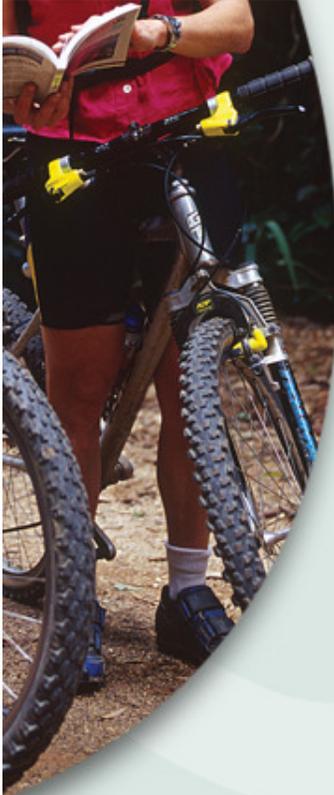


Mentoring in World Heritage Management

- Australia is a mega diverse country with the most natural World heritage properties so can and should be playing a pivotal role to support others (Shadie, P, 2013, p. 54).
- UNESCO Committee 2007-11 to lead engagement and capacity building Asia Pacific region.
- Aim to provide assistance developing expertise and governance to better ensure sustainable management.
- Meant to have reinforced Australia's reputation as a leader in WH management and strengthened the conventions application
- East Rennell a major focus of support. Timely to review as we know this experience had mixed results



Lessons learned reflected in World Parks Congress themes –

Priority area 2: Developing capacity recognises that establishing of protected areas and protected area systems does not guarantee that their objectives are achieved. To fulfil their purpose, requiring appropriate institutional and governance arrangements and competent professionals providing a range of skills at site and system levels.

Priority Area 4: Respecting people recognises that through millennia, the main decision makers, custodians and “managers” of many natural resources have been human communities, including both settled and mobile communities. Traditional management approaches have to be considered and an understanding of the relationship between natural resources and community livelihoods, remains paramount.

A woman wearing a white helmet and a pink shirt is looking at a map next to a bicycle. The background shows a river with a vehicle crossing a rocky section.

We need to give focus to

- strengthening management capacity and governance arrangement
- respecting traditional management arrangement and customary systems and cultural values
- facilitating livelihoods opportunities and fair and equitable distribution of benefits.

A woman wearing a white helmet and a pink shirt is looking at a map. She is standing next to a bicycle. The background is a light green gradient with a circular pattern.

East Rennell project

- largest raised coral atoll in the world and its dense forest has a canopy averaging 20 metres in height. The forests, which cover most of the land area of the 37,000-hectare site
- Inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1998, The western part of the island is forest area and suffers intense development pressure through logging.
- lack of capacity of the Solomon Islands to effectively manage Site but little had been done to secure its management or to promote tourism and sustain development on the island.
- Faced little government support to customary owners, and no information on progress and outcomes. Lack of monitoring, no national legislation to support protection or management.
- Difficult to know where to begin? Be placed on WH list does not guarantee support to maintain management and support

The background of the slide is a light green gradient with a faint, large-scale pattern of tropical leaves. On the left side, there is a vertical image showing a person standing next to a massive, ancient tree trunk with thick, gnarled roots. Above this, a horizontal image shows a metal walkway with railings elevated in a forest, with several people walking on it. A large, colorful, abstract shape in shades of orange and green is positioned in the upper right quadrant, partially overlapping the logo.

What we were asked to help with

1. Develop partnerships to build the Solomon Islands' capacity to manage the ERWHA;
2. Improve understanding of community-based governance arrangements and decision-making at East Rennell;
3. Strengthen understanding within the Solomon Islands of World Heritage responsibilities and operations;
4. Improve natural resource management and monitoring skills developed



How did we assist?

- Support on Governance and Communities; Cultural perspectives and World Heritage; Nature based tourism; Community based planning;
- focus on showing how things were done in the Wet tropics and field exercises included examples of WH nature based tourism, visits to traditional country with Aboriginal Traditional Owners, and visits to the Great Barrier Reef WHA and islands; and visits to Queensland Park and Wildlife rehabilitation nursery and meetings with rangers.
- production of a Tool kit developed to assist participants on return with a practical WH management and resource information.



The text "Lessons learned..." is written in a white, sans-serif font, overlaid on a photograph of a wooden boardwalk in a tropical forest. The boardwalk is elevated and has a metal railing. Several people are walking on it. The background is lush green foliage.

Lessons learned...

- 
- A circular inset image on the left side of the slide shows a woman in a light-colored shirt and skirt standing next to a massive, ancient tree trunk with thick, gnarled roots. The tree is a large fig tree, likely a banyan tree, with its roots hanging down and forming a natural archway.
- The scoping mission to Honiara and ER was invaluable
 - In country partnerships with NGOs, to support WH capacity
 - It may have been preferable to work in country so the points of application could have been related more meaningfully to local conditions.
 - Questions about the transferability of the lessons and resources provided to the local situation. This appears to be reinforced by the recognition that the committee did not continue to operate functionally after the workshop.
 - common challenges in managing conservation, promoting tourism and economic development pressures (logging) and pests and weeds etc. However, comparisons of how these challenges might be successfully addressed in the ER situation were at times limited.

The background of the slide is a light blue-grey color with a faint, stylized white tree trunk graphic. On the left side, there are two circular inset images. The top one shows a wooden walkway with a metal railing in a lush green forest, with several people walking on it. The bottom one shows a close-up of a large, textured tree trunk with a person standing next to it for scale.

Critical issues

- some of the ER community considered the funds expended on the CTW exercise might have been better allocated to on-ground work in ER.
- Given the critical livelihood facing the ER community, it is important that capacity-building exercises and resources to assist in addressing such livelihood issues are sought at the same time as building capacity in WH management.
- Need for more specific focus in skills in presentation, marketing, hosting and guiding in tourism
- Capacity building for management roles to the exclusion of support in enabling the wider economy and tourism develop opportunities to live and work and survive as viable communities in world heritage context were significant oversights.

East Rennell and WH in danger!

June 18 2013 The East Rennell area in the Solomon Islands was inscribed today on the United Nations Scientific, Cultural, and Educational Organization's (UNESCO) list of endangered sites due to logging that is affecting the island's ecosystem.

"logging is threatening the outstanding universal value of East Rennell,"

The introduction of invasive species by logging and container ships also constitutes a serious danger to endemic wildlife. Black Ship Rat (*Rattus rattus*) has already been observed on the western part of the island.

The background of the slide is a composite image. The top portion shows a metal walkway with railings elevated in a lush green forest, with several people walking on it. The bottom-left portion shows a close-up of a person's legs and feet standing on a wooden platform next to a massive, gnarled tree trunk with thick, hanging roots. The rest of the background is a light blue-green gradient with faint, abstract shapes.

What might we do differently WH Tourism management

World Heritage and Sustainable tourism program

The Programme seeks to link up national and local authorities, site practitioners, tourism sector, and local communities to integrate a sustainable tourism perspective into the mechanisms of the World Heritage Convention. The idea is to promote broad engagement in the planning, development and management of sustainable tourism that follows a destination approach and focuses on empowering local communities. The Programme also seeks to provide World Heritage stakeholders with the capacity and the tools to manage tourism efficiently, responsibly and sustainably based on the local context and needs.

WH Tourism program An -alternative agenda

- Local stakeholder engagement and cooperation in in planning tourism and heritage management (site based).
- Establishment of regional and sub-regional learning platforms using a World Heritage site as a hub to increase the training of trainers, and assist site managers, local communities and Member States in in maximizing tourism benefits and opportunities
- Governance by partners and cooperation over government centred – space for NGOs, private sector and local government with needs of visitors and local communities at the centre, run with for, or and sometimes by local people
- Encourage perception of estate as a community asset as well as part of natural and world heritage

Kokoda Track Authority A new opportunity for cooperation

- No fly in and out consultants: spend time with us
- Help us bring the local community and traditional owners along
- Provide continuity in the relationship over time
- Understand our context and the limits as well as the opportunities
- Recognise our own ways of doing things
- Understand our technologies and systems of doing things
- Share with us but don't tell us what to do
- Conservation is important but so is an economic future that benefits local residents
- Involve residents in meaningful ways and share in the benefits and opportunities



The need to rethink WH Management

Adrian Phillips: WH can no longer be thought of as transplanting a system of conservation management . We need a more human centred approach that are more people including an emphasis on sustainable communities, links with regional development, and customary systems and norms in natural resource management. It encourages us to think carefully and broadly management roles, livelihoods, human rights as well as conservation and sustainability.

