



SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION

**SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL MONITORING AND
EVALUATION SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING STRATEGY
2024 – 2028**





Solomon Islands National Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Strengthening Strategy 2024-2028

29 February 2024



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique



Table of Abbreviations

NDS	National Development Strategy	PQD	Program Quality Division
SIG	Solomon Islands Government	SIG ICTSU	Solomon Islands Government Information, Communication and Technology Support Unit
PFM	Public Financial Management	TOR	Terms of Reference
MTDP	Medium Term Development Plan	SIPSEN	Solomon Islands Public Service Evaluation Network
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal	MEHRD	Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development
MESA	Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Analysis	MAL	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
GEI	Global Evaluation Initiative	MHMS	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
SPC	Pacific Community	MECCDMM	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology
MNPDC	Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination	MoFT	Ministry of Finance and Treasury
NGO	Non-Government Organisation	MPGIS	Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening
VOPE	Voluntary Organisation for Professional Evaluation	DSE	Development Services Exchange
PMO	Prime Minister's Office	SICCI	Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industry
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation	PGSP	Provincial Governance Strengthening Program
GEF	Global Environment Facility	iMRV	Integrated Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation	SIG ICT	Solomon Islands Government Information, Communication and Technology
ETF	Enhanced Transparency Framework		
IPAM	Institute of Public Administration and Management		
NSO	National Statistics Office		
TOT	Training of Trainers		

Foreword

The Solomon Islands National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016-2035 has been implemented for seven years to date since it is launched in 2016. The NDS 2016–2035 maps out a strategic direction for the future development of Solomon Islands and presents a visionary strategy for the next 20 years, setting out a long-term vision, mission and objectives that reflect the aspirations of all Solomon Islanders. It focuses on two key areas: social and economic livelihoods. It presents a National Vision of “Improving the Social and Economic Livelihoods of all Solomon Islanders”.

A performance and Monitoring and Evaluation framework is embedded in the strategy for the purpose of tracking implementation progress of the NDS. Over the course of the implementation a number of ongoing challenges are identified and one of which is weak monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the NDS.

Thus, the Solomon Islands government through the Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination recognising the importance of M&E in enabling effective decision making, embark on conducting a Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Analysis (MESA) diagnostic study with funding and technical support from the Global Evaluation Initiative (GEI), and Technical Assistance from Alinea International, and Dignity Pasifik.

The Solomon Islands MESA diagnostic study is the first in the Pacific Islands and is very new in the country as well as the region hence takes longer than initially planned with a completed report produced. The findings and recommendations from the report informed the development of the Solomon Islands National Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Strengthening Strategy.

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems are essential for tracking progress, assessing the effectiveness of programs, and informing evidence-based decision-making. Strengthening the M&E systems in the Solomon Islands will involve improving the capacity, processes, and tools used to monitor and evaluate programs and policies taking into consideration the enabling organisational environment as well as the human capacity.

The strategy outlines the five key major issues identified in the MESA diagnostic report with five interlinked projects to address them over a five year period (2024-2028). It also provides guidance to future investments in M&E systems and capacities in the country with core objectives of enhancing institutional capacity, improving M&E frameworks and systems, strengthening data collection and analysis, promoting results-based management, enhancing stakeholder engagement, utilising evaluation findings, and ensuring sustainability.

The Solomon Islands National Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Strengthening Strategy is a living document that



would be reviewed periodically to assess its implementation progress, and update to include further actions required for ongoing improvement.

Thus, I wish to express my appreciation to all who participated in the consultations to provide information, guidance and comments in the MESA diagnostic study and the strategy development process. The participation approach and process have been inclusive making this strategy a nationally owned document.

I also recognised and acknowledge the contributions from the GEI for their financial support and technical inputs together with Dignity Pasifik and Alinea International in helping to prepare this strategy document, and SPC for providing peer review of the strategy.

I wish to also personally appreciate my MNPDC staff for their support in the development of the Strategy. All these efforts have contributed immensely to the successful preparation of the document.

With a humble heart I sincerely call for the national and provincial governments, our development partners, NGOs, private sector, Faith Based organisations, Community based organisations and all Solomon Islanders to embrace and implement the Solomon Islands National M&E Systems Strengthening Strategy.

I dedicate this Solomon Islands National M&E Systems Strengthening Strategy and, more significantly its implementation to all the people of Solomon Islands.

Hon Raxon Ramofafia

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Raxon Ramofafia', written over a white background.

**Minister of National Planning and Development
Coordination, September 2023**



Acknowledgements

The strategy document is prepared by the Solomon Islands Government's Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination (MNPDC) in partnership with the Global Evaluation Initiative as the core funder for the development of this strategy.

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We are grateful for the collaborative efforts of all partners involved, as their collective contributions have laid the foundation for an effective and improved Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Strengthening Strategy for the Solomon Islands.





Table of Contents

0.1

BACKGROUND

8

0.2

INTRODUCTION

10

0.3

MESA FINDINGS ON MONITORING AND
EVALUATION ECOSYSTEM IN SOLOMON
ISLANDS

13

3.1 Overview of planning, budgeting, and M&E systems 14

3.2 Monitoring and reporting systems and practices 15

3.3 Evaluation systems and practices 16

0.4

KEY ISSUES TO ADDRESS FOR
STRENGTHENING NATIONAL M&E SYSTEMS
IN SOLOMON ISLANDS

17

0.5

SOLOMON ISLANDS M&E SYSTEMS
STRENGTHENING STRATEGY PLAN

20

0.6

SUMMARY

26

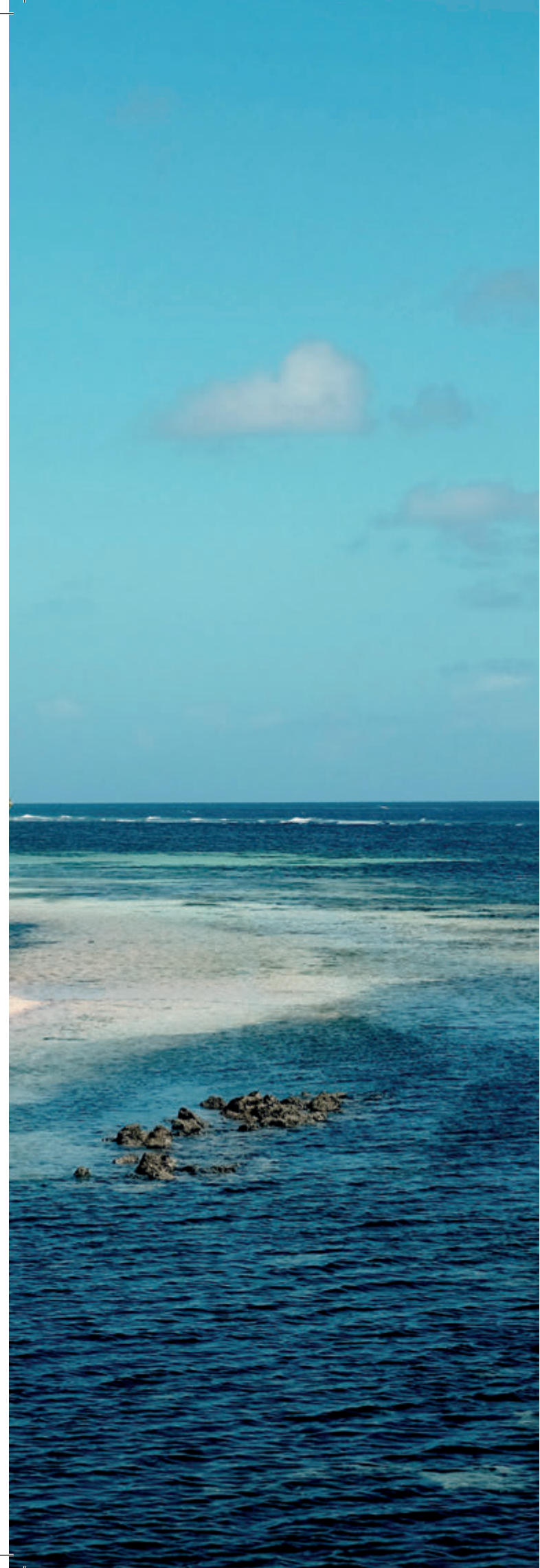
Annexes

28



0.1 Background





The Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination (MNDPC) with support from the Global Evaluation Initiative (GEI) has conducted a Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Analysis (MESA) diagnostic and designed a strategy plan to strengthen national monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems and evidence-based policymaking in Solomon Islands.

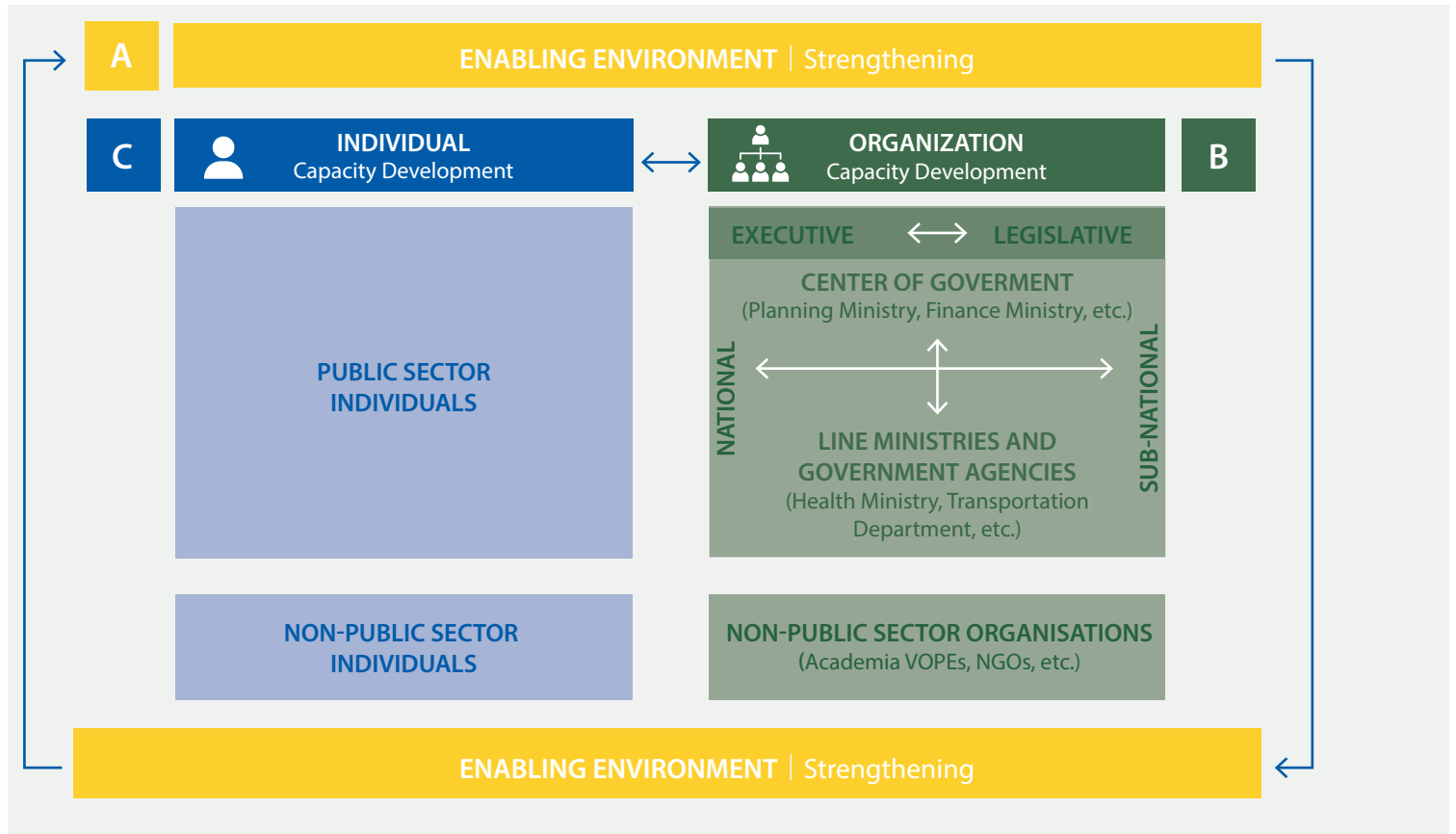
The MNDPC assists the government with monitoring and informing national development strategies, programs, and budgets. The MESA diagnostic study identified gaps and opportunities for Solomon Islands to strengthen national M&E systems and capacities to better use data and evidence for decision-making. The MESA consultations informed a strategy to strengthen the M&E systems in Solomon Islands.



0.2 Introduction



Diagram 1 | Three level support to strengthening national M&E systems



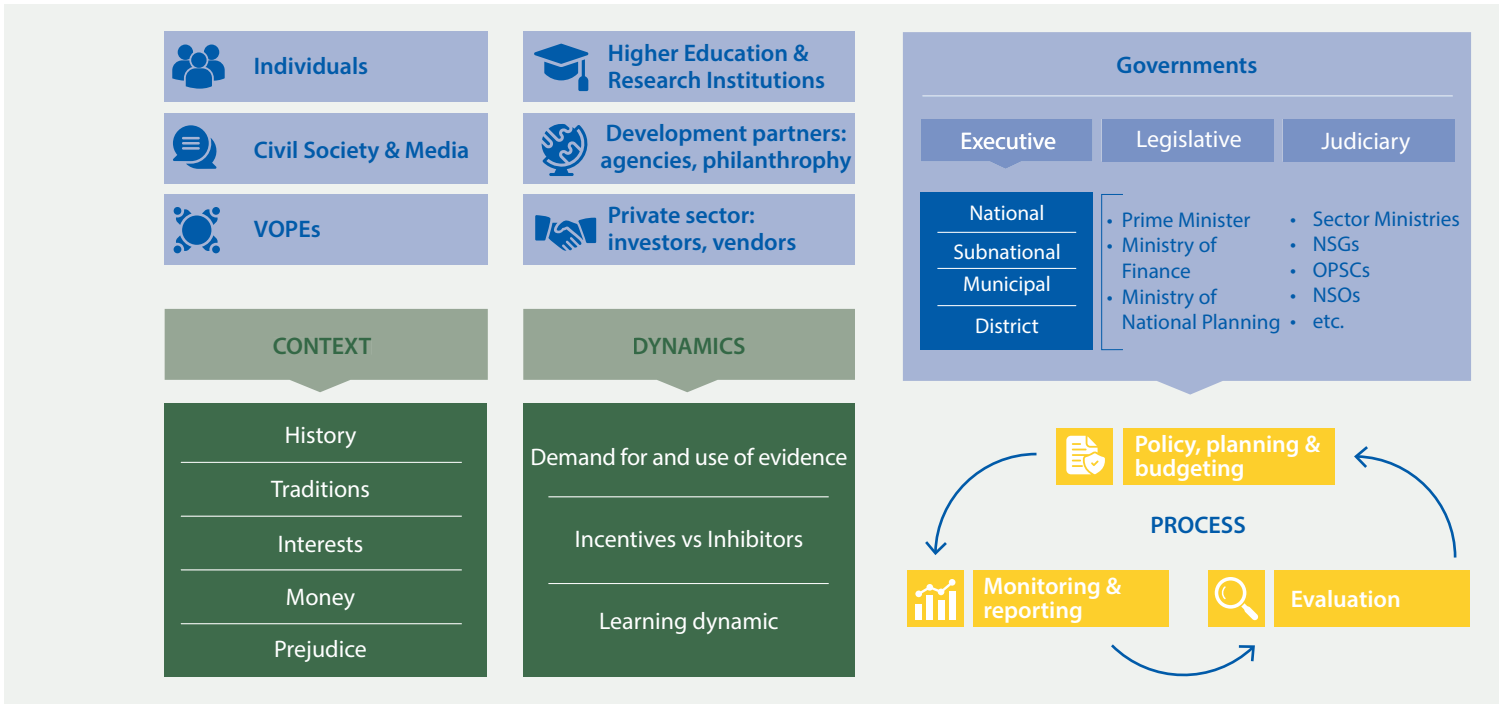
The strategy that emerged from the MESA consultations is a 5-year action plan for strengthening national systems and capacities across national and subnational governments, and non-governmental and academic institutions.

The strategy proposes creating an enabling environment, strengthening institutional processes, and building capacities of individuals and professional associations for strengthening the monitoring and evaluation ecosystem in Solomon Islands (diagram 1). The strategy recognizes the need for a comprehensive and broad vision for enhancing a culture of evidence use in the country. A stronger M&E system will benefit Solomon Islands by improving accountability and by

supporting learning so that projects and programs perform better. The ultimate impact is to contribute to improved development outcomes and provide citizens with voice and agency for the policies and programs that work for them.

The Solomon Islands M&E system refers to the government processes of policymaking, planning and budgeting, monitoring and reporting, and evaluation that are influenced by broader ecosystem factors including national stakeholders, country context, and cultural dynamics (diagram 2). Many institutions and individuals are involved in the M&E system. The national M&E system is a collection of diverse systems that generate a broad range of different types of evidence for use when making management and policy decisions that affect the public. Solomon's national M&E system is emergent and in need of strengthening.

Diagram 2 | Overview of a country M&E system





0.3

MESA findings on Monitoring and
Evaluation Ecosystem in Solomon Islands.

3.1 Overview of planning, budgeting, and M&E systems

Solomon Islands has a whole-of-government institutional architecture in place to monitor and report on progress across the national development strategy; however, it falls short with respect to communication between ministries and subnational governments, the quality of data, the timeliness of reporting, and the use of evidence for planning and budgeting.

The legal and policy framework for planning, budgeting, and M&E is established through the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act 2013 and key government documents such as the National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016–2035, the Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP) and corresponding M&E frameworks. The NDS is a 20-year strategic framework that guides planning in the country, whereas the MTDP operationalizes the NDS's medium-term strategies by setting priorities, development programs, projects, and annual budget plans for individual ministries. The MNDPC leads the coordination of NDS and MTDP development and informs annual budgets. The planning and budgeting process links the NDS with sectoral, provincial, and ministry strategic plans as well as with annual work plans and budgets. However, despite the progress towards integrating monitoring and reporting

requirements in the policy-making processes, the planning and budgeting are largely based on political decisions and are rarely informed by evidence.

The SIG demonstrates its commitment for reporting on climate commitments but the use of this data for national planning and budgeting is limited. The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology, with support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), aims to establish an Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) to improve data collection and reporting on mitigation and adaptation commitments and to inform climate financing decisions. However, it is not clear how this data will be used for national planning and budgeting purposes by the MNDPC or the Ministry of Finance and Treasury.

Gender and social inclusion considerations are considered of great significance in Solomon Islands. The M&E Performance Framework under the NDS 2016–2035 includes 109 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators, with 34 being gender-specific. However, there is no mechanism to ensure gender and social inclusion mainstreaming in planning and budgeting processes (e.g., gender tagging) and significant data gaps persist in key areas, hindering the progress of evaluation for gender outcomes in MTDP and NDS objectives. The National Strategy for the Development of Statistics 2015–2035 acknowledges the need for more targeted data on women and people with disabilities, aligning with national policies and the SDGs.

MNDPC Consultation with Isabel provincial government officers



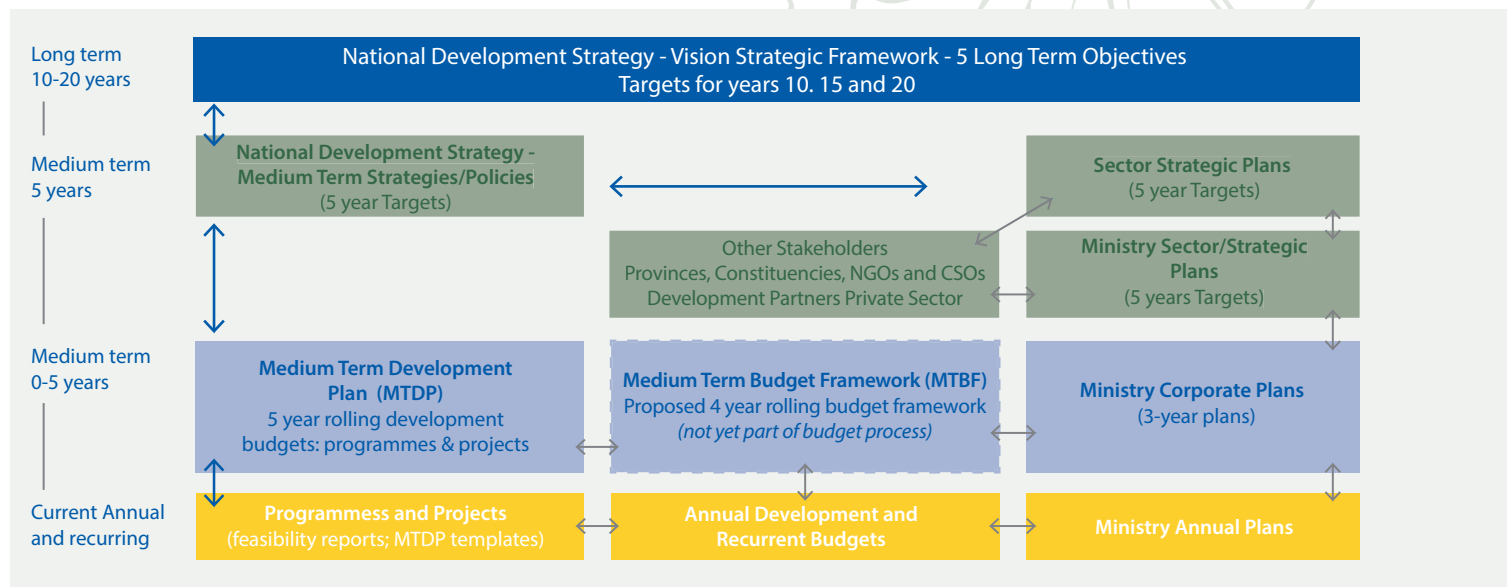
3.2 Monitoring and reporting systems and practices

Monitoring and reporting practices on NDS implementation are hindered due to a lack of clear guidance about reporting roles, responsibilities, and timelines as well as limited resources and capacities across national and subnational governments.

The MNDPC is responsible for coordinating national-level policy implementation monitoring and reporting, including reporting on SDGs and NDS indicators. It has a mandate to produce a strategic NDS performance report every three years and an

annual performance report on the MTDP and the Development Budget, which it submits to the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. This is done by the Ministry's Program Quality Division which is composed of 3 full-time staff. Line ministries and government agencies need to provide six-monthly progress reports on program and project implementation to the MNDPC and the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Provincial governments report to the national level through the Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening and their respective sectoral national ministries. In practice, the monitoring and reporting systems do not work well as there are no clear monitoring manuals and guidance notes on who needs to collect, validate and share what data, when, and how, on different levels of the NDS.

Diagram 3 | Structure of the NDS and Planning Process



Government institutions have standard templates for monitoring and reporting on annual mid-term performance, however, some of these templates and indicators are outdated and there are significant challenges in providing data and accurate reports in a timely manner. Monitoring activities by ministries implementing the NDS primarily include surveys, field visits, and on-site project verification but not all ministries have dedicated M&E staff and resources, and staff often lack capacities for M&E. The MNDPC is

mandated to support monitoring and data collection efforts across the ministries and it, conducts routine supervision visits at both national and provincial government levels, serving as a form of physical monitoring and inspection of how M&E is done on institutional and subnational levels. However, field visits are often costly, time-consuming, and risky, and the MNPDC does not have the additional capacity or resources to provide more effective training and capacity enhancement.

The quality of monitoring and reporting as well as the availability of data varies across sectors and is influenced by donor programs. National data systems are scattered and difficult to access for effective use in planning and budgeting. Over the past decade, there has been increasing support from donors to generate data and evidence across sectors and programs. Data collection and quality varies across sectors and repositories (e.g., education, health, climate change) and there is a limited understanding of who is doing what and what databases are available (annex1). For example, some

data storage and management mechanisms still largely rely on paper-based systems and tools, resulting in fragmented and inconsistent data collection and sharing across ministries, however, some national ministries have implemented electronic data collection systems, but challenges persist in terms of timeliness, data accuracy, and sharing. The Solomon Islands National Statistical Office is committed to increasing data-sharing arrangements within the scope of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics 2015–2035 but there is no clear understanding of all the existing data repositories.

3.3 Evaluation systems and practices

The evaluation function is predominantly donor-driven in Solomon Islands as the government lacks the capacity and resources to conduct or use evaluations for evidence-based policymaking.

The Solomons Islands Government (SIG) often supports and participates in donor-led evaluations, but the SIG has no experience in commissioning evaluations or using evaluation synthesis studies to inform policies. Government institutions often lose track of available evaluations as there is no public repository of evaluations and some donor-led evaluations never get published so their value is lost. There is an increasing government interest in better capturing and using the existing evaluations. The MNPDC is also interested in leading and supporting government institutions with conducting rapid evaluations and commissioning evaluation synthesis

studies to inform the NDS. However, currently, due to a lack of financial and technical capacities, the government's priority actions go towards conducting mandatory monitoring and reporting rather than commissioning evaluations.

There are no professional associations with a focus on conducting, training, or advocating for evaluations; however, civil servants are expressing an increased appetite for training in evaluations. Government institutions increasingly request M&E training through their human resource development plans. This is why Solomon Islands Institute of Public Administration and Management (IPAM) started providing an intermediate M&E course to civil servants. M&E trainings are also conducted by donor organizations. Most of the available training and professional development workshops in the Solomon Islands focus on enhancing monitoring and reporting capacities, but little is taught on how to conduct or use evaluations for evidence-based policymaking.





0.4

Key Issues to address for Strengthening National M&E systems in Solomon Islands

Per MESA consultations, there are at least 5 broad areas of interlinked issues to be addressed to strengthen national M&E systems.

The issues are presented in "Table 1" and summarized below.



Table 1 | Issues to be addressed and results expected in the strategy

	ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED by the Strategy		RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED by the Strategy
1	M&E roles and responsibilities are not clearly articulated in policy and procedures	→	M&E roles, responsibilities and practices are clearly stated and well understood amongst all affected stakeholders
2	M&E practitioners need additional skills and knowledge	→	Stakeholders at all levels have the skills and knowledge they need to participate in the M&E system
3	Decision makers often don't use M&E data to support their decision making	→	The system is well known and valued and widely used to inform decisions
4	Data are scattered across a range of depositories and are not easy to access	→	Data for use in M&E is accurate, reliable and accessible
5	The M&E community in Solomon Islands lacks organization and does not contribute optimally	→	The M&E community is dynamic and vibrant and promotes a Pacific-centric approach to M&E



1. The lack of clarity on M&E roles, responsibilities, and processes hinders SIG's capacity to generate and use evidence for planning and budgeting.

Data on NDS performance indicators are rarely collected, analyzed, and used to inform government decisions because reporting and planning responsibilities and timeframes are often not clear and not timely followed across line ministries and subnational governments. To create an enabling environment for the better use of national M&E systems in place, the MNPDC has initiated drafting a national M&E policy that will clarify the roles, responsibilities, and processes for national-level M&E. In addition, the information act is being drafted to increase the use of national data for decision-making and allow citizens access to information and evidence.

2. The national data systems are scattered and difficult to access for effective use for planning and budgeting.

Despite increasing efforts to build data systems, there is no single depository that tracks existing databases in the country. This is problematic as government institutions often don't share data easily and policymakers don't always know where to look for required information. This often provokes duplication problems. Thus, the initial step to improve the use of data might be to locate databases in one place that can be used to report and inform on the NDS.

3. M&E practitioners need additional training.

There is a gap in M&E capacities and skills across the government. The MNPDC, which is responsible for quality assurance

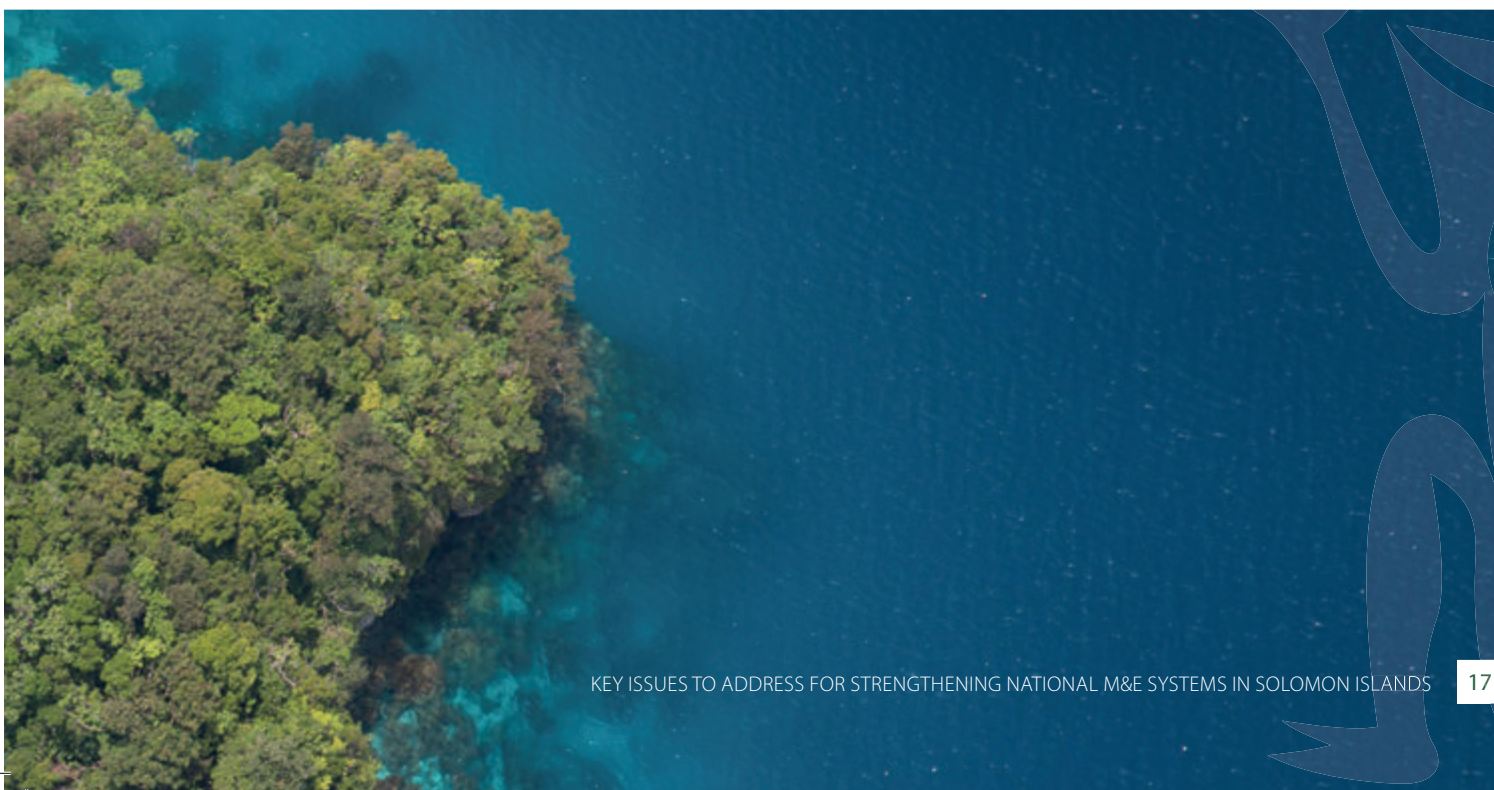
and guidance on national M&E systems for informing and reporting on NDS, currently has only 3 full-time staff working on M&E quality assurance functions. There is an increasing trend to open M&E positions within ministries and on the subnational level, but the skills and knowledge in basic M&E, data analysis, and evaluations are very limited among ministries and local governments.

4. Decision makers rarely use M&E data and evidence to support policy decisions.

There are different cultural, political and human factors that influence the limited use of data and evidence in decision making in Solomon Islands. Historically, data collection and use of data has been challenging in the country due to its geographical location and lack of qualified human resources. The government recognizes the importance of incentives for encouraging and recognizing the importance of using evidence for planning. For example, on a subnational level, there are incentives for results-based budget planning, and subnational governments are encouraged to include and report on result indicators based on the Provincial Governance Strengthening Program. However, there are no similar mechanisms on national and individual levels.

5. The M&E community is not yet established in Solomon Islands.

There are local M&E professionals and NGOs working on M&E-related matters, but there are no national M&E associations or events that focus on the issues of M&E, accountability, transparency, and learning for better policies.



0.5

Solomon Islands M&E systems Strengthening Strategy Plan



The proposed strategy plan seeks to address several challenges through five interlinked projects that will strengthen the country-led M&E system.

These five projects will be coordinated and led by the MNPDC in close collaboration with the NSO and other government and academic institutions. The five projects are:

1. Strengthen national policies and guidance on national M&E practices
2. Strengthen national capacities, skills, and knowledge in M&E
3. Build culture of evidence-based decision making
4. Strengthen data systems and evidence repositories
5. Encourage creation of national M&E community

PROJECT 1. Strengthen national policies and guidance on national M&E practices

As a priority action, the MNPDC aims to finalize the M&E Policy document that positions M&E at the heart of planning and budgeting and defines data collection and evidence-use responsibilities across the government for informing evidence-based policymaking with a focus on the NDS. The policy document will need to institutionalize transparent reporting, define M&E roles, timelines, use, and capacity, and integrate climate, gender, and equality considerations. The policy will mandate the ministries and provincial governments to have M&E focal points and promote the use of M&E for decision-making. It is expected that the policy will incentivize the

results-based budget allocation for line ministries and provincial governments. Based on the M&E policy document, the M&E manual should provide a detailed description of M&E processes, roles, and responsibilities across the government, establish quality assurance/verification processes and assign timelines. The MNPDC also needs to update the M&E/planning templates based on the M&E policy document and manual (templates used by line ministries and provincial governments for project planning and reporting). The updated templates will provide guidance on outcome indicators, data collection methods, data verification methods, and reporting timelines per NDS.

Project 1 | Strengthen national policies and guidance on national M&E practices

Strengthen national policies and guidance on national M&E practices					
Activity	Responsibility	Timeline	Output	Budget	
1 Finalize M&E policy (priority action)	MNPDC	June 2024- March 2025	Policy	2 new staff- (SBD \$200,000)* Consultant – (SBD \$300,000) Consultations – (SBD \$300,000)	
2 Develop the M&E policy manual (detailing processes and roles and responsibilities)	MNPDC in consultation with line ministries	April 2024- July 2025	Manual	Consultant (SBD \$300,000) Consultations – (SBD \$200,000)	
3 Revise NDS/M&E templates and formats	MNPDC in consultation with line ministries	August 2025 - November 2025	Updated NDS reporting templates	Consultant and Consultation Workshops (SBD \$200,000)	
4 The MNPDC to train its counterpart on how to use updated manuals and templates	MNPDC in consultation with line ministries	Ongoing		MNPDC staff time	

Outcome: M&E roles, responsibilities, and practices are clearly stated and well understood amongst all affected stakeholders

* Budget estimate is only for one year for the two staff and is determined based on the Principal position. Cost can be shared with the Development Partners. Changes made with the rest of the estimates are based on the same consideration in regard to cost sharing.

The resources needed for the implementation of the **Project 1** are human resources (2 new staff within the MNPDC) who can lead the policy work. In addition, the MNPDC will

require high-level technical advice and guidance that can be provided by the GEI M&E experts and any other local and regional assistance.

PROJECT 2. Strengthen national capacities, skills, and knowledge in M&E

As a priority, the MESA consultations have suggested that the MNPDC M&E staff (4-6 people) can serve as local M&E trainers if their capacity is strengthened. As a lead ministry responsible for coordinating data collection and M&E processes across the government, the MNPDC's M&E staff can better support capacity-building across line ministries if their capacity is strengthened. The MNPDC identified the following priority training needs for its staff:

- M&E and data skills (emphasis on basic M&E with a focus on data collection and use)
- Training of Trainers (TOT) for local M&E specialists to be able to support lines ministries and provincial governments on M&E tasks

- Evaluation training to conduct rapid evaluations and provide evaluation synthesis reports

In addition, there is an increasing demand to provide M&E training across government institutions. This can be done by a local institute (e.g., IPAM) and/or the university, but they will require technical support to develop a curriculum and respond to learning needs. The MESA consultations have suggested that the M&E training should be provided as part of SI's Public Service sector qualification support program in consultation with the Ministry of Education.

Project 2 | Strengthen national capacities, skills, and knowledge in M&E

Strengthen national capacities, skills, and knowledge in M&E					
Activity	Responsibility	Timeline	Output	Budget	
1 M&E training for MNPDC (priority)	MNPDC (in consultation with the IPAM, GEI, SPC, and other potential donors)	Sept 2024-Sept 2025	Trainer MNPDC TOTs (3-5 people)	SBD\$100,000	
2 Broader M&E capacity building	MNPDC (in consultation with the IPAM, GEI, SPC, and other potential donors)	Sept 2024-2028	Trained civil servants (over 100 people)	SBD\$100,000	
3 M&E higher education project established in the local university (M&E certificate project run by a local university)	Local provider/university	2024/2028	Public administration students and civil servants (30/50 people yearly)	SBD\$400,000	

Outcome: Stakeholders at all levels have the skills and knowledge they need to participate in the M&E system

PROJECT 3. Build culture of evidence-based decision making

An evaluations repository has been identified as one of the priority actions by the MESA consultations. The MNPDC is best positioned to create and maintain a repository of the country evaluations where all commissioners of evaluations, mostly development partners and academic institutions will be required to submit their evaluation reports for sharing on the repository once these have been approved for dissemination by their principals. The MNPDC also aims to showcase the use of evaluations by providing synthesis reports per NDS themes. The synthesis reports will list the evaluations undertaken in that pillar/sector noting who commissioned the evaluation,

summarize findings from the evaluations, and note strategic issues to be considered in similar future interventions.

The MESA consultations have also suggested the MNPDC to run a communication strategy to (1) create awareness of M&E as an important component of public management and the role that evidence should play in decision-making, and (2) identify channels of communication for SIG's performance and achievements. Radio shows hosted by the MNPDC could highlight the work of the Ministry, the achievements of the government, and learnings based on data, evidence, monitoring, and evaluation activities.

Project 3 | Build culture of evidence-based decision making

Build culture of evidence-based decision making				
Activity	Responsibility	Timeline	Output	Budget
1 Develop Communications Strategy	MNPDC comms & PQD	Sept 2024-September 2025	Comms strategy established and implemented	Consultant & Consultation costs SBD \$300,000
2 Create an evaluation repository (priority)	MNPDC	May 2024 completion in July 2024	Eval Repository	Consultant & consultation costs SBD \$300,000
3 Conduct first government-commissioned evaluation (1-2 evaluations)	MNPDC	August 2024 - October 2026	Evaluation report	Consultant & Consultation costs SBD \$300,000
4 Create examples of government-led evaluation synthesis reports (1-3 per NDS themes)	MNPDC	Sept 2024-2026	Synthesis report	Consultant & Printing costs SBD \$200,000
5 Public awareness campaigns (e.g., radio show)	MNPDC	Sept 2025	Radio shows	SBD \$100,000

Outcome: The system is well known and valued and widely used to inform decisions



Project 4. Strengthen data systems and evidence repositories

As a priority action, the MESA consultations suggested that the MNPDC should work in close collaboration with the National Statistics Office and Information, Technology, and Communications Solomons Islands Government to commission the creation of an inventory of the existing

national databases that could inform the NDS. This will help to better coordinate and synergize data collection and quality assurance of different data systems. Another suggested action is to create a data management strategy for reporting on the NDS.

Project 4 | Strengthen data systems

Strengthen data systems					
Activity	Responsibility	Timeline	Output	Budget	
1	Create an inventory of existing databases (priority)	MNPDC comms & SIG ICTSU	August 2024 - October 2025	Accessible inventory	Consultant & Consultation costs \$100,000
2	Create Data management and quality assurance strategy (NDS-focused)	MNPDC/Stats	2024/2025 (strategy development and implementation phases)	Strategy	Consultant & Consultation costs SBD \$250,000
3	Provide NDS data collection, quality assurance, and analysis workshops	MNPDC/Stats	2025	Workshops	Consultant SBD \$100,000

Outcome: Data for use in M&E is accurate, reliable, and accessible



PROJECT 5. Encourage creation of national M&E community

MESA consultations suggested that voluntary organizations on M&E could help to advance M&E and an accountability agenda in Solomons Islands. As a result, the MNPDC is advised to work with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Public Service to propose a cabinet paper (under Charitable Act) to establish a Voluntary Organization for Professional Evaluation (VOPE). VOPEs are civil society entities that allow

M&E practitioners to meet regularly and on a sustained basis to determine and advance their national evaluation agenda. The MNPDC can contract a local facilitator to convene the establishment of VOPE serving the emergent M&E community in Solomons (TOR, action plan, etc.). This can be commenced with the Solomon Islands Public Service Evaluation Network (SIPSEN) team led by the Ministry of Public Service.

Project 5 | Encourage creation of national M&E community

Encourage creation of national M&E community					
Activity	Responsibility	Timeline	Output	Budget	
1 Solomon Islands M&E Association	MNPDC will work with Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Public Service	Sept 2024-2026	VOPE creation	Consultant SBD \$300,000	
2 Country M&E Forum	MNPDC and SIPSEN	Sept 2024-2026	Forums	Catering costs Transport and accommodation costs (SBD \$200,000 annually for three years)	
3 MNPDC recruits an M&E systems strengthening strategy coordinator	MNPDC	May 2024 – August 2025	Strategy consultations and updates	Consultant & Consultations (SBD \$300,000)	

Outcome: The M&E community is dynamic and vibrant and promotes a Pacific-centric approach to M&E



0.6 Summary





The MESA report identified gaps and opportunities for strengthening national M&E systems in Solomon Islands. The MESA consultations and validation workshops led by the GEI and MNPDC teams have informed this strategy and specific activities across 5 areas for the next 5 years.

The strategy action plan is comprehensive and phased over the next years. The priority actions for the first year will allow the government to advance with the M&E policy, train the MNPDC M&E specialists, create an inventory of the existing databases for reporting on the NDS and create a repository of existing evaluations. These actions will be fundamental steps forward to enhancing M&E systems and functions.

The MNPDC team will continue fundraising for the action plan projects. The GEI's local consultant will help the MNPDC with initial strategy implementation and coordination.



Annexes

ANNEX 1: Some of the existing database systems across the government

Data base system - National / Provincial level	
<p>MEHRD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solomon Islands Education Management Information System (SIEMIS) <p>MAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PNG National Agriculture Information System (NAIS) and Melanesian Agriculture Information System (MAIS) <p>MNPDC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aid Information Management System (AIMS) <p>MHMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Information Management System (HIMS) <p>MECCDMM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced transparency system (in progress) Environmental Data Portal iMRV online based system (still in development) 	<p>MoFT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Management Information System (FMIS) D365 SIG ICT (cloud based and online platforms such as google drive, common dirve, e- portal etc.) <p>MPGIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PGSP Monitoring and evaluation system and processes <p>Provincial Governments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No database systems <p>DSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> no data base system to collect, store and analyze data from its members <p>SICCI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> no data base system to collect, store and analyze data from its members









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