

Support for Stewards of Biodiversity on Gatokae Island, Solomon Islands - Action Plan

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This plan is to assist the Gatokae Island community's capacity development leading to creation of alternatives to 20 years of unsustainable logging that has destroyed much of the original rainforests. Successful completion of this plan will enable them to continue to protect globally significant South Pacific biodiversity while deriving economic, social and cultural benefits. I plan to raise funds for the following:

- Village school
- Village dispensary
- Creation of youth conservation corps and guide-naturalist training for village youth.

My role: fundraiser, overseas contact person, capacity advisor where appropriate.

Responsibilities: Drafting proposals to international foundations and aid agencies, assisting with follow-up, evaluation and reporting to donors.

Why me? I'm known and trusted by the community and have been given permission by them to act on their behalf. I have experience in similar projects in the South Pacific region.

Stakeholders: Residents of Gatokae Island. Resource companies (who will be forced to amend their practices). Solomon Islands Government. International partners (conservation NGOs, institutions etc.)

Resources: Globally significant biodiversity of Gatokae. In kind contribution of community. Funding from international aid agencies and charitable foundations.

Strengths: Work ethic of community. Level of "Buy in" by community.

Weaknesses: Remote location of community. Communication (no phone, internet or post office). My availability given competing demands on my time.

Time frame: 2010-2012