

# HEADLINES

VOLUME 4 OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SOLOMON PORTS

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## PORT MODERNIZATION PLAN TAKES SHAPE



### CEO's Christmas Message

Dear reader,

It's that time of the year we take the opportunity to reflect on the year that was, we acknowledge the support of our stakeholders, recognize the

hard work of our team, cherish the moments of achievements, and look forward for another brighter year.

The year 2020 has been marked with many unprecedented challenges. However, here at SIPA, we have been optimistic amidst such challenges to stay afloat and be courageous to mitigate circumstances collectively through hard work as one team.

SIPA achieved monumental milestones during this year in number of projects, improved our existing solutions to meet ever increasing needs and demands of our stakeholders.

During the coming year, we are determined to make good progress

through a series of infrastructure and system development programs in Ports of Honiara and Noro.

While we look forward to a well-earned rest during the upcoming holiday season, celebrating and relaxing with family and friends, we endeavour to reflect on a year of continuing change and growth to serve our stakeholders, community and the country.

We at SIPA want to thank everyone who supported towards our success and growth with warm season's greetings!

Wishing you all a very Merry Xmas & Happy New Year!



# Port Modernization plan takes shape



*An aerial view of the new domestic entrance*

Solomon Ports has officially commissioned the new 'Domestic Port Terminal Gate House' at the Honiara Domestic Terminal.

Prime Minister Hon. Manasseh Sogavare was given the honor of officially opening the new building.

This is part of SIPA's 'Port Modernization Plan', and ongoing focus on developing our domestic port terminal infrastructure to provide quality and standard service to the people of Solomon Islands. The new building features automated gate systems, and is fully powered by Solar energy, the first ever for the Port.

The completion of this Gate House portrays, the important focus

SIPA has put, on improving and enhancing our country's domestic terminal facilities, in Honiara and Noro Ports in the first instance. The Gate House was designed by local architects. It was constructed by local contractors and builders. This demonstrates the continuing commitment by SIPA to support to local business by providing opportunities for locals to undertake such important projects, and thereby improving the livelihoods of our local people.

The gate House also compliments SIPA's 'Going Green' project. It is 100% powered by solar energy. It features automated gates, lights and air-conditioning systems, which are all powered by renewable energy. This is the first building in the port to be completely

powered by renewable energy.

Solomon Ports has a work program for 2021 that include:

- Construction of new jetties;
- Rehabilitation and renovation of existing jetties;
- Beautification of the ports area;
- Installation of proper Entry and Exit gates;
- Improvement of the whole Domestic Terminal; and
- Anchoring of Mooring buoys.

Speaking during the commissioning event, Prime Minister Sogavare was deeply impressed with the progress made by Solomon Ports and the continuous development projects in place to improve port infrastructure in both the Port of Honiara and Noro.



*CEO Kotelawala briefs the Hon.PM.*



*Prime Minister Hon. Sogavare pose in front of the new building, flanked by SIPA CEO, SIPA Board Directors and Hon.Harry Kuma*



*Energy Efficient LED light poles lights up Honiara Port.*



## Solomon Ports inside 5th Global Entreps Awards

Solomon Ports' 'Green Ports Initiative' has been shortlisted among 126 countries to compete in the final round of the '5th Global Entreps Awards'.

The 5th Global Entreps Awards & 5Gcitizens International Congress will begin at the 75th General Assembly of the United Nations in New York in September 2020, running beyond.

From 25th September 2020 to 31st January 2021, Entreps, the United Nations, 1,000 Global Jurors, and several international partners will be launching events all over the world making real these 5th editions of the International Congress and Global Awards.

For this 5th edition, will target each of the 17 SDGs by the United Nations, key technologies such as AI or 5G for Sustainability, Responsible Business Undertaking and Good Governance, in 126 countries.

Earlier this year Solomon Ports became the only Port in the Pacific Region to be selected as a finalist of the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH) World Ports Sustainability Program (WPSP) for the Green Port Project.

The Aim of the 'Green port initia-



-tive' is to reduce carbon emissions in ports operations, which is a global challenge for the maritime industry and transport sector, both in the region and around the world.

The Port has so far invested in an SBD\$15 Million-dollar LED light poles in 2019, and solar lighting poles for both the Port of Honiara and Noro.

This has seen the reduction in cost and usage of energy (Electricity), and the overall reduction in carbon emissions discharged from Port Operations.

The 20 new LED Light poles and solar poles also increased the efficiency and security of Port operations, further improving fast vessel turnaround, thus improving the Port's service delivery and capability.

As part of the project, new trees, palm trees and flowers have been planted in and around the port area to not only beautify the port, but to absorb and reduce carbon and other harmful gases emitted from port operations.

Solar Poles have also been installed in Solomon Port's staff houses and have been donated and installed at the famous commonwealth street in the heart of the capital city Honiara, as a gesture of giving back to the people of Solomon Islands and providing light for members of the public.

With this recognition, Solomon Ports strives to become a leader in the fight against climate change in the Pacific, and in promoting the usage of Green Sustainable energy in port operations.



# Noro LED light poles construction kicks off



*An LED light pole under construction.*



*Aerial view of Noro Port.*

Construction on the New energy efficient Light poles at Noro Port, Western Province is now under-way.

A total of 32 LED poles will be erected around the port facility, twenty 25-meter poles will be erected inside the main Ports compound, while eight, 20 Meter poles will be erected along the road access outside the main port compound.

The new LED lights are more energy efficient and environmentally safe; it will enhance efficiency in ports operations and productivity output, especially with fast vessel turn-around. It will also ensure the safety and security of SIPA employees, in terms of providing higher visibility during night

operation.

Noro Port Manager, Capt. Chris Sade said once the lights will be completed, will bring huge improvements to the port.

He said the new LED lights will bring to the Port of Noro will increase the areas of illumination and will increase the distance of visibility.

“This will give Pilots good judgment of distance when berthing and un-berthing ships at night.

“Of course, the introduction of the new LED lights will greatly add to the efficiency of port operations here at Noro,” he said.

“The new LED lights will add value to the Port of Noro. The new LED lights will also deter possible criminals away and reduce crim-

inal activities here at Noro Port, which we are really thankful for.”

He said the new lights will also benefit pedestrians who will be using the roads leading down to the port and beside the port.

Noro Port is the second recipient of the LED light technology, which was first constructed and completed in Honiara Port last year in September.

twenty LED lighting poles, and over 40 CCTV cameras were installed inside the international terminal and domestic terminal, also the new ‘LED’ lighting system consumes less energy and is environmentally safe.

Construction at Noro is expected to be completed Mid next year.



# PM VISITS NORO PORT



*CEO Kotelawala briefing the PM, and his delegation during the high level visit to Noro Port.*

Prime Minister Hon. Manasseh Sogavare paid a courtesy visit to the Port of Noro, Western Province.

This was during the Western Provincial day on the 7th of December held at Noro town.

Hon. Sogavare was the guest of honor at the celebrations, which was held at the newly opened Tuna Park, after the official formalities, he made a brief stopover at the port, where he was welcomed and received Noro Port

staff. The Hon PM was accompanied by a high-level delegation which comprised of government ministers and provincial premiers. SIPA Chief Executive officer Mr. Eranda Kotelawala took the opportunity to brief the PM, and his fellow ministers on the ongoing progress of Noro port and future development plans now in place. The PM and fellow guests also took time to meet and chat with Noro Port staff, where a light refreshment was also organized for

the PM and other guests.

As part of the Western provincial day celebrations, Noro Port staff also took part in the celebrations. They took part in the official parade at the Noro Tuna park, where hundreds of Noro residents turned out to witness the historic event. The Noro port team were all dressed in blue for the occasion and were proud and glad to celebrate and show SIPA's ongoing contributions to the Noro Port and Western province.



*Noro Port Staff who participated in the Western Provincial Day celebrations in Noro.*





*New Looks: The new face of SIPA admin building.*

## Major facility transformation for Honiara Port

Major transformation within the Port of Honiara is now nearing completion.

The main admin offices have now received major facelift, with new accessories added to improve the working environment for SIPA staff and customers.

As part of this major facelift, the main admin office has undergone major renovations and modernized, newly painted in national colors, new kitchens, new toilets and a new conference room for future meetings and trainings. New rooms have also been added

inside, which will cater for new offices for staff and visiting clients or customers.

Special projects Manager Mr. Ellison Pade said the idea of transforming the ports facility came about in 2018, which he said was to create a better and modern environment for Ports staff.

Mr. Pade said the idea was to transform Honiara through SIPA, and to set an example for other SOE's and organizations in Honiara to take heed of.

"This building is where all staff spent most of their days at all

week, which is why we want provide better, modern and cleaner facilities for staff to enjoy their work inside," he said.

"We have also paved and sealed all roads and walkways inside the port facility, which has resulted in less dirt and dust, a problem we had to face over the years."

Mr. Pade said the transformation project also included the planting of trees and flowers around the port facility to beautify working environment.



*Aerial view of Honiara Port.*





*Commonwealth street's entrance*

## NEW SOLAR POLES FOR COMMONWEALTH STREET

Solomon Ports has recently installed new solar light poles at the Commonwealth street, right in the heart of Honiara.

A total of 6 solar light poles were erected in August this year as part of SIPA's community support and a bid to improve the City's image.

Special projects Manager Mr. Ellison Pade said this was part of SIPA's Green Port Initiative and extending it to the community. Mr. Pade said the assistance does not only include solar lights, but also the cleaning, maintenance and upkeeping of Commonwealth

street.

A Solomon Ports Signage was also installed at the entrance of the street, which is fully powered by Solar Energy.

Mr. Pade said this shows SIPA's drive and push to become a more sustainable and a more energy efficient Port.

He said SIPA will continue to invest more in renewable energy and especially solar energy.

"The lights will complement the existing lights at the street, which is provided by the City Council,"

he said.

"People use this street to sit during the day or night, while waiting to board ships back to their home islands, and with the new lights, will provide good lighting and will make people feel safe while using the street."

Mr. Pade said the solar power set-up can be easily maintained and repaired.

He said he hopes other SOE's or companies in Honiara would also do the same in giving back to the community and help improve the standard and image of Honiara city.



*The National Parliament Building overlooking Honiara's CBD.*





CEO. Eranda Kotelawala handing over the solar power system to Sepi Community reps.

## NEW SOLAR POWER SYSTEM FOR SEPI, AND MADALI

A handover was made on the 5th of November to Sepi community representatives by Solomon Ports CEO Eranda Kotelawala at the port's headquarters. Speaking on behalf of Sepi community when receiving the assistance, Mr. Philip Kaukui thanked SIPA for recognizing their need in community development.

He said the solar donation is another milestone for his community in terms of development and future progress.

He said this would not only mean a major facelift for the community, but a significant

project that will hopefully change the mindset of the community.

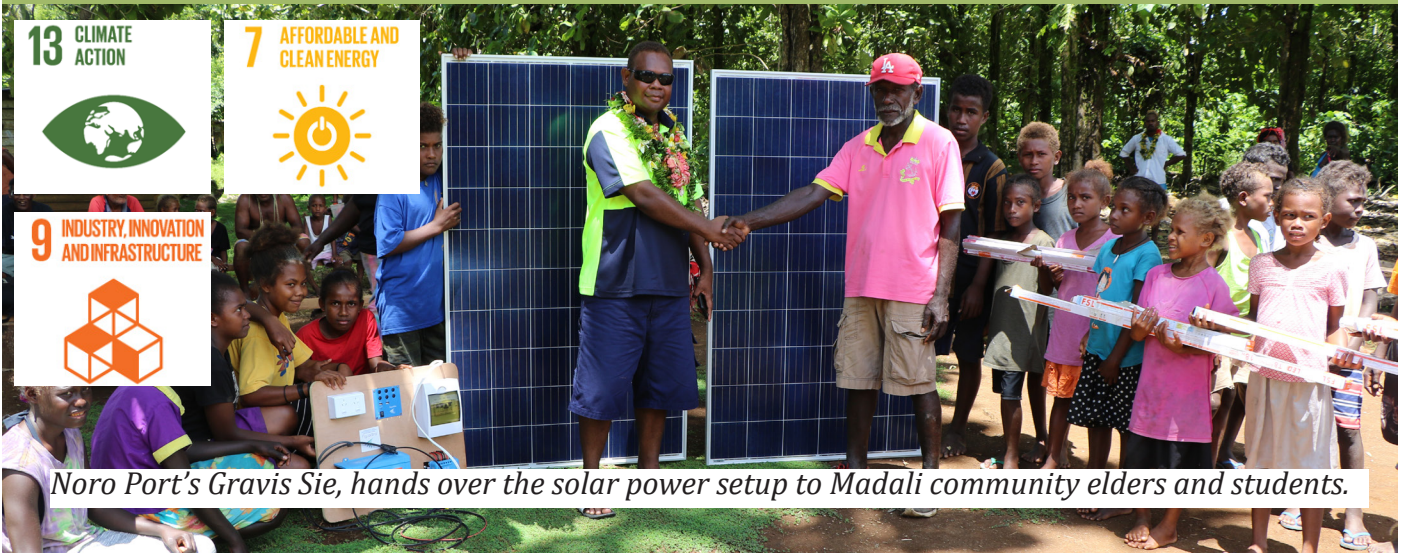
"Our first previous community hall was just a leaf hut, which we had used for quite a number of years, and was damaged, but we noticed the need for a new hall, that's why we build a new one," he said.

"Our community elders and people will be greatly appreciative of this significant gesture by the port, and we believe will bring huge benefits in the long run."

Meanwhile, a similar solar power setup was also handed over

to Madali school at Rendova island, Western province.

A handover ceremony was conducted at the school, where the solar power system was handed over by Noro Port representative, Mr. Gravis Sie, to the school's chairman, Mr. Obadiah Onepiza. The solar setup will bring electricity to 5 staff houses and 1 classroom, first time ever for this community. Members of the SIPA delegation from Noro and Honiara were treated to a traditional welcome and feasting during the occasion.



Noro Port's Gravis Sie, hands over the solar power setup to Madali community elders and students.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

