

# Thank you for having yor say on the CHOISEUL TOWNSHIP CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECT !

Community Booklet – May 2014



## Thank you from the Project Team

In March 2014, project team members (Lyn, Simon, Kylie and Shannon) from the 'Choiseul Township Climate Change Project' visited Taro Island and surrounding villages to get your input into this important project. This was the team's second visit following an initial visit in January 2014.

This booklet provides a summary of the information collected from the community and the next steps for the project.

Thank you again to everyone, particularly the Choiseul Provincial Government (CPG) and the Taro Island community, for making the trip a great success!



*Choiseul Provincial Government workshop - Taro Island*

## What is the Choiseul Township Climate Change Project?

The Choiseul Township Climate Change Project will:

- Show how natural hazards and climate change may affect Taro Island and the new township in Choiseul Bay, now and in the future;
- Provide advice about how to make these risks smaller and better protect the community and valuable areas; and
- Guide how and when development should happen in the new township as well as on Taro Island.

A lot of work has already been done by the Solomon Islands Government and Choiseul Provincial Government and some development has started to happen. This work is being taken into account in the Choiseul Township Climate Change Project.



# Meeting with the Community

In March the team updated community and government and asked for feedback about:

- Hazard and risk maps – showing the vulnerability of the community to hazards such as tsunami and storms, both now and in the future;
- Adaptation options – a range of options that can help manage tsunami and climate change risks; and
- Concept plan for the new township – options for how the new township on the mainland can be developed.

So far the project team has spoken to over 300 community members during their visits!

The feedback from the community and the CPG is given in the following pages.



*Talking to community members  
Poroporo*



*Talking to community members  
Supizae*

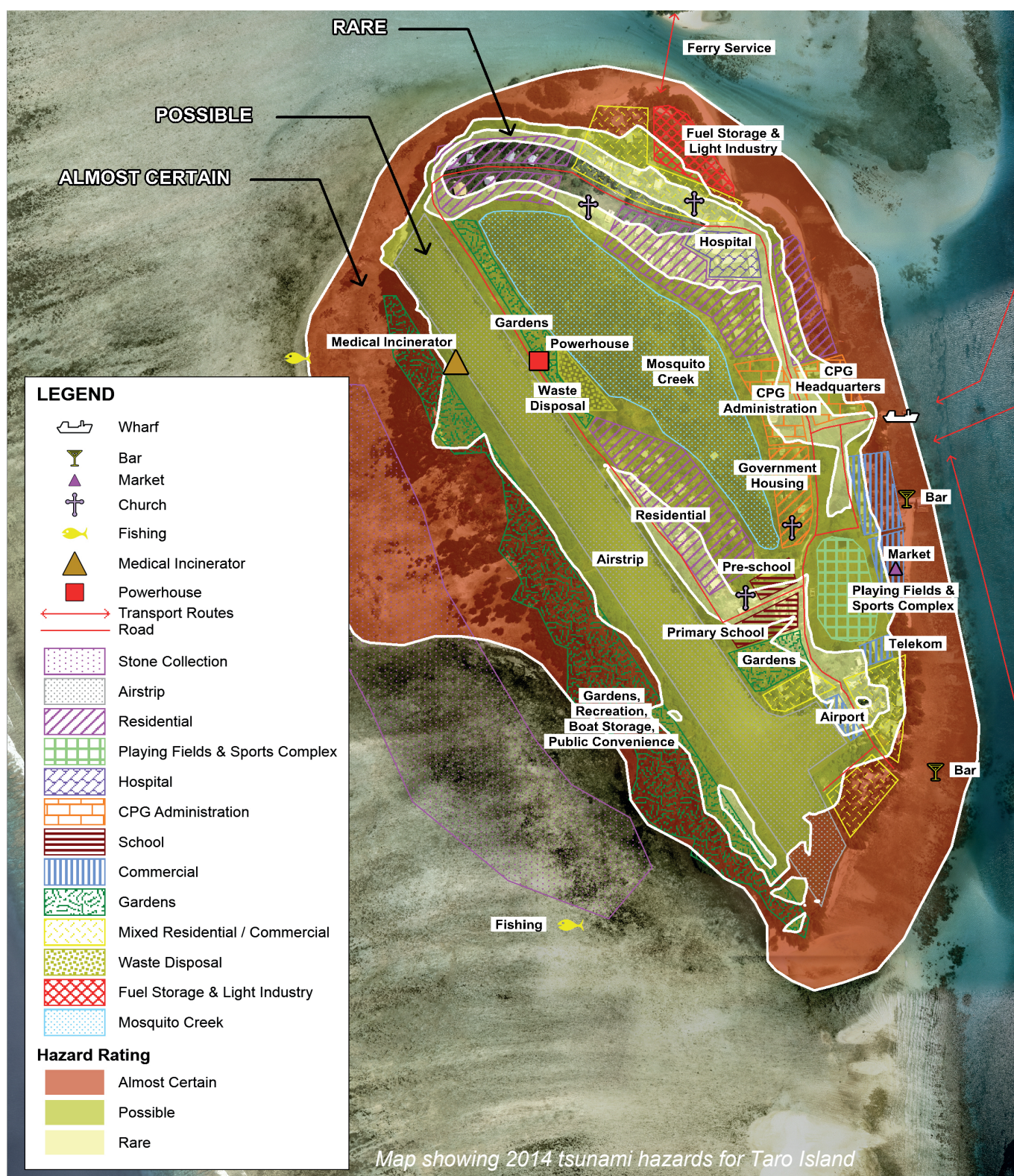


# What you told us

The project team received a lot of good information and feedback during our visit. Some of the comments made by community members are presented below.

## Hazards and Risk Map

The example below shows how tsumaim hazards interact with the valued assets on Taro Island.





Community members were asked what assets on Taro Island and the mainland would be impacted the most if they were affected by the hazards, either now or in the future. We asked them to think about risk as a combination of the chance of hazard occurring (likelihood) and the impact (consequence) if a hazard does occur. The list of highest priority assets identified by the community included:

- Choiseul Provincial Government buildings
- Telecommunications infrastructure (buildings and the back up generator)
- The hospital
- The airstrip and associated buildings
- The power house
- Residences
- Guest houses and rental businesses
- Water supply
- Roads



*Telecommunications Building*



*The Power House*



*The Hospital*



*The Air Strip*



# Adaptation Options

Adaptation options are ways of managing risk. This is generally achieved by reducing the chance of impact by hazards, or reducing the effect on the community if an asset is impacted.

Adaptation options for the high priority assets that were suggested by the community are provided in the table below.

Assets	Summary of adaptation options suggested by the community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taro Island generally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant trees along the coast as a buffer</li> <li>Build sea walls, groynes or wave breakers</li> <li>Prepare a tsunami evacuation and recovery plan</li> <li>Raise buildings</li> <li>Make sure new buildings are elevated off the ground</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choiseul Provincial Government (CPG) buildings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make digital backups of data and store at Honiara</li> <li>Archive older documents in an elevated room in the CPG offices or on the mainland</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Telecommunications infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise the buildings and the generator platform</li> <li>Build new or back up services on the mainland</li> <li>Build sea wall in front of the generator or around the whole facility</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hospital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relocate to the mainland</li> <li>Build groynes or sea walls</li> <li>Revise the evacuation plan and develop an education program</li> <li>Raise or relocate the pharmacy and generator</li> <li>Build a multi-purpose safe house on high ground</li> <li>Remove the roof and build another storey</li> <li>Upgrade CBPSS to cater for evacuations</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Airstrip and associated buildings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make the airstrip higher and longer</li> <li>Relocate airstrip to the mainland</li> <li>Provide a fast ferry service</li> <li>Use a nearby airport or helicopter in an emergency</li> <li>Build sea wall at southern end of the airstrip</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Powerhouse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise the powerhouse or relocate to higher ground</li> <li>Find an alternative power source</li> <li>Install solar panels for houses</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise houses off the ground</li> <li>Relocate to mainland</li> <li>Build new houses to a safe standard (i.e. raised off the ground)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guest houses and rental businesses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise off the ground</li> <li>Close business and open new business on mainland</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water supply</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install guttering and water tanks on existing buildings (private and communal)</li> <li>Construct a pipeline from the mainland</li> <li>Build a desalination plant</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise all or parts of the road</li> <li>Build a sea wall or groyne</li> <li>Consider alternate route</li> </ul>

All these options have now been considered by the project team, the Choiseul Provincial Government and the Solomon Islands Government. Some of these community suggestions have been incorporated into the Adaptation Plan for Choiseul Bay.



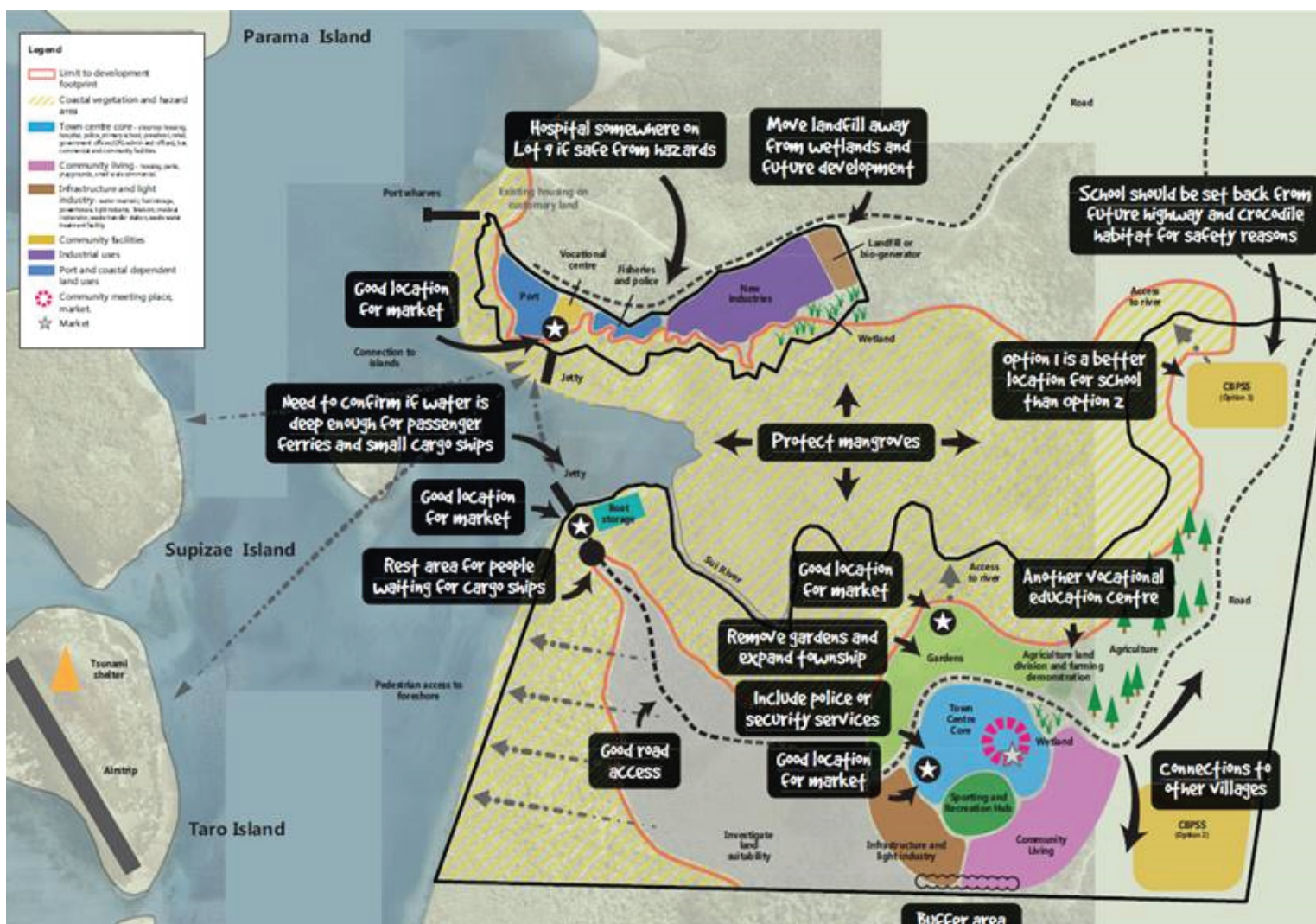
# Concept Plan Options for the New Township

The project team is working with the Choiseul Provincial Government to prepare a plan for the new township on the mainland. This land is owned by the Choiseul Provincial Government and is shown on the map below.



Three concept plans were presented to community members and government representatives. We asked people for feedback on what they liked and didn't like. The best option was called 1B. Shown below is Option 1B with community comments included.

An amended concept plan has been developed based on this feedback and is now under consideration by Choiseul Provincial Government and the Solomon Islands Government.





## Next Steps

The Choiseul Provincial Government will be responsible for making the Adaptation Plan happen.

The Choiseul Provincial Government will present the Plan to the communities of Taro Island and surrounding villages in June 2014. This will include a presentation of the concept plan 1B for the new township area on the mainland.

Implementation of the Plan will take much effort and funding assistance, especially the development of the new town on the mainland. The steps we have taken over the last 6 months will help Choiseul Provincial Government to seek more funding to make the new town a reality in the future.

Thank you to everyone for your time and involvement in this project so far. Every member of the project team has thoroughly enjoyed working with you.

