners, and (b) recommend appropriate responses to areas that cannot be addressed by the Committee for consideration by the NCYDE

6.2 *Other Items*

(To be added as identified by committee members).

7. Records of Meetings and follow-up on decision points

The Youth Development Division of the MWYCFA will provide the secretariat role for the Committee and responsible for recording the major points of discussions, major decisions and action items from each meeting. The record of decisions will be circulated to all members following clearance by the Chair and Vice Chair of the meeting.

Decision points will be incorporated into an Action Matrix which identifies for each action item, what action(s) is/are required; person(s) responsible for their implementation; implementation timeframe, and date for reporting back.

8. Frequency of Meetings

The NCYDE will two times a year.

9. Quorum

The quorum for the Committee will be 15 members.

Annex 2.3:

Provincial Youth Stakeholders Coordination and Monitoring Committee [PYSCMC]

Draft Terms of Reference [TORs]

1. Background/Context

The new 3-tier Policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands comprising; (i) the new national youth policy 2017 – 2030 [NYP 2017 – 2030]; (ii) the new strategic framework for youth development in Solomon Islands [SFYDSI]; and (iii) the national youth employment and entrepreneurship strategy [NYEES]; will be overseen by a governance structure comprising; (a) a national committee on youth development and empowerment [NCYDE]; (b) a national youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committee [NYSCMC]; and (c) a provincial youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committee [PYSCMC] from each of the provinces and the Honiara Youth Stakeholder Coordinating and Monitoring Committee (HYSCMC) for Honiara City.

2. Status of the PYSCMC / HYSCMC

The provincial youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committee is the operational multi-sectoral committee charged with the responsibility to ensure better coordination of policy implementation among implementing partners, and to monitor the implementation of the NYP 2017 – 2030, evaluate its impacts **at the provincial level**. It reports to the national youth stakeholder coordination and monitoring committee. The Honiara youth stakeholder coordinating and monitoring committee performs the same task for Honiara city.

The PYSCMC / HYSCMC meets quarterly and submits a six monthly report to the NYSCMC on implementation of the NYP 2017-2030 priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas as reflected in each provincial implementation strategy for youth development and empowerment (PISFYDE) in each province and at the HCC. These reports are compiled from the reports from each implementing partner at the provincial / HCC level.

3. Roles and functions of the PYSCMC / HYSCMC

The PYSCMC / HYSCMC has the following roles and functions:

- Assume responsibility for coordinating any whole-of-government, whole-of-private sector and whole-of-civil society approaches that will enhance effective implementation of the provincial implementation strategy on youth development and empowerment (PISYDE) within the framework of the 3-tier policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands at the provincial / HCC level;
- Enhance better coordination between implementing partners in the province / HCC to minimise potential for duplication and maximise impacts;

- Monitor implementation by each participating partner in the province / HCC of the strategic action areas within the priority policy outcomes and evaluate their impact;
- Prepare & present 6-monthly progress reports highlighting achievements, shortfalls and areas requiring further attention and / or additional resources to be recommended to the NCYDE through the NYSCMC.

4. Chairing Arrangements

4.1 Chair

Considering the importance of fostering collective action by all implementing partners at the provincial level, the Provincial Minister responsible for youth in the province / Counsellor responsible for youth in HCC will chair the PYSCMC / HYSCMC. In his/her absence the Provincial Secretary / City Clerk will chair the PYSCMC / HYSCMC.

4.2 Vice Chair

The President of the Provincial Youth Council / Honiara Youth Council will be the Vice Chair of the PYSCMC/HYSCMC.

5. Membership and Level of Representation at the PYSCMC / HYSCMC

5.1 Level of Representation

Representation to the PYSCMC / HYSCMC is at level of heads of programmes.

5.2 Membership.

Membership of the PYSCMC / HYSCMC will be drawn from implementing and collaborating partners on youth development and empowerment programmes in the province / HCC as shown in Figure 6, (provincial level).

5.2.1 Permanent Core Members

The PYSCMC / HYSCMC will have a total of 19 permanent core members including the Chair and Vice Chair and excluding the Secretariat.

Following are the proposed core members to the PYSCMC / HYSCMC.

Categories	Member	Nos
Chair	Provincial Minister / Counsellor responsible for youth and / or in their absence Provincial Secretary / City Clerk	1
Vice Chair	President of the Provincial Youth Councils / Honiara Youth Council	2
Prov. Govt.	Education and Human Resources Development	3
	Health & Medical Services	4

	Commerce, Industry and Employment	5
	Culture & Tourism	6
	Agriculture & Livestock	7
	Forestry	8
	Fisheries	9
	Justice and Legal Affairs	10
	Police, national security & Correctional services	11
	National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace	12
Private Sector	Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce & Industries	13
Churches	Solomon Islands Christian Association (SICA)	14
	Solomon Islands Full Gospel Association (SIFGA)	15
Youths	Rep for youths with disability	16
National NGOs / CSOs	Development Services Exchange (DSE) or another NGO representing NGOs & CSOs	17
Sports	Provincial Sports Association	18
TVET Institutions	Solomon Islands Association of Rural Training Centres	19
Secretariat	Head, Provincial / Honiara Youth Development Office	

5.2.2 Co-opted members

In addition, the PYSCMC / HYSCMC may co-opt additional members by invitation. Invited co-opted members could be from:

- ☐ Other provincial government departments,
- ☐ Churches
- ☐ private sector organisations supporting youth development / empowerment
- ☐ NGOs / CSOs implementing youth development / empowerment programmes
- ☐ Provincial Youth Council

6. Agenda

The PYSCMC / HYSCMC will have (i) standing agenda items that will be addressed in all meetings and (ii) other items which can be suggested by any member of the committee.

Following are suggestions for the agenda:

6.1 Standing Agenda Items

- i. Welcome and opening prayer
- ii. Apologies
- iii. Acceptance of Records of last meeting
- iv. Follow-up on Decisions from previous meeting (except for items that will be covered under the meeting agenda)
- v. Prepare & present 6-monthly progress reports highlighting achievements, shortfalls and areas requiring further attention and / or additional resources to be recommended to the NCYDE through the NYSCMC on each of the priority policy outcomes:

- a. Educational Empowerment
 - b. Economic Empowerment
 - c. Health & Wellbeing
 - d. Sustainable Development
 - e. Leadership, Governance, Peace Building, Social Inclusion & Citizenship
 - f. Evidence-based approaches, Access to Information & Provincial Implementation Strategies
- vi. Decide on actions that need to be taken to enhance effective implementation of the NYP and its associated strategic framework for youth development and the national youth employment and entrepreneurship strategy at the provincial / HCC level.

6.2 Other Items

(To be added as identified by committee members).

7. Records of Meetings and follow-up on decision points

The head of the provincial / HCC youth development office will provide the secretariat role for the Committee and responsible for recording the major points of discussions, major decisions and action items from each meeting. The record of decisions will be circulated to all members following clearance by the Chair and Vice Chair of the meeting.

Decision points will be incorporated into an Action Matrix which identifies for each action item, what action(s) is/are required; person(s) responsible for their implementation; implementation timeframe, and date for reporting back.

8. Frequency of Meetings

The PYSCMC / HYSCMC will meet quarterly and produce 6 monthly reports to the NYSCMC.

9. Quorum

The quorum for the Committee will be 10 members.

NCYDE Decision – Action Matrix (An Example)

NYDE Meeting No	1/2018	Date	
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No	Decision Point	Action to be Taken	Responsible Party	Date to Report Back
1				
2				
3				

Annex 2.4:

Faith-based Organisations Youth Coordination and Monitoring Committee

Draft Terms of Reference [TORs]

1. Background/Context

The governance structure of new 3-tier Policy framework for youth development in Solomon Islands comprising; (i) the new national youth policy 2017 – 2030 [NYP 2017 – 2030]; (ii) the new strategic framework for youth development in Solomon Islands [SFYDSI]; and (iii) the national youth employment and entrepreneurship strategy [NYEES] will include key stakeholders whose work include youth development and empowerment.

Some of the key stakeholders derive from a larger grouping of institutions who while separate in their own rights nevertheless come under the similar jurisdictions such as the churches, within the umbrella of Faith-based organisations.

All churches in Solomon Islands have 'church based and run' youth development programmes covering both spiritual and physical development of young people within their respective congregations. All churches have policies pertaining to youth development and empowerment.

The national Youth Policy 2017 – 2030 recognise the significant role of churches in holistic development and empowerment of youths. This further signifies the importance of churches being represented in the governance framework overseeing the NYP.

The NYP proposes that all churches consider establishing one 'Faith-based Organisations Youth Coordination and Monitoring Committee – [FBOYCMC]' that will enable all churches to share information about their respective youth development and empowerment programmes and explore areas where churches may consider joint programming approaches especially where they have common links to the priority policy outcomes of the new NYP. Establishment and operationalisation of such a committee will provide a new platform to enhance policy coherence and strengthen relationships and partnerships among the country's faith-based organisations that are committed to develop and empower youths in the country.

2. Status of the FBOYCMC

The Faith-based organisations youth coordination and monitoring committee is an information-sharing committee on youth development and empowerment programmes undertaken by all churches in Solomon Islands. In time it could potentially become a joint programming, monitoring and reporting committee in areas dealing with youth development and empowerment that are common to all churches. Reports produced by the committee on common areas would supplement individual reports produced by the respective churches to be shared with the national youth stakeholders coordinating and monitoring committee (NYSCMC) on their programmes and activities that link with the NYP 2017 – 2030.

The FBOYCMC will meet six monthly. Reports of its meetings will be sent to the responsible authority in each participating church, the YDD of the MWYCFA and the NYSCMC.

3. Roles and functions of the FBOYCMC

The FBOYCMC has the following roles and functions:

- Provide a platform for all churches in Solomon Islands to share information on their respective youth development and empowerment programmes;
- Explore common areas where the churches might wish to undertake joint programming on youth development and empowerment with the view to developing a number of programmes where all churches are involved and have equal ownership;
- Identify potential new opportunities within the new NYP 2017 – 2030 where churches maybe able to develop and implement programmes that could be financed through the new policy;
- Enhance better coordination between participating churches;
- Monitor implementation of activities under joint programming;
- In collaboration with the YDD of the MWYCFA explore and develop a common template churches can use to link their respective programmes and their reporting to the NYP;
- Prepare 6-monthly progress reports on agreed areas under joint programming highlighting achievements, shortfalls and areas requiring further attention and / or additional resources to be recommended to the NCYDE through the NYSCMC

4. Membership and Level of Representation at the FBOYCMC

4.1 *Level of Representation*

Representation to the FBOYCMC should be at the head of Youth Development and Empowerment programme in each church.

4.2 *Membership.*

Membership of the FBOYCMC is to be drawn from members of (i) Solomon Islands Christian Association (SICA), and (ii) Solomon Islands Full Gospel Association (SIFGA).

5. Chairing and Secretariat Arrangements

5.1 *Chair & Vice Chair*

Considering the two main groupings under which the churches in Solomon Islands come the Chair and Vice Chair role will be chosen and rotated between members of the two groups – SICA and SIFGA.

5.2 *Secretariat*

SICCA and SIFGA will each appoint a person to be part of a joint secretariat that will be responsible for maintaining the records of each meeting. The Secretariat will be supported by a staff from the YDD/ MWYCFA.

6. Agenda

The FBOYCMC will have (i) standing agenda items that will be addressed in all meetings and (ii) other items which can be suggested by any member of the committee.

Following are suggestions for the agenda:

6.1 *Standing Agenda Items*

- vii. Welcome and opening prayer
- viii. Apologies
- ix. Acceptance of Records of last meeting
- x. Follow-up on Decisions from previous meeting (except for items that will be covered under the meeting agenda)
- xi. Prepare & present 6-monthly progress reports highlighting achievements, shortfalls and areas requiring further attention and / or additional resources to be recommended to the NCYDE through the NYSCMC on the areas of agreed joint programming between the churches that link with any of the priority policy outcomes of the NYP 2017 – 2020 as follows:
 - a. Educational Empowerment
 - b. Economic Empowerment
 - c. Health & Wellbeing
 - d. Sustainable Development
 - e. Leadership, Governance, Peace Building, Social Inclusion & Citizenship
 - f. Evidence-based approaches, Access to Information & Provincial Implementation Strategies
- xii. Recommend actions that need to be taken by participating churches to enhance effective implementation of the agreed areas of joint programming and reporting.

6.2 *Other Items*

(To be added as identified by committee members).

7. Records of Meetings and follow-up on decision points

The Secretariat will be responsible for recording the major points of discussions, major decisions and action items from each meeting. The record of decisions will be circulated to all members of the committee following clearance by the Chair and Vice Chair of the meeting.

Decision points will be incorporated into an Action Matrix which identifies for each action item, what action(s) is/are required; person(s) responsible for their implementation; implementation timeframe, and date for reporting back.

8. Frequency of Meetings

The FBOYCMC will meet six-monthly produce 6 monthly.

9. Quorum

The quorum for the Committee will be 50% of members plus 1.

Annex 3:

Summary of Financing Options for the National Youth Policy 2017-2030

The success of the NYP 2017 – 2030 will depend on the level of financial resources that will be made available to support its implementation. To date government policies have mostly been implemented through government financing. However government is not the only financier of youth development and empowerment programmes in Solomon Islands. Other key stakeholders including churches, the private sector, national and international NGOs and CSOs, regional and international organisations and development partners have also financed youth development and empowerment programmes. Currently no effort has been made to quantify the level of funding that had been invested in youth development and empowerment from these stakeholders. As a result the actual level of financial investment into youth development and empowerment in the country could be grossly under reflected.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 heralds a new approach to financing policy implementation in a sector addressing a national priority that involves many different stakeholders committed to achieving the same development outcome: 'youth empowerment for sustainable livelihoods that leaves no one behind'.

The proposed financing model for youth development will aim to maximise effective financing from public-private partnerships that focusses on:

- i. increased levels and better targeting of financing from government including innovative government financing;
- ii. recognising and quantifying the level of financial resources contributed to youth development by churches, the private sector, local and international NGOs and CSOs;
- iii. recognising and quantifying the levels of financing provided by traditional development partners; and
- iv. exploring new and innovative financing models including empowerment trust funds, philanthropic sources, taxes, market-based financing and venture capital financing.

The key principle underpinning the proposed financing model is that 'financing to implement the priority policy outcomes will derive from a number of sources, and not just from government. In some instances, it is not about securing new money, but rather more effective allocation, targeting, recognition of existing financial allocations within government ministries, and recognising funds already invested by many stakeholders such as churches, NGOs, CSOs, the private sector that had so far not been recognised, captured and quantified'.

Below is a brief summary of the potential combination of financing sources to support the effective and successful implementation of the NYP 2017 – 2030.

1 Solomon Islands Government

The government of Solomon Islands had been and will continue to be a major financier of youth development and empowerment in the country. The current structure of the government's recurrent and development budget does not provide a true reflection of the total government investment on youth development and empowerment in the country. Much of the (visible) budget for youth development and empowerment is allocated through the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs. Provinces allocated budgets for youth development from the fixed services grants they receive from central government through the MPGIS. However all ministries also provide variable support to youths within their respective jurisdictions.

A review of the corporate / strategic plans for each government ministry and each provincial government highlight the importance accorded to youth development in these plans with each ministry & provincial government implementing some programmes and activities to support youth development within their respective jurisdictions under their own budgets. However, these budgets are not directly attributed to youth development. If quantified and added to the budget allocated through the MWYCFA, a more accurate picture of government investment in youths will likely emerge.

To address this gap going forward, the NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes that future government budgets consider implementing the following budget reforms:

- i. Primary budget allocation for youth development and empowerment nationally continue to be allocated through the MWYCFA from both the recurrent and development budget. This budget should include:
 - a. A fully-costed core allocation to support the work plan operations of the YDD, including the financing of all NYP priorities that are common to all provinces and included in their respective PISFYDE (see also [ii] below).
 - b. A fully-costed grant allocation to support the operations of the revived NYC network (inclusive of operational funding for all provincial youth councils, constituency committees, ward youth groups and village youth groups)
 - c. A fully-costed grant allocation to support the operations of each provincial youth development division / programme relating to their secretariat role to the PYSCMC and priorities in the NYP that are not reflected under each province's implementation strategy on youth development and empowerment.
 - d. A 'competitive grant' allocation to support national NGOs / CSOs implement activities aligned to the NYP / SAAs
 - e. A fully-costed grant allocation to support the work of YEC and Y@W programme
 - f. Fully costed national capital works programme to establish / provide appropriate facilities for youth development and empowerment I Honiara and all provinces
- ii. A dedicated and fully-costed budget for each province to implement the NYP PPOs that are common to all provinces and included in their respective 'provincial strategic implementation strategy on youth development and empowerment (PSISYDE)' be allocated through the MWYCFA;
- iii. A dedicated and fully-costed budget for each province to implement priority actions on youth development and empowerment that are specific to each province and reflected in their

respective 'provincial strategic implementation strategy on youth development and empowerment (PSISYDE)' be allocated to the MPGIS.

- iv. A whole of government policy requiring each government ministry to include in its budget a minimum allocation equivalent to 5% of the total ministry budget to support youth development and empowerment. This allocation will enable each ministry to implement activities within its work programme that are aligned to the priority policy outcomes (PPOs) and strategic action areas (SAAs) of the NYP 2017 – 2030.
- v. An annual subvention of between 0.5 – 1 million SBD deducted annually from each MP's CDF allocation with 50% to support YDE initiatives in respective constituencies and 50% to contribute to an empowerment trust fund.
- vi. A multi-partner 'Youth Empowerment Trust Fund' supported by the government, state owned enterprises, the private sector, development partners and philanthropic individuals / organisations be established, with appropriate governance and oversight mechanism to provide long-term financing security for youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands.

2 Churches and other Faith-based organisations.

Churches have been major sources for financing youth development and empowerment through their respective programmes. Collectively, the country's faith-based organisations have probably invested the most efforts to youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands although the collective value of this investment has not yet been quantified. However, acknowledging the fact that Churches own and operate more than 95% of all primary and secondary education institutions, 100% of the technical and vocational training institutions and probably more than 60% of all health nurse aid posts, rural health clinics and area health centres in the country, including two hospitals, the scope of coverage and influence by churches on the country's young people is enormous, despite receiving substantial government financial support to operationalise many of these institutions.

Funding from churches comes from their respective core budgets and from funding partners supporting youth development and empowerment programmes through churches. Currently the magnitude of collective financial investment made by all churches to youth development and empowerment is not generally known nor is the impact of its investment measurable.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes that all faith-based organisations link and / or align their respective work programmes, activities and budgets on youth development and empowerment to the priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas of the NYP. This will enhance opportunities to quantify the collective investment accorded by all churches to youth development and empowerment in the country.

3 National NGOs & CSOs

National NGOs and CSOs are important contributors to youth development and empowerment. Funding channelled through these institutions and the collective impact of such funding is neither captured nor quantified.

Much of the funds that support the youth development and empowerment work of national NGOs and CSOs come from various sources including; from development partners, government grants, private sector, regional NGOs & CSOs, philanthropists and their own fund raising. As with churches the level of funding and their sources are currently not captured nor their impacts measured. National NGOs and CSOs will continue to contribute to youth development and empowerment in the country well into the future.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes that all NGOs and CSOs working in the youth space link and / or align their respective work programmes, activities and budgets supporting youth development and empowerment to the priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas of the policy to ensure their collective investment can be quantified and their impacts measured.

4 Private Sector

The private sector has tremendous potential to support and finance youth development and empowerment, in their individual and / or collective capacities. The private sector has vested interest in a young labour force with appropriate skills that can help the sector achieve its industry goals. The private sector may be willing to invest resources to achieve this.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes collaboration with the private sector to develop a specific 'private sector supported and financed youth development and empowerment programme' linked to the priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas of the policy most relevant to the private sector.

The hosting by the Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industries (SICCI) of the Solomon Islands Young Entrepreneurs Council (SI/YEC) demonstrates the private sector's increasing commitment to support the country's young people acquire employment and enhance entrepreneurial opportunities.

5 Regional & International NGOs

Regional & International NGOs are important funders and implementers of youth development and empowerment programmes. They often obtain their funding from their core budget or through specific projects funded through them by development partners and / or philanthropists. Regional NGOs may also fund national NGOs and CSOs. Currently funds invested by regional and international NGOs into youth development and empowerment either directly or through other implementing national NGOs or CSOs is not captured, nor is the impact of such investment measured.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes that all regional and international NGOs working in the youth space in Solomon Islands link and / or align their respective work programmes, activities and budgets supporting youth development and empowerment in Solomon Islands to the priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas of the policy to ensure their collective investment can be quantified and their impacts measured.

6 Development partners

Development partners are important funders of youth development and empowerment programmes through a variety of implementing partners including; governments, churches, private sector, national and regional NGOs and CSOs.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 requires development partners to assess funding requests submitted to them for youth development and empowerment ensure any funding provided by them to implementing partners are linked to / or aligned with the priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas of the policy. This will ensure their funding assistance will be trackable and its collective impact can be measured and quantified.

7 Empowerment Trust Funds

Trust funds have become important sources for financing many development priorities and can potentially be an additional source of funding to support implementation of specific components of the NYP 2017 – 2030.

As highlighted in paragraph 1 (vi), the NYP 2017 – 2013 proposes the establishment of a multi-partner 'youth empowerment trust fund' to be supported by the government, state owned enterprises, the private sector, development partners and philanthropic individuals / organisations.

8 Philanthropists

Philanthropists are people 'who make active efforts to promote human welfare'¹ and many such people support human development projects and other initiatives that empower young people and women.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes to explore potential philanthropic opportunities that might be available to support and finance some youth development and empowerment priorities of the policy.

9 Innovative Financing

Innovative financing refers to a range of non-traditional mechanisms to raise additional funds for development priorities including through "innovative" projects such as micro-contributions, taxes, public-private partnerships, market-based financial transactions and venture capital financing². It is usually underpinned by four key principles – scaling up, additionality, complementarity and sustainability. There is scope for innovative financing to fill current and future financing gaps in youth development and empowerment.

The NYP 2017 – 2030 proposes to explore potential opportunities for innovative financing to meet potential financing gaps in implementing the priority policy outcomes and strategic action areas of the policy.



54 <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/philanthropist>

55 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Innovative_financing

Annex 4:

Year Strategic Action Plan Indicators for the periods 2018 – 2021; and 2022 – 2025

Priority Policy Outcome 1

Educational Empowerment – by 2030,

the scope and content of education curricula delivered at all levels of the education system including formal, technical & vocational and non-formal education will; (i) properly equip students who progress to higher levels of education; and (ii) ensure all students leaving the education system at any level are adequately equipped with the 'appropriate skills set' to make them 'work-ready' and help them engage effectively in the labour market'.



Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)	2017 – 2021 Indicators	2022 – 2026 Indicators
1.1 Advocate for and ensure establishment of a 'youth education and empowerment programme' that focusses on bridging the skill-gaps of youths to actively participate in socio-economic activities	By 2021; a dedicated 'youth education and empowerment programme' is established to bridge skills gaps of youths not in education system.	By 2026; the 'youth education and empowerment programme' is running in all provinces, building capacity of youths not in school systems to meet industry and / or entrepreneurial requirements.
1.2 Actively advocate for the introduction of basic livelihood skills at senior primary school level, commencing at year 4 primary school and establish a joint mechanism between the MEHRD and MWYCFA to implement and monitor this initiative - <i>to ensure children pushed out of the education system from year 6 primary school can engage effectively in the labour market.</i>	By 2020; basic livelihood skills incorporated into primary education curricula at senior primary school level, commencing at year 4 in all primary schools; By 2021; a joint monitoring mechanism between the MEHRD and MWYCFA established to oversee the roll-out of the curricula implementation from year 4 primary school level	By 2026: <input type="checkbox"/> All senior primary schools in S. Islands teaching livelihood skills from year 4 level upwards; <input type="checkbox"/> Joint monitoring mechanism between MEHRD and MWYCFA fully operational.
1.3 Advocate for and ensure inclusion of Entrepreneurial education and training in school curricula from Junior high school level	By 2020; entrepreneurial education and training is incorporated into the curricula of junior and senior high schools and implemented progressively in all junior and senior high schools in Solomon Islands by 2030.	By 2026; all junior secondary high schools and community high schools, and at least 50% of all senior high schools delivering entrepreneurial education and training
1.4 Advocate for and ensure TVET education and training is accorded the same status and priority that is accorded to formal education in government education policies, and rapidly expand the TVET sector in the country	By 2020; (i) Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) is accorded equal importance to that accorded to formal education in government education policy, with (ii) a corresponding increase in allocation of resources to the TVET sector to (a) accommodate the push-outs from, and (b) address the skill gaps inherent in, the formal education system.	By 2026; (i) double the number of RTCs and community learning centres from 56 and 85 respectively in 2017; and (ii) increase graduates from RTCs from 4,000 / year in 2017 to at least 10,000 per year by 2026

1.5	<p>Introduce & implement formal internship and apprenticeship programmes during the 'school to work transition period' for all youths leaving the education system.</p>	<p>By 2020; government implements a 'formal internship and apprenticeship policy' to assist all youths leaving educational institutions during the 'school to work transition period'</p> <p>By 2021; government repeals and replace Part VIII, of the Labour Act [Cap 73], (1996), dealing with apprentices, with a more appropriate 'youth internship and apprenticeship legislation' that requires all employers in Solomon Islands to make provisions within their employment structures for interns and apprentices during the young people's school to work transition. The new legislation should be developed in collaboration with employers in government, private sector, churches, NGOs and CSOs to mainstream youth internship and apprenticeships in all employment sectors.</p>	<p>By 2026; all employers in Solomon Islands offer formal internship and apprenticeship programmes within their respective employment streams.</p> <p>By 2022; Part VIII, of the Labour Act [Cap 73], (1996), dealing with apprentices is repealed and replaced by a more appropriate 'youth internship and apprenticeship legislation' that requires all employers in Solomon Islands to make provisions within their employment structures for interns and apprentices during the young people's school to work transition.</p>
1.6	<p>Develop & implement regular 'labour market forecast and workforce skills surveys' to assess labour market job opportunities, their skills requirement, the 'skills level' of available workforce, appropriateness of the skills levels of youths leaving the education system to the labor market requirements, and establish the 'gaps in skills' relative to those required by the labour market (See also 6.4)</p>	<p>By 2018; start implementing a combined 'labour market forecast and workforce skills survey' (to be repeated every 5 years) to better understand:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the likely upcoming job opportunities in the labour market over the next 5 years; the skills that will be required by the labour market for current and upcoming job opportunities; the skill level of the currently available workforce; the appropriateness of the skill levels of youths leaving the education system to the labor market requirements; and the gaps in skills that need to be addressed to correct the mismatch between skills provided through current education curricula and skills required by the labour market. 	<p>By 2026; a reliable data-base is in place that regularly provides information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> likely upcoming job opportunities in the labour market <input type="checkbox"/> skills required by the labour market <input type="checkbox"/> skills levels of the current workforce <input type="checkbox"/> skills levels of youths leaving education system <input type="checkbox"/> skills gaps between labour market needs and skills produced by education institutions <input type="checkbox"/> youth workforce participation rates <input type="checkbox"/> capacity building opportunities for youths to bridge skills gaps.

Priority Policy Outcome 2

Economic Empowerment – by 2030;



(i) at least 75% of youths who are not in educational institutions have secure career pathways through formal or non-formal employment opportunities, entrepreneurship and other innovative economic opportunities to improve their livelihoods and quality of life.

Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)		2017 – 2021 Indicators	2022 – 2026 Indicators
2.1	Develop and implement a National Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Strategy NYEES (3 rd tier of the 3-tier policy development framework) that will address:		Indicators for 2026 will be included in the NYEES
	d. Career Pathways through:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">□ By March 2018, the National Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Strategy (NYEES) completed together with relevant indicators to measure success.□ By January 2019; Youth@Work internship programme incorporated into the expanded 'internships and apprenticeships' programme of the NYEES and fully operational under SIG management by 2020.□ Employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in the cultural (arts, handicrafts, music, etc.) and tourism industries fully incorporated into the NYEES	
	e. Entrepreneurship including through:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">□ The Young Entrepreneurs Council (YEC); and□ The incorporated and expanded Youth@Work Entrepreneurship programme□ Agricultural / Fisheries / Trade opportunities□ Cultural industries & tourism□ Development of a simple and standardised training manual on economic entrepreneurship to be used by all stakeholders conducting entrepreneurship training for youths in throughout country.	
	f. Other innovative economic opportunities including cultural industries – arts, crafts & music; credit schemes; social entrepreneurship and business incubator services.		

2.1

2.2

Establish a youth employment, empowerment and young entrepreneurs programme – that will assist young people obtain employment; provide support to young entrepreneurs in business registration, business training and mentoring, access to start-up financing or financing to expand small businesses; support youth workers association, and support development of a business incubators programme.

- ☐ Young Entrepreneurs Council (YEC) in place by December 2017
- ☐ NYEES in place by March 2018
- ☐ Youth@Work programme strengthened and transitioned into the YEES with YEC

By 2026; a fully functional youth employment, empowerment and young entrepreneurs programme supports young people in securing employment and engage in entrepreneurial activities and businesses.

Priority Policy Outcome 3



Health & Wellbeing – by 2030;

(i) 100% of youths are aware of and are practicing healthy living and lifestyles and; (ii) actively engage in cultural, spiritual, sporting and other physical activities to improve their health and holistic wellbeing.

Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)	2017 – 2021 Indicators	2022 – 2026 Indicators
<div data-bbox="118 1487 161 1547">3.1</div> <p>Develop and implement a 'Youth-to-Youth Strategy for Health & Wellbeing' that will help youths achieve a state of complete physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being including for youths living with disabilities that aims to:</p> <p>a. Improve the knowledge, attitude and behaviour of young people to prevent or minimise their exposure to, or participation in known behavioural risk factors of diseases</p> <p>b. Empower youths to combat and reverse the rapidly increasing threat of Non-Communicable Diseases (diabetes, stroke, heart attack, hypertension, obesity, asthma, cancers) that cause 7 – 8 deaths of every ten deaths in S. Islands</p>	<p>By December 2018; a Youth-to-Youth (Y2Y) Strategy for Health & Wellbeing of all youths developed and implemented.</p> <p>By 2020; 20% of youths aware of and avoid exposure to or participation in behavioural risk factors to diseases increasing to 100% of youths by 2030.</p>	<p>By 2026; the physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being of Youths in Solomon Islands is strengthened</p> <p>By 2026; 70% of youths aware of and avoid exposure to or participation in behavioural risk factors to diseases.</p>
	<p>By 2019; implement an youth advocacy and empowerment programme aimed at ensuring that by 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 100% of youths are aware that the four most important preventable causes of NCDs and NCD related deaths and morbidity are – cigarette and tobacco smoking, alcohol consumption, consumption of sugar, salt and fatty foods and lack of physical activity; <input type="checkbox"/> smoking prevalence in youths is reduced by 100%; <input type="checkbox"/> excessive consumption of alcohol by youths is reduced by 100%; <input type="checkbox"/> prevalence of obesity in youths is reduced in 100%; <input type="checkbox"/> participation of youths in physical activities increase by 100%; <input type="checkbox"/> at least 75% of all youths adopt good nutritional practices leading to, (i) reduced consumption of sugar, salt and fatty foods, sugar sweetened beverages (SSBs) and, (ii) increased consumptions of fruits and vegetables. 	<p>By 2026; 70% of youths have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> stopped or reduced consumption of tobacco products & alcohol; <input type="checkbox"/> reduced consumption of salty, sugary and fatty products; <input type="checkbox"/> increased physical activity <input type="checkbox"/> reduced level of obesity <input type="checkbox"/> adopted good nutritional behaviours.

3.2	c. Empower youths to combat communicable diseases and eradicate malaria and tuberculosis	<input type="checkbox"/> By 2019; youths establish and lead Y2Y programmes aimed at (i) long term eradication of malaria; (ii) reduced prevalence of TB; and; (iii) reduce prevalence of sexually transmitted infections among youths reduced by 50% by 2021	By 2026; (i) youths are leading efforts to eradicate malaria and TB by 2030; and (ii) prevalence rate of STIs in youths is reduced by 80%.
	d. Address Sexual and reproductive health including teenage pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/> By 2021, 30% of youths have better understanding of sexual & reproductive health and adopt effective family planning practices <input type="checkbox"/> Prevalence of teenage pregnancy reduced by 30%	By 2026; (i) 75% of youths are more knowledgeable about sexual and reproductive health; and(ii) teenage pregnancy is reduced by 7%
	e. Address mental and psycho-social health issues including drug abuse and suicides	By 2021; (i) drug abuse including of Kwaso reduced by 50 %; (ii) youth suicides rate reduced by 50%; and (iii) at least 4 provinces has one dedicated 'counselling centre/service' for youths	By 2026; (i) drug abuse rate, and youth suicides is reduced by 75%; & (ii) at least 7 provinces have counselling centres.
	f. Nurture spiritual health, cultural wellness and social wellness	By 2021; (i) participation of youths in community civic and social accountability programmes increased by 50%; and (ii) prevalence of crime committed by youths reduced by 50%.	By 2026; (i) youth participation in civic programmes increase by 75%; and (ii) prevalence of youth crime reduced by 75%.
	Develop and implement a 'Youth-to-Youth Strategy for the wellbeing' of Youths living with Disabilities and other marginalised youths that addresses the various socio-cultural and development and health challenges they face (See also 6.3)	By 2020; a Youth-to-Youth Strategy for the wellbeing of all youths living with disabilities developed and implemented together with the relevant indicators to define and measure success (See also 6.3).	By 2026; youths living with disability and marginalised youths enjoy equal opportunities in all walks of life including in education and employment.
	Develop and implement 'A strategy for sports, recreation and health for youths' - that utilises sports as an essential tool to empower children and youth with life skills including through: (See also 5.5)	By 2019; a strategy for sports, recreation and health for youths is developed and implemented, together with relevant indicators to define and measure success (See also 5.5). The strategy involves the establishment of a national Youth Sports Academy (NYSA) and creating links with national professional sporting bodies' associations (NSBPAs).	By 2026; (i) the Y2Y sports, recreation and health strategy is implemented; (ii) all schools implement physical education; (iii) annual inter-school competitions are held; and, (iv) young sporting talents are groomed and developed at the NYSA and the various national professional sporting bodies' associations.
	a. Inclusion of physical education in school curriculum;	Physical education incorporated in school curriculum by 2020	
	b. Establishing / formalizing annual in-school, inter-school and out-of-school sports competitions	Annual inter-school sports completion piloted in Honiara based secondary schools by 2018 with planned expansion to include provinces by 2020	
	c. Establishing national youth sports academy (NYSA) to nurture and develop young sporting talents	National Youths Sports Academy (NYSA) established by 2020	
	d. Linking school sports to NYSA and respective national professional sporting bodies and associations (NPSBAs)	School sports linked to NYSA and NPSBAs by 2020	
3.3			

Priority Policy Outcome 4

Sustainable Development – By 2030, youths are empowered and equipped as catalysts and enablers of sustainable development working to build a sustainable future for Solomon Islands –

(i) enhancing opportunities for green and blue economies;

(ii) strengthening resilience to natural disasters and climate change; (iii) ensuring food, water and energy security; (iv) promoting the use of appropriate and sustainable technological innovations, interventions to aid sustainable development; and (v) implementing activities to achieve the SDGs relevant to Solomon Islands.

Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)	2017 – 2021 Indicators	2022 – 2026
<p>Develop a 'youth-to-youth strategy on youth engagement on sustainable development' that aims to (i) inform youths about the issues underlying the Sustainable Development Goals; (ii) inspire youths to take an active role in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs, and (iii) invite policymakers to facilitate meaningful participation of youths in the national discourse, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs and includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a standardized and simplified training programme for youths on sustainable development, the sustainable development goals, their underlying issues and indicators that can be delivered through a workshop or a short course, a youth participation strategy outlining specific activities youths can engage on under each SDG that is relevant to Solomon Islands with particular emphasis on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> youth-led programmes on poverty, health & wellbeing, quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, sustainable cities and communities, responsible and sustainable consumption and production patterns, peace justice and strong institutions and partnership for goals [SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17] youth-led programmes that maximize the 'blue economy' – a marine-based economic development that leads to improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental and ecological risks to preserve the environment and ecosystems for future generations [SDG 14]. youth-led programmes that maximize the 'green economy' – economic development that maximise the economic value of a country's terrestrial resources and environment (land, agricultural crops, forests, terrestrial minerals, rivers, renewable energy) while significantly reducing environmental and ecological risks to preserve the environment and ecosystems for future generations including establishing a 'youth for sustainable forest and tree-planting network' [SDGs 6, 7, 15]. youth-led programmes on disaster preparedness and response; climate readiness and resilience; and food and water security [SDGs 2, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15]. use of appropriate and sustainable technology to aid sustainable development and disaster preparedness, mitigation and response [SDG 9] 	<p>By 2020; a strategy on 'youth engagement on sustainable development' completed and implemented together with relevant indicators to measure progress including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a simplified, standardized training programme for youths on sustainable development (SD) completed and implemented by 2020 a youth participation strategy outlining specific activities youths can engage on under each SDG that is relevant to Solomon Islands completed by 2020 a 'youth for sustainable forest and tree-planting network' established by 2020 	<p>By 2026; 75% of youths not in education institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> have participated in SD training programme; engage in planning, and implementation of youth led programmes addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> poverty, health & wellbeing, quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth; the blue and green economies; disaster preparedness and response; climate readiness and resilience; and food and water security; appropriate and sustainable technology to aid sustainable development and disaster preparedness, mitigation and response.

Priority Policy Outcome 5



Leadership, Governance, Peace Building, Social Inclusion and Citizenship – by 2030;

- (i) youths are empowered to be agents of positive change, participating in leadership, decision making and governance mechanisms including traditional leadership and governance at household, village, community, provincial and national levels; and
- (ii) contributing to the long-term social harmony and cohesion, peace and security, equal opportunity and national unity that leaves no one behind.

Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)		2017 – 2021 Indicators	2022 - 2026
5.1	Create enabling environment to increase opportunities for youths including disabled and marginalised youths to participate, lead, plan, make decisions, implement, monitor and evaluate development opportunities within and outside of government systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2021; at least 20% of youths (women and men) participating in planning, consultative and decision making forums, at national, provincial and community levels including in policy processes, campaigns and advocacy and delivering and monitoring programmes By 2021; youth forums on themes such as youth leadership for sustainable development; youth empowerment, employment and entrepreneurship convened annually at national level and biennially in at least 2 provinces. By 2021; number of youth-to-youth organisations involved in leading, planning, implementing and evaluating development projects established in at least 4 provinces. By 2021; at least 20% of all marginalised youths and youths with disability have equal opportunity and access to all development benefits including in health, education, employment, and training in entrepreneurial skills, planning, leadership, decision-making, management, implementation, performance assessment, including on-the-job training, (See also 3.2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2026; 50% of women & men participate in planning & decision-making nationally. By 2026; all provinces convene youth forums every 2 years By 2026; all provinces have established youth-led organisations to plan, implement & evaluate development projects. By 2026; 50% of youths with disability enjoy equal opportunity in all walks of life including education & employment.
	Facilitate leadership, social accountability and civic engagement opportunities for young people to acquire more knowledge and awareness about the role of government, parliament, parliamentarians, traditional leadership and governance, provincial and ward governance, businesses and civil society to strengthen their roles in democratic society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2021; youth-led 'social accountability'³ mechanisms' that demand greater accountability from service providers and public officials including through use of social accountability tools such as participatory budgeting, public expenditure tracking, monitoring of electoral processes, using online and mobile technology, and citizen evaluation of public services through citizen report cards, community score cards and social audits are established nationally and in at least 2 provinces. By 2018; National Youth Parliament is convened annually and at least 2 Provincial Youth Assemblies are convened every 2 years. By 2019; young people establish a 'youth-led national youth against corruption Network – NYACN'; By 2021; young people; (i) have greater access to information through more effective 'open government policies' including through promulgation of citizens charters and rights to information Acts; (ii) enjoy increased level of 'youth civic engagement'⁴ in all communities, provinces, and nationally. 	By 2026; (i) youth-led social accountability mechanisms are established and operating nationally and in all provinces; (ii) all provinces convene provincial youth assemblies every 2 years; (iii) Youth-led anti-corruption network and good governance network operating in all provinces; and (iv) youths enjoy greater access to information and freedom of communication.

56 Social accountability is an approach towards building accountability that relies on civic engagement, in which citizens participate directly or indirectly in demanding accountability from service providers and public officials – available at; <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTSOCIALDEVELOPMENT/Resources/244362-1193949504055/Scalingup.pdf>

5.3	<p>Develop and implement youth-to-youth programmes that embrace cultural diversity, traditional leadership and governance, social cohesion and inclusion, spiritual maturity, equal opportunity and gender-equality as the cornerstones for long term peace and security, understanding, tolerance, reconciliation and national unity that builds a nation and leaves no one behind</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2021; at least 15% of villages & communities have programmes & activities aimed at strengthening community social and family cohesion, creating cross-cultural and ethnic understanding to prevent conflict and help reintegrated young people who may have violated the law into mainstream community life’. • By 2021; least 15% of all youths participate in cultural activities including cultural festivals, cultural events at village / community level, concerts or music festivals, arts and craft markets & stalls; visitation to cultural sites; national museum & art gallery; traditional singing and dancing, traditional story telling & oratory, traditional money making; traditional peace settlement process including payment of compensation; traditional enthronement for chiefs; traditional marriage ceremonies • By 2021; 30 % of villages have church youth groups and at least 30% of all youths in each village participate in church led youth activities / events. • By 2021; (i) number of youths participating in or leading civic education activities increase by 25%; (ii) at least 25% youths with disability have equal access to all development opportunities; (iii) ratio of females and males receiving tertiary scholarships is within 10 percentage points of parity; (iv) ratio of female and male employment is within 10 percentage points of parity; (v) youth crime rates reduced by 30% • By 2021; youth sector has established some capacity to design and implement effectively integrated youth-to-youth development programmes, which foster social inclusion and cohesion • By 2021; at least 15% of youths participate in nation building activities through sports, arts, business, community work, church work, youth groups, etc. 	<p>By 2026; 30% of villages & communities have programmes & activities aimed at strengthening community social and family cohesion</p> <p>By 2026; 30% of all youths participate in traditional and cultural industry related activities.</p> <p>By 2026; 70% of villages have church youth groups and 70% of youths participate in church led youth events.</p> <p>By 2026; (i) 50% of youths participate in civic education; (ii) 50% of youths with disability enjoy equal access to opportunities; (iii) ratio of females and male receiving scholarships, and ratio of females and males in employment is within 5% parity; and (iv) youth crimes reduce by 50%.</p> <p>By 2026; (i) all provinces have youth-led programmes to foster social inclusion and cohesion; and (ii) at least 50% of youths participate in nation-building activities.</p>
5.4	<p>Ensure involvement of youths in development of peace-building plans in particular as they relate to their roles within the cultural and traditional governance structures and issues that directly affect them</p>	<p>□ By 2021; at least 25% of all youths are equipped and able to participate in, lead or take ownership of peace building and security mediation, negotiation, conflict resolution and communication at community levels to prevent violence, promote gender equality, and strengthen inter-generational partnerships increase by 2030</p>	<p>By 2026; all provinces have youth-led peace-building plans that incorporate cultural and traditional governance structures.</p>
5.5	<p>Invest in sports and recreation activities to empower children and youth with life-skills and facilitate opportunities to rehabilitate & re-integrate marginalized children, youths and disabled youths into mainstream society. Sport activities by their nature demand perseverance, teamwork, discipline and leadership, which in turn nurture confidence and motivation for self-development (See also 3.3)</p>	<p>□ <i>By 2019; a strategy for sports, recreation and health for youths</i> is developed and implemented, together with relevant indicators to define and measure success (See also 3.3). The strategy involves the establishment of a national Youth Sports Academy (NYSA) and creating links with national professional sporting bodies’ associations (NSBPAs)</p>	<p>By 2026; (i) the Y2Y sports, recreation and health strategy is implemented; (ii) all schools implement physical education; (iii) annual inter-school competitions are held; and, (iv) young sporting talents are groomed and developed at the NYSA and the various national professional sporting bodies’ associations</p>

5.6	Establish and run Youth-to-Youth Radio-Broadcast programme to be run by young women and men to enhance communication, networking and programing on civic education, peace building and security between and among youths, starting in Honiara and expand nationally as resource allow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · BY 2019; a pilot 'Youth-to-youth Radio-Broadcast Station' established and operational in Honiara City Council 	By 2026; the Y2Y radio-broadcast initiative has expanded to at least 4 provinces.
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Priority Policy Outcome 6

Evidence-based Approaches, Access to information and provincial implementation strategies- By 2020;

- (i) decision-making on strategies, plans and programmes on youth development and empowerment is evidence-based;
- (ii) youths have greater access to information;
- (iii) all provinces have developed and are implementing their respective provincial implementation strategies for youth development and empowerment cognizant of established traditional leadership and ward governance arrangements in empowering youths within each province;
- (iv) the NYC is rejuvenated and;
- (v) capacity of staff in the MWYCFA, provinces and partner agencies are strengthened to effectively implement the NYP 2017 – 2030.



Strategic Action Areas (SAAs)		2017 – 2021 Indicators	2021 – 2025 Indicators
6.1	Strengthen evidence-based decision-making: <i>Encourage and support research on youth related issues to inform planning, policy development and decision-making</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• By 2018; a priority list of research areas to address important gaps in information that can enhance decision-making and resource allocation on youth development and empowerment is agreed;• By 2019; a strategy outlining research priorities, and the gathering, analyses and utilisation of information on priority youth development issues is developed and implemented.	By 2026; all important decision-making relating to prioritization and / or resourcing youth development interventions are supported by strong evidence from research and analysis.
6.2	Enhance timely access by youths to relevant information on youth related issues and opportunities for youth development and empowerment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• By 2020; a ‘youth information and communication service’ charged with the collection, collation and dissemination of relevant information on youth development to youths is established and operational.	By 2026; an open, friendly, accessible youth information service is available to all youths throughout the country, including in all provinces.

6.3	Assist all provinces develop and implement their respective 'provincial implementation strategy for youth development and empowerment (PISFYDE) that recognises and incorporates established traditional leadership and ward governance arrangements to empower youths in each province	□ By 2020; all provinces have developed and are implementing their respective PISFYDE.	By 2026; (i) youths in all provinces are empowered; (ii) development, employment, business and entrepreneurial opportunities are enhanced; (iii) youth employment rates in provinces are increased; (iv) rurally produced commodities reach urban and overseas markets; and (v) rural-urban migration is reduced.
6.4	The National Youth Congress network is revised and operational	□ By 2018; the NYC network is fully revived, strengthened and fully operational by with a dedicated work-plan to support the implementation of the NYP strategic PPOs and SAAs throughout the provinces.	By 2026; the NYC and PYCs are spearheading implementation of the NYP priorities enshrined in their strategy throughout the country
6.5	Capacity of staff in the MWYCFA, Provinces and partner agencies are strengthened to effectively implement the NYP 2017 – 2030.	□ By 2021; (i) technical and operational capacity of the MWYCFA, provinces are strengthened; and (ii) implementing partner agencies such as churches, local NGOs and CSOs are supported / strengthened through capacity building raining and / or provision of financial resources.	By 2026; the MWYCFA, provinces and implementing partner agencies are fully resourced to implement & monitor the NYP 2017 – 2030.



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