Enabling Social Innovation in Solomon Islands

Government Council for Social Innovation
Advancing Social Impact
POWERED BY 1Family Foundation

Country Snapshot

Social innovation: "the processes and outcomes of developing novel approaches to address societal challenges facing people and planet." [1]

This snapshot represents a descriptive, non-exhaustive overview of key highlights from Solomon Islands' social innovation ecosystem.

✓ Direct focus on social innovation   🔗 Connected but indirect focus on social innovation   ✗ No focus on social innovation

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Official Definition of Social Innovation 🔗

Public evidence of an official definition of social innovation in Solomon Islands was not identified. Relevant adjacent concepts include community companies, financial inclusion, women's economic empowerment, MSME support, inclusive green finance and climate resilience.

Government Body for Social Innovation ✓

Rather than a single public body with a named social innovation mandate, relevant enabling functions are distributed across:

- **The Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI):** Through the National Financial Inclusion Unit (NFIU) and National Financial Inclusion Taskforce;
- **The Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration**: Through Company Haus and InvestSolomons;
- **The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM):** Which leads on climate resilience, disaster risk and environmental safeguards.

Government Strategy for Social Innovation ✓

While there is no standalone social innovation strategy, Solomon Islands has several connected strategies and roadmaps.

- **National Financial Inclusion Strategy 3 (NFIS 3, 2021–2025):** Covered access to quality and affordable financial services, resilience, improved livelihoods and digital financial inclusion. It complemented the National Development Strategy 2016–2035 objective of inclusive economic growth and improved social and economic livelihoods.
- **Inclusive Green Finance Roadmap 2026–2030**: Convened by CBSI in 2026 with stakeholders to validate, aimed at expanding finance for climate resilience, sustainable livelihoods and inclusive economic development.

Policies, Laws & Regulations ✓ 🔗

- **Community Companies**: Solomon Islands' company framework includes a distinctive "community company" form. Community companies are intended to help community groups manage assets and businesses while ensuring that benefits accrue to the community as a whole.
- **Enabling Laws**: The Business Registry also lists enabling laws for companies, business names and foreign investment, including the Companies Act 2009, Business Names Act 2014 and Foreign Investment Act 2006.

Official Statistics

Public evidence of official statistics specifically on social innovation, social enterprises or the social and solidarity economy was not identified.

Related Financial Inclusion Data (As of March 2020 via NFIS 3):

- **283,954** active financial account users (including 133,046 women)
- **74,094** financial literacy participants
- **28,890** formal credit users
- **21,441** active savings group members

Government Programs

Key public support programs are connected to inclusion, digital finance and resilience.

- **The NFIU**: Coordinates financial inclusion initiatives, financial literacy and stakeholder working groups.
- **CBSI's Regulatory Sandbox**: Provides a supervised testing space for new financial products and services.
- **The National Digital Financial Literacy Content Hub**: Launched with Rural Inclusion in 2026, supports trusted and consistent digital finance education.

ECOSYSTEM

Stakeholders

The ecosystem is anchored by public institutions, financial-sector actors, community enterprise structures and development partners.

- Key actors include **CBSI**, the **National Financial Inclusion Taskforce, Company Haus, InvestSolomons, MECDM**, financial institutions, mobile network operators, community companies, **Rural Inclusion, SINPF, UNCDF, UNDP, GGGI and AFD-supported green finance initiatives.**

Support Initiatives

Support initiatives focus on practical enabling infrastructure.

- **Solomon Islands Business Registry**: Provides a 24/7 electronic public register for companies, business names and foreign investment.
- **Community Company Form**: Supports community-benefit enterprise activity.
- **CBSI Sandbox & Digital Financial Literacy Hub**: Support responsible innovation and consumer capability.

Collaboration

Collaboration is visible through multi-stakeholder working groups, workshops and pilots. Financial inclusion work is coordinated through working groups on digital finance, MSMEs, consumer empowerment and data measurement.

Recent examples include the **Inclusive Green Finance Roadmap validation workshop** and the **TrigaCash parametric microinsurance partnership**, which brought together CBSI, UNCDF, UNDP, SINPF, insurers, mobile payment actors, World Vision and development partners.

FINANCE

Financing Schemes

Financing mechanisms are strongest in financial inclusion, climate finance and insurance innovation.

- **NFIS 3**: Aimed to expand formal account use, credit, digital finance, savings groups and access points.
- **Inclusive Green Finance Roadmap**: Proposes renewable energy loans, climate-resilient housing finance, sustainable agriculture lending and climate-responsive insurance.
- **TrigaCash Parametric Microinsurance**: In 2026, Solomon Islands marked first payouts through TrigaCash, the country's first parametric microinsurance product. Around SBD 8,800 was paid to approximately 35 policyholders after heavy rainfall events, with CBSI support through its sandbox.

Financing Inclusivity

Financing inclusivity is a clear policy priority.

- **The National Women's Financial Inclusion Policy 2022–2026**: Aims to build an inclusive and sustainable financial system responsive to the needs of Solomon Islander women, with targets to increase active women financial account users and reduce the formal financial inclusion gender gap.
- **Target Demographics**: NFIS 3 and inclusive green finance initiatives also prioritise women, rural communities, youth, MSMEs, informal workers and vulnerable communities.

SOCIETY

Public Awareness of Social Innovation

The term "social innovation" appears less prominently in public policy discourse than related themes such as financial literacy, digital finance education, climate resilience and disaster preparedness. **MECDM's** public-facing work includes awareness and preparedness workshops and events in provincial capitals.

Research

Rather than a dedicated social innovation research centre, related applied research exists through the **CBSI Working Paper Series**, which disseminates economic and financial research to stimulate debate and stakeholder feedback.

Education & Human Capital

Education and human capital initiatives are concentrated in financial literacy and resilience.

- **NFIS 3:** Reported 74,094 financial literacy participants by March 2020, predominantly women.
- **2026 Digital Financial Literacy Content Hub**: This process aims to produce practical, trusted and accessible education materials for digital financial services, especially for rural and underserved communities.

Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship support is enabled by the online Business Registry, business-name and company legislation, community companies and InvestSolomons' investment facilitation role.

--th / -- countries

EIU Business Environment Ranking

The World Bank's B-READY coverage list includes Solomon Islands in the B-READY 2026 economy set, providing a forthcoming business-environment benchmark.

--rd / -- countries

Innovation Capacity

A Solomon Islands rank was not identified in the latest public **Global Innovation Index** coverage

0 -% 100

Social entrepreneurship prevalence

GEM country profile was not identified.

Social & Environmental Consciousness

Solidarity

Community-benefit enterprise and climate resilience are two visible areas of social and environmental consciousness. Community companies require community benefit and safeguards, while MECDM's mandate covers sustainable environmental management, climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk management and meteorological services.

0 -.- 10

Political participation

-.-% population

Volunteering

110th / 180 countries

Sustainability

In the 2024 Environmental Performance Index, Solomon Islands ranked 110 overall (with a score of 42.2) and ranked 32 in the Climate Change category.

This snapshot was developed, with the use of AI, for the Government Council for Social Innovation by One Family Foundation. Updated June 2026.
Learn more about the Global State of Social Innovation here: https://governmentcouncil.org/