

*Resilient, strategic, and open for
business, at the heart of the Pacific*



This is

**SOLOMON
ISLANDS**





TABLE OF CONTENTS

01	Welcome to Solomon Islands	03
02	Solomon Islands at a Glance	05
03	Investment Opportunities	07
04	Reasons to Invest	10
4.1	Solid and Resilient Economy	11
4.2	Strategic Export Platform	15
4.3	Business Environment and Tax Incentives	19
4.4	Competitive Operational Costs	28
4.5	Young, Vibrant and Educated Workforce	31
4.6	Environmental Protection	33
05	Successful Stories	35
06	How to Invest	37
07	About Invest Solomons (MCILI)	38
08	Contact Information	39



Dear Investor,

We are pleased to introduce you to the Solomon Islands; a **resilient, fast-growing island nation at the heart of the Pacific**. Strategically located with one of the world's largest Exclusive Economic Zones, our country offers preferential access to over 2.9 billion consumers, rich natural resources, and a youthful, dynamic population.

The Solomon Islands is a **place of opportunity and vision**. With the third-largest economy in the Pacific, strong policies, a stable business climate, and a robust framework of tax incentives, **the country is entering a new era of growth and transformation**, and invites you to be part of it.

As Invest Solomons, operating under the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration (MCILI), we are your first point of contact. We support investors from registration to long-term expansion with clear procedures, tailored facilitation, and ongoing aftercare.

In this brochure, you will find compelling **reasons to invest, priority sectors with high potential, and inspiring success stories** that demonstrate why now is the right time to choose Solomon Islands.

Let's shape the future together, in a country where resilience meets opportunity.

Warm regards,

Invest Solomons

Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration

"With the third-largest economy in the Pacific, strong policies, a stable business climate, and a robust framework of tax incentives, the country is entering a new era of growth and invites you to be part of it"





*The Solomon Islands is a place
of opportunity and vision.*



02 SOLOMON ISLANDS AT A GLANCE

Location & Geography

The Solomon Islands is a vast archipelago in the South Pacific, comprising six main islands and hundreds of smaller islands. Covering 27,986 km² of land and 5,313 km of coastline, the country also holds one of the world’s largest marine territories, with an Exclusive Economic Zone of 1.58 million km².

This unique geographic position makes it a natural hub for the Blue Economy, offering opportunities in fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, and marine-based industries.



QUICK FACTS



Population:
819,200 (2024), with 64% under 30 years old



Official Languages:
English and Solomon Pidgin



GDP per capita (2024):
US\$2,149 (Lower-middle income economy)



Capital:
Honiara



Unemployment rate (2024):
1.47% (well below global and regional average)



Independence:
1978 (from British protectorate)



Inflation (2024):
4.2% (below Pacific average of 5.5%)



Climate:
Tropical, hot and humid all year; wet season (Nov–Mar), cooler season (Apr–Oct)

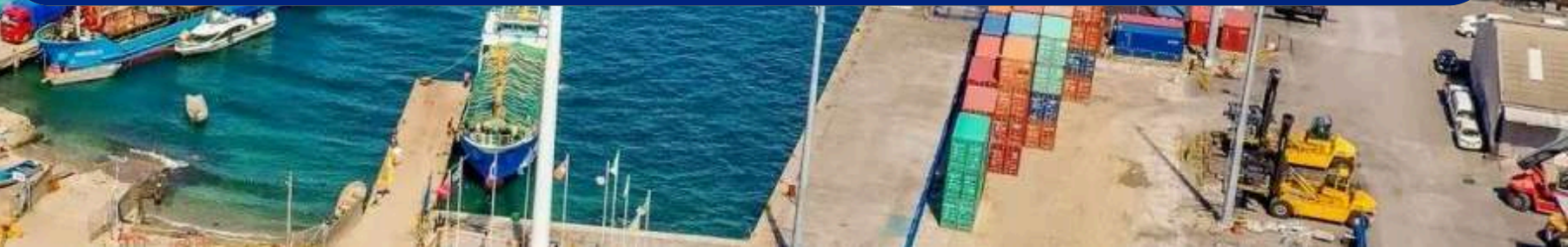


Currency:
Solomon Islands Dollar (SBD), US\$1 = SBD\$8.2 avg.



Religion:
Predominantly Christian (mainly Protestant)

Source: CIA World Fact



Society and Identity

With the highest share of youth in the Pacific, **64% of the population under 30**, Solomon Islands is a nation full of energy, creativity, and growth potential.

Society is rooted in strong family ties, community values, and Christian faith, blending tradition with resilience.

Rapid demographic growth, averaging 2.38% annually over the last five years, ensures both a growing consumer base and an expanding workforce ready to drive the country's future.



Government

The Solomon Islands operates as a parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy, within the Commonwealth. The Head of State is represented by the Governor-General, while government is led by an elected Prime Minister and parliament.

Strong democratic institutions, combined with membership in key global and regional organizations, including the United Nations, World Trade Organization, and Pacific Islands Forum, ensure that Solomon Islands is firmly connected to the international community.

03

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Strategic sectors with high growth potential

The Solomon Islands offers a wide portfolio of opportunities across priority sectors aligned with national development strategies and global demand. From tourism and fisheries to agribusiness, forestry, and manufacturing, investors can tap into both domestic growth and international markets.



Tourism Development

Tourism is a cornerstone of Solomon Islands' growth strategy, with high-potential sites across the archipelago.

- **Accommodation & Resorts:** Development of eco-resorts, mid-range hotels, boutique lodges, and guesthouses.
- **Adventure Services:** Diving, surfing, trekking, WWII heritage, and cultural tourism.
- **Tourism Hubs:** Gizo, Munda, and Seghe, home to world-class diving, lagoons, and eco-tourism gateways.
- **Investable Land Portfolio:** Over 60 pre-assessed sites in Western Province, with clear land titles and reliable profiles.

Fisheries

With one of the Pacific's largest Exclusive Economic Zones, fisheries are central to Solomon Islands' economy.

- **Aquaculture:** Ocean and land-based farming of prawns, crustaceans, and other high-value species.
- **Tuna Capture & Processing:** Opportunities in loining, filleting, and canning for export markets.
- **Marine Infrastructure:** Cold storage, logistics, port facilities, and certification services for sustainable seafood exports.



Manufacturing

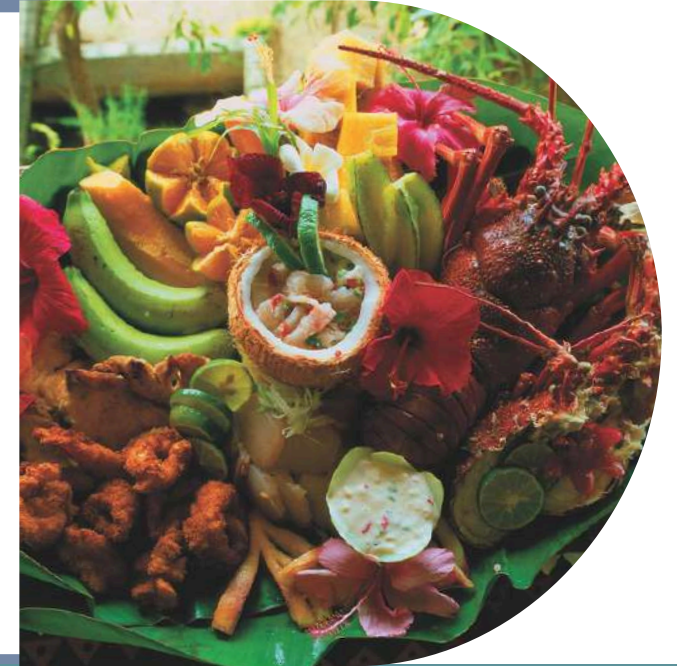
- Opportunities for import substitution and export diversification are steadily expanding in Solomon Islands, creating space for new investors to establish sustainable and profitable ventures.
- **Food Processing:** Production for local markets and exports.
- **Garments:** Production for local markets.
- **Wood Products:** Furniture and wooden toys for local and export markets.
- **Cosmetics:** Development of natural and organic cosmetics for domestic and international markets.



Agribusiness & Forestry

Agriculture and forestry provide a strong base for value-added industries.

- **Crops:** Coconut (copra), cocoa, coffee, vegetables and spices for farming, processing and export.
- **Livestock:** Cattle, pigs, and poultry farming with integrated processing facilities.
- **Forestry:** Timber milling for local and export markets; plantation projects with added value processing.
- **Carbon Trading:** Sustainable forestry and conservation projects generating revenue through carbon credits.



Energy

The Solomon Islands is rich in untapped energy resources.

- **Renewable energy:** Expanding solar and hydropower generation to meet growing national demand.
- **Mineral prospecting & extraction:** Opportunities in gold, nickel, and precious metal ores, with strong demand from international markets.
- **Support services:** Infrastructure, logistics, and equipment supply for energy projects.
- **Favorable conditions:** Policy incentives, access to regional markets, and available land make the Solomon Islands a strong destination for sustainable, long-term energy investments.







04 REASONS TO INVEST IN SOLOMON ISLANDS

The Solomon Islands offers a unique combination of scale, stability, and sustainability.

With the third-largest economy in the Pacific, abundant natural resources, preferential access to global markets, and the region’s youngest workforce, the country is positioning itself as a leading destination for long-term investment.

Here are the six key reasons to invest in Solomon Islands:

01

Solid and Resilient Economy

3rd largest economy in the Pacific, steady growth, low unemployment, and controlled inflation create confidence for investors.



02

Strategic Export Platform

Preferential access to over 2.9 billion consumers in 62 countries, with one of the Pacific’s largest Exclusive Economic Zones, makes Solomon Islands a natural hub for trade and the Blue Economy.



03

Business Environment

With steady improvements in peace and stability, Solomon Islands offers a robust legal framework, strong policy performance, and attractive tax incentives that create a predictable and supportive investment environment



04

Competitive Operational Costs

2nd most competitive salaries, moderate utility prices, and a standard tax regime help maximize profitability.



05

Young, Vibrant, and Educated Workforce

With 64% of its population under 30 and strong investment in education, Solomon Islands provides a dynamic and growing labor force.



06

Regional Leader in Environmental Protection

With 90% forest cover, one of the world’s lowest CO₂ emissions per capita, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the country is a model for sustainable development.



4.1

REASON #1: SOLID AND RESILIENT ECONOMY

A large and resilient economy

With a GDP of US\$1.76 billion (2024), the Solomon Islands is the third-largest economy in the Pacific.

Despite external challenges, the country has shown steady performance with an average growth rate of 1.3% (2019–2024), above the Pacific average of 0.9%.

Looking ahead, GDP is forecast to expand by 2.7% in 2026, outpacing both the Pacific (2.5%) and the World (2.4%) average rates.

Pacific Island States GDP Size, 2024 (US\$ Million)

Papua New Guinea	32.538
Fiji	5.841
Solomon Islands	1.761
Vanuatu	1.161
Samoa	1.068
Tonga	518
Micronesia	471
Cook Islands	360
Palau	308
Kiribati	308
Marshall Islands	280
Nauru	160
Tuvalu	64

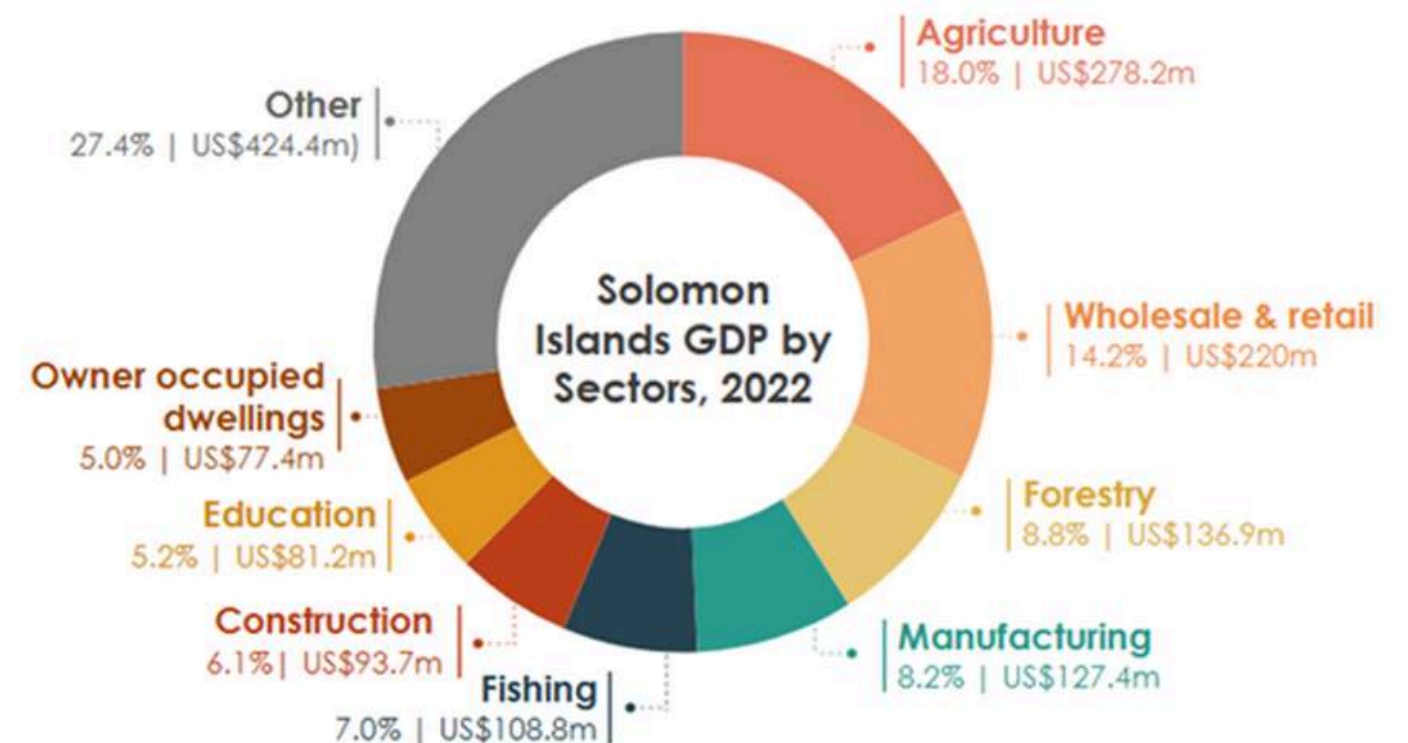
Note: GDP size at current USD prices; growth at constant prices (2015).
Source: World Bank

A diversified and service-oriented economy

The Solomon Islands benefits from a broad and diversified economic structure.

Services lead with 47.3% of GDP, followed by agriculture, fisheries and forestry (33.8%), and industry (18.7%).

This diversity underpins stability and resilience, while offering opportunities across multiple sectors.



Other: Transport & storage 4.0%, Health 2.6%, Electricity & water 2.5%, Communications 2.3%, Hotel & restaurants 1.9%, Mining 1.9%, Other 5.4%.

Note: The estimated sectoral contributions to GDP may contain some inaccuracies due to the high level of informality in the economy and the fact that some payments are received as remittances.

Source: Central Bank of Solomon Islands (GDP at current prices) (<https://www.cbsi.com.sb>)

4.1

REASON #1: SOLID AND RESILIENT ECONOMY

 Strong fundamentals

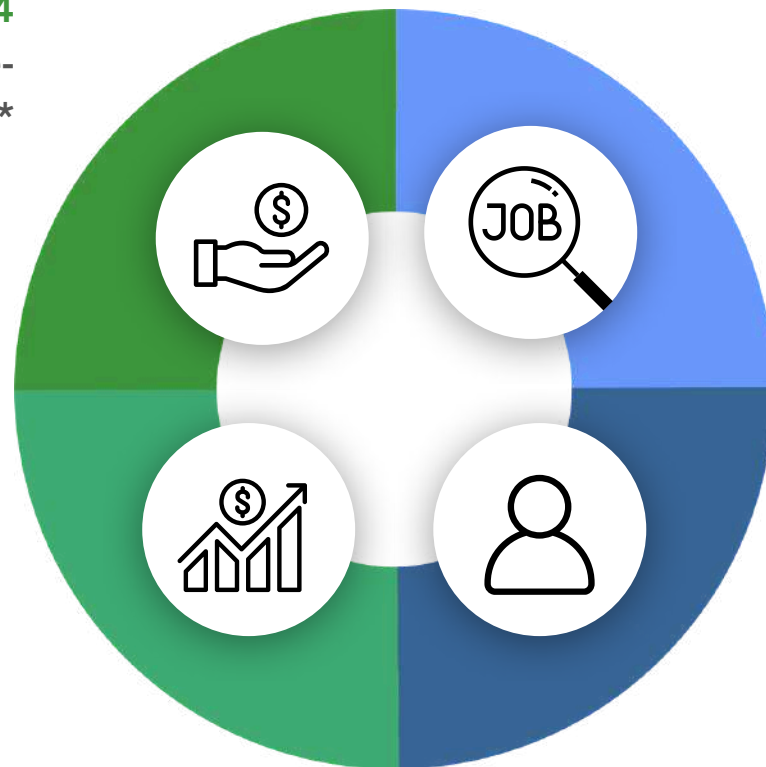

The Solomon Islands' macroeconomic indicators reflect a stable and resilient foundation for investors. The economy is diversified across services, agriculture, and industry, ensuring balance and long-term stability. Inflation remains under control, unemployment is low compared to regional peers, and growth prospects are positive.

Added to this, the country has one of the youngest populations in the Pacific, providing a dynamic labor force and an expanding consumer market. Together, these factors create confidence for investors seeking sustainable opportunities in the region.

US\$2,149 GDP per capita 2024
Considering it a lower-middle-income economy***

1.47% Unemployment rate 2024*
Lower than World (4.89%), East Asia & Pacific (3.78%) and Pacific Island States (3.14%) averages

4.2% Inflation 2024
Lower than Pacific Island States (5.5%) average**



819.2K inhabitants 2024
With 64% under 30 years, exceeding Pacific island states (58.3%), the World (46.5%) and East Asia & Pacific (35.7%) averages

Note: GDP per capita at current USD prices. Inflation average consumer prices.

(*) Despite having one of the lowest unemployment rates in the region, informality in the labor market remains high, reaching about 57% in 2024 (ILO)

(**) Estimated by UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

(***) GDP per capita between US\$1,136 – \$4,495.

Source: The World Bank Database - Solomon Islands National Statistics Office



4.1

REASON #1: SOLID AND RESILIENT ECONOMY

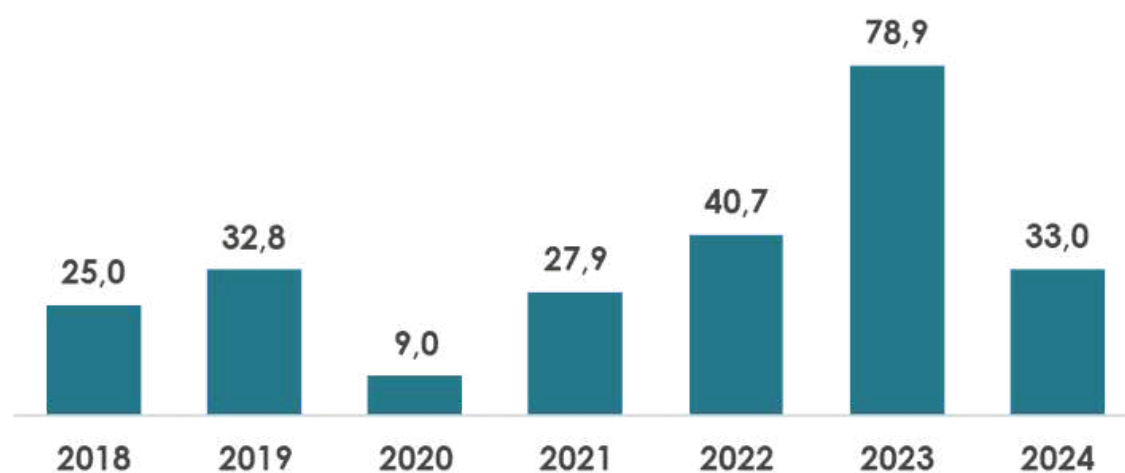
Growing foreign investment

Foreign direct investment (FDI) has been expanding at an average annual rate of 4.7% over the past six years, reaching a peak of US\$78.9 million in 2023.

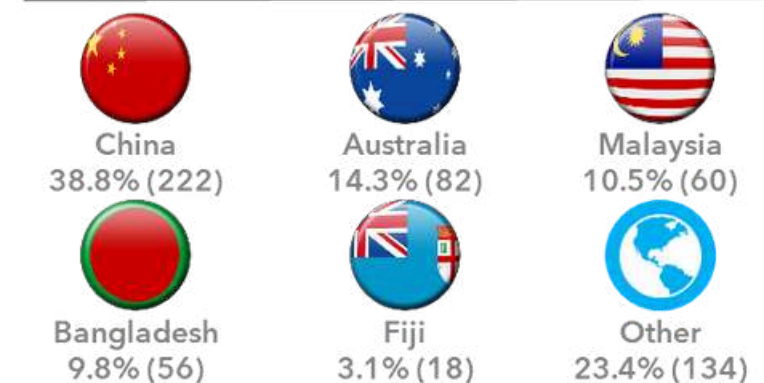
- **Top investors:** China (38.8%), Australia (14.3%), and Malaysia (10.5%).
- **Leading sectors:** Retail & wholesale (30.5%), professional services (9.8%), and construction (9%).

This inflow reflects growing international confidence and the attractiveness of the Solomon Islands as a regional investment hub.

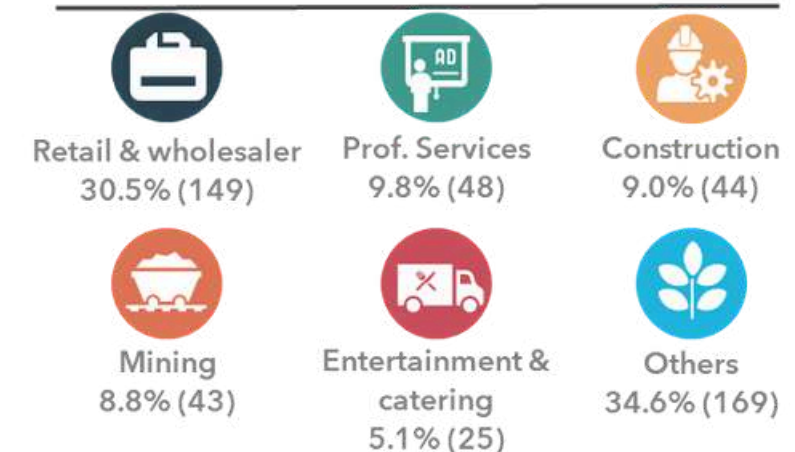
Foreign Direct Investment in Solomon Islands,
2018-2024 (US\$ Million)



FDI by Country (by FIC¹), 2018-2024



FDI by Sector (by FIC¹), 2018-2024



FIC: Number of Foreign Investment Certificates issued by the Foreign Investment Division of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration.

Source: World Bank Data base - Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration



Solomon Islands holds the third-largest marine territory in the Pacific and 23rd globally.



4.2

REASON #2: STRATEGIC EXPORT PLATFORM

Preferential access to global markets

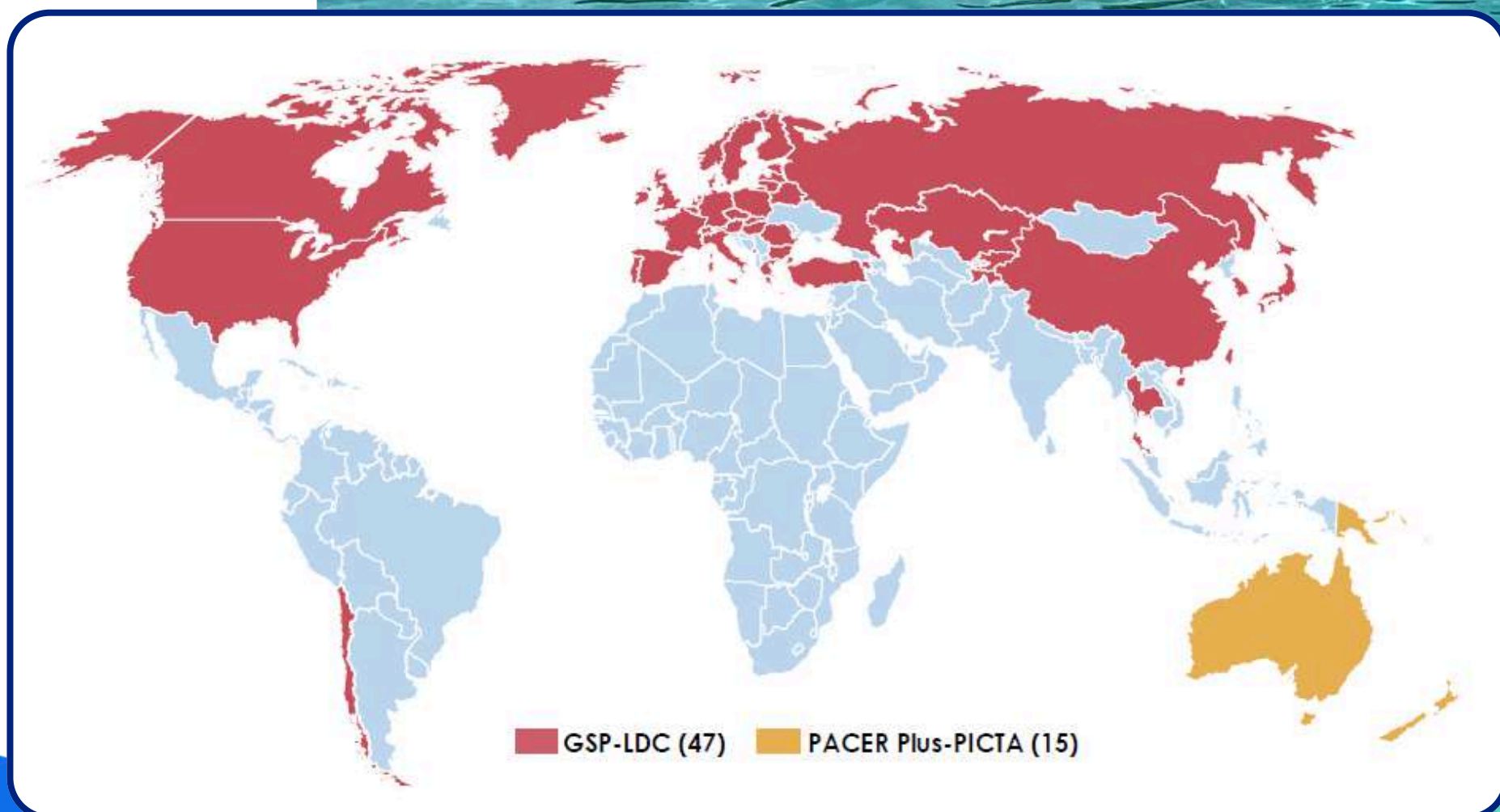
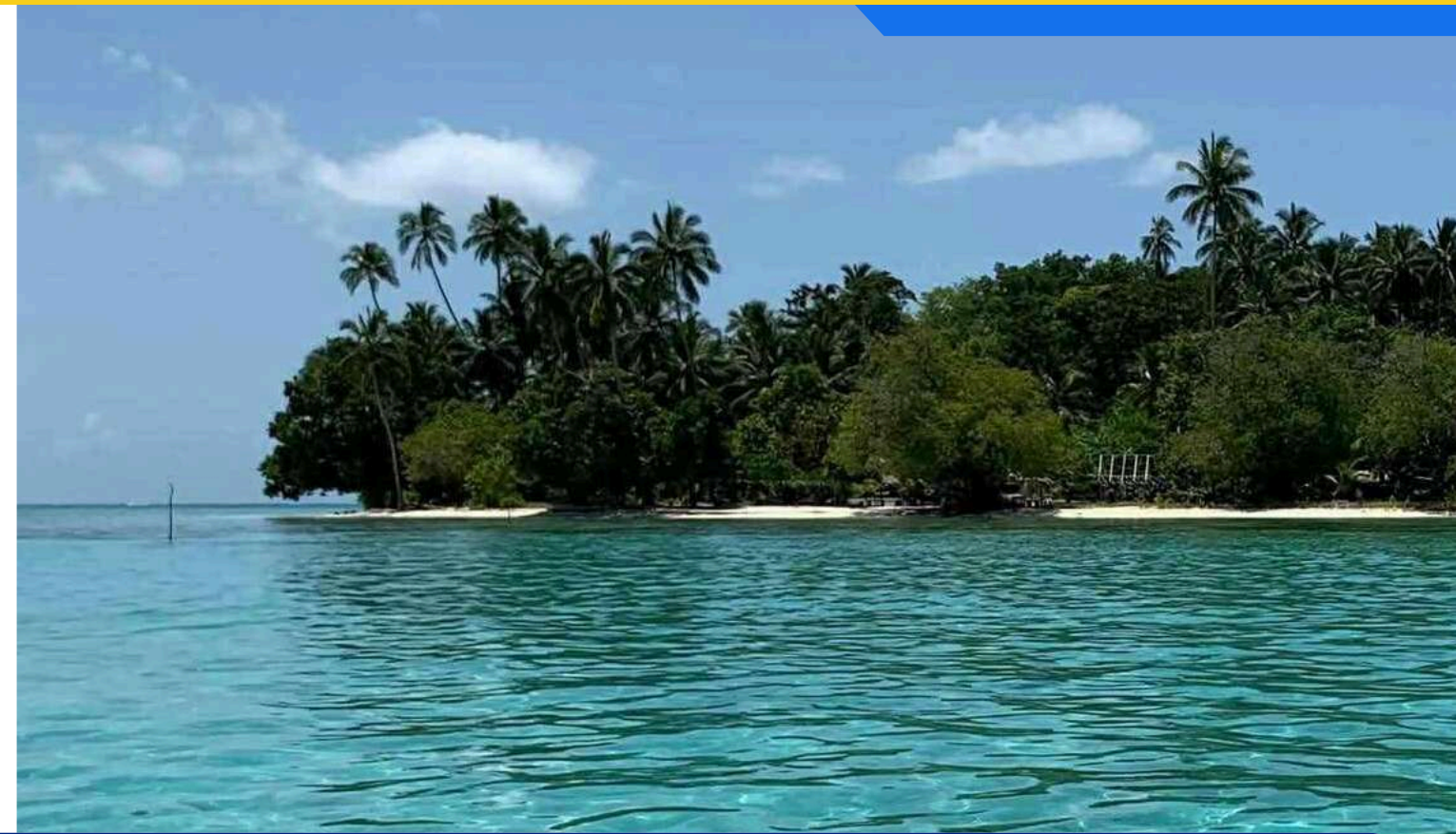
The Solomon Islands provides duty-free, quota-free access to over 2.9 billion consumers in 62 countries through the GSP-LDC scheme. This includes major economies such as the USA, EU, UK, Japan, and China.

Regional integration further strengthens this advantage, with PACER Plus and PICTA agreements connecting the Solomon Islands to 15 Pacific Island countries, including Australia and New Zealand. Since 1996, WTO membership has ensured transparent, rules-based trade, reinforcing investor confidence.

GSP – LDC countries: Armenia, Belarus, Canada, Chile, China, European Union, Iceland, Japan, Kazakhstan, South Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Taipei, Turkey, United Kingdom and USA*.

PACER Plus-PICTA countries: Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

Source: MacMap.org.



4.2

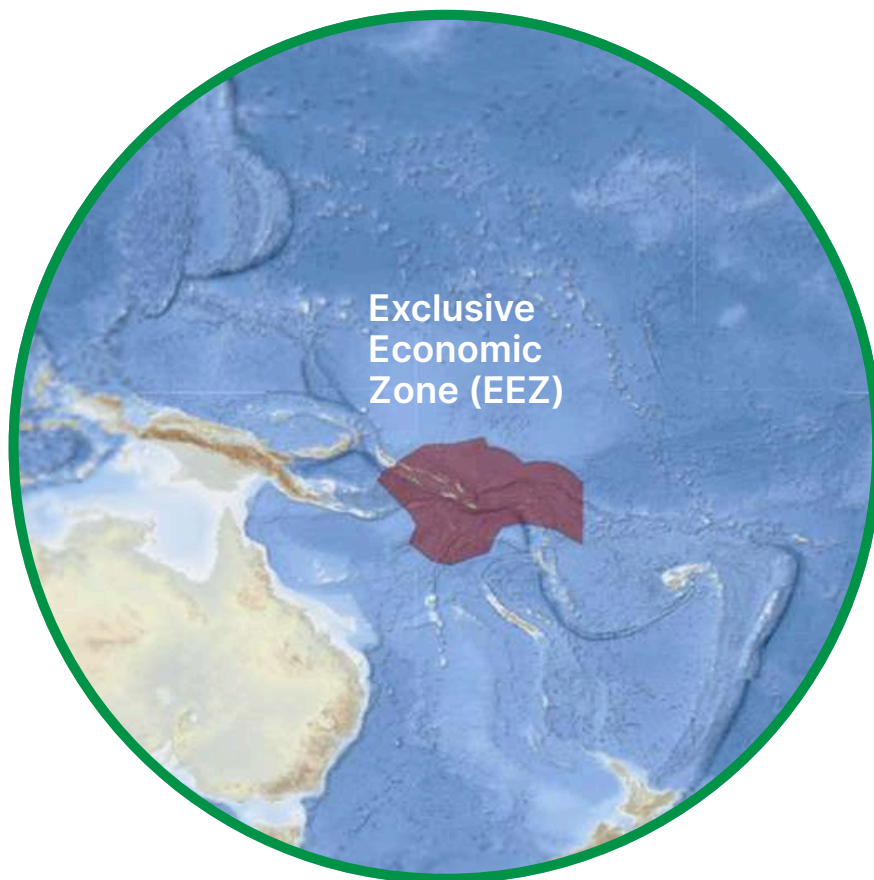
REASON #2: STRATEGIC EXPORT PLATFORM



Vast Blue Economy potential

With an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 1.58 million km², the Solomon Islands holds the third-largest marine territory in the Pacific and 23rd globally.

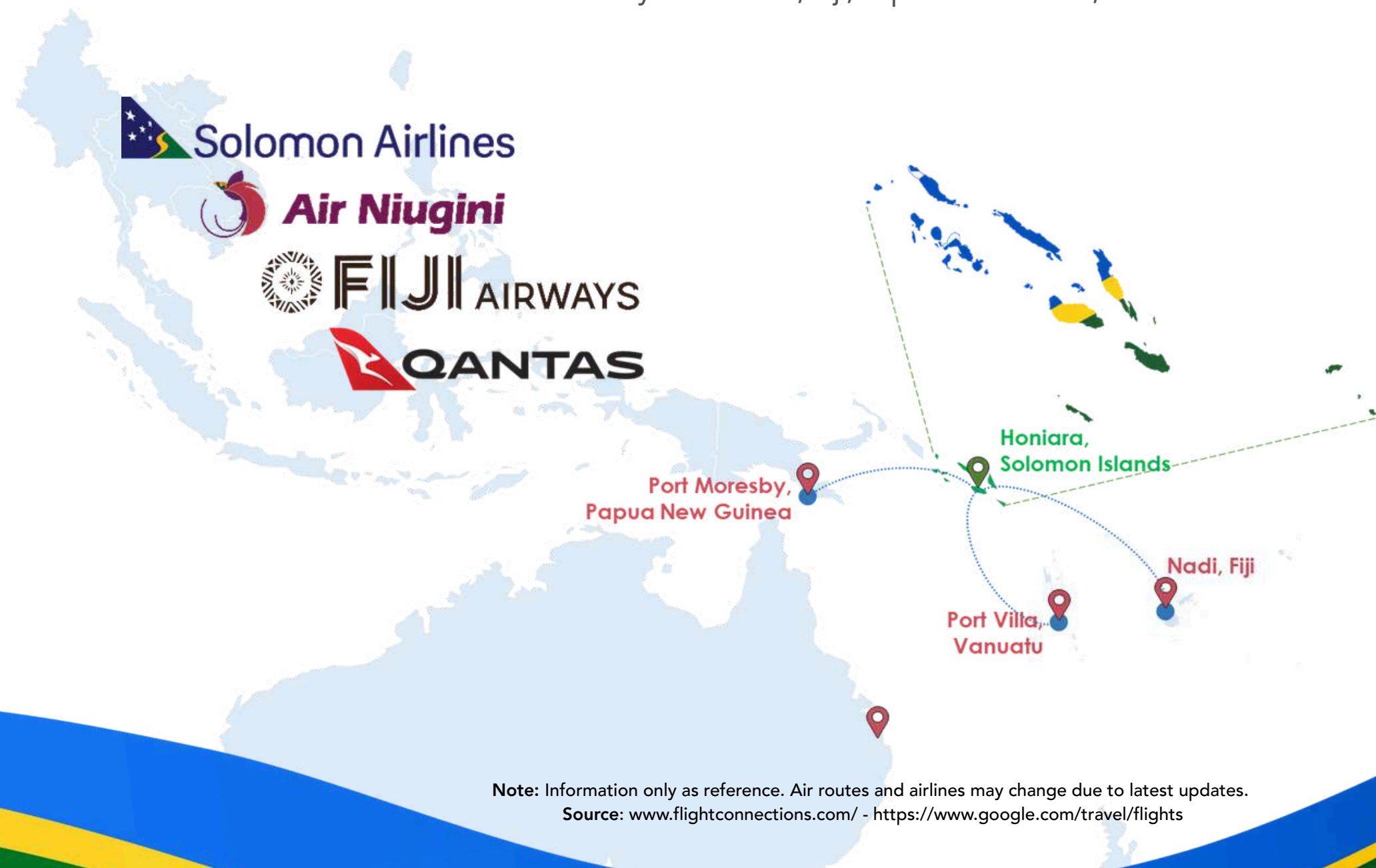
This provides unparalleled opportunities in fisheries, aquaculture, and ocean-based industries, positioning the country as a regional leader in the Blue Economy.



Reliable air connectivity

The Solomon Islands is well connected to the Pacific region, with over 15 direct weekly flights to 4 international destinations. Honiara International Airport (HIR) serves as the main entry point, complemented by 20+ domestic airports and airfields that ensure inter-island access.

Airlines such as Solomon Airlines, Fiji Airways, Air Niugini, and Qantas connect the country to Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Vanuatu.



Note: Information only as reference. Air routes and airlines may change due to latest updates.
Source: www.flightconnections.com/ - <https://www.google.com/travel/flights>

4.2

REASON #2: STRATEGIC EXPORT PLATFORM

 Expanding maritime network

Ports of Honiara and Noro, managed by the Solomon Islands Ports Authority (SIPA), are the country's main trade gateways.

These ports handle containers, bulk cargo, oil terminals, and passenger traffic, with a Green Port program targeting carbon neutrality by 2030.

The port of Honiara offers storage for up to 1,000 containers and two berths capable of handling vessels up to 150 m in length with 11.5 m depth. Direct connections link the Solomon Islands to Hong Kong, Malaysia, Australia, Fiji, Vanuatu, and Papua New Guinea.



Inbound direct connections to Honiara Port



Hong Kong,
China



Port Moresby, Lae
& Rabaul, PNG



Suva & Port
Lautoka, Fiji

Outbound direct connections from Honiara Port



Port Klang,
Malaysia



Sydney, Australia



Santo, Vanuatu



Suva, Fiji



Lae, PNG

Note: Information only as reference. Cargo routes and lines may change due to latest updates.

Source: <https://www.fluentcargo.com> - <https://www.sipa.com.sb/>



4.2

REASON #2: STRATEGIC EXPORT PLATFORM



Growing international trade

- **Rising trade performance:** During the last 4 years (2020-2024), imports grew steadily on an average annual rate of 11.5% going from US\$369m to US\$570m, while exports did it on 4.9% going from US\$553m to US\$670m, reflecting rising domestic demand and economic activity.
- **Trade balance surplus:** Solomon Islands remains one of only 3 Pacific countries, alongside Papua New Guinea and Micronesia, to sustain a trade surplus. In 2024, exports reached US\$670 million, exceeding imports of US\$561 million.
- **Exports:** Concentrated in rough wood (43.5%), processed fish (13.4%), and gold (12.9%).
- **Imports:** Led by mineral fuels (19%), machinery & mechanical appliances (10.8%), and electrical machinery & electronics (8%).

This diverse trade profile reflects strong demand for Solomon Islands' natural resources and the growing role of manufactured imports in supporting domestic development.

Top Export Products 2024



Rough wood: 43.5% (US\$291.4m)



Processed fish: 13.4% (US\$90.1m)



Gold: 12.9% (US\$86.3m)



Others: 30.2% (US\$202.9m)

Export Destinations 2024:



China: 57.8% (US\$387.3m)



Australia: 13.7% (US\$91.6m)



Italy: 11.1% (US\$74.7m)



Others: 17.4% (US\$116.1m)

Top Import Products 2024



Mineral fuels: 19.0% (US\$108.2m)



Machinery & mechanical appliances: 10.8% (US\$61.4m)



Electrical machinery & electronics: 8.0% (US\$45.4m)



Others: 62.2% (US\$354.3m)

Import Sources 2024:



China: 36.5% (US\$208.5m)



Singapore: 18.5% (US\$105.4m)



Australia: 13.3% (US\$75.9m)



Others: 31.7% (US\$181.5m)



Business Environment

Solomon Islands is firmly committed to creating a stable, transparent, and reliable environment for investors.

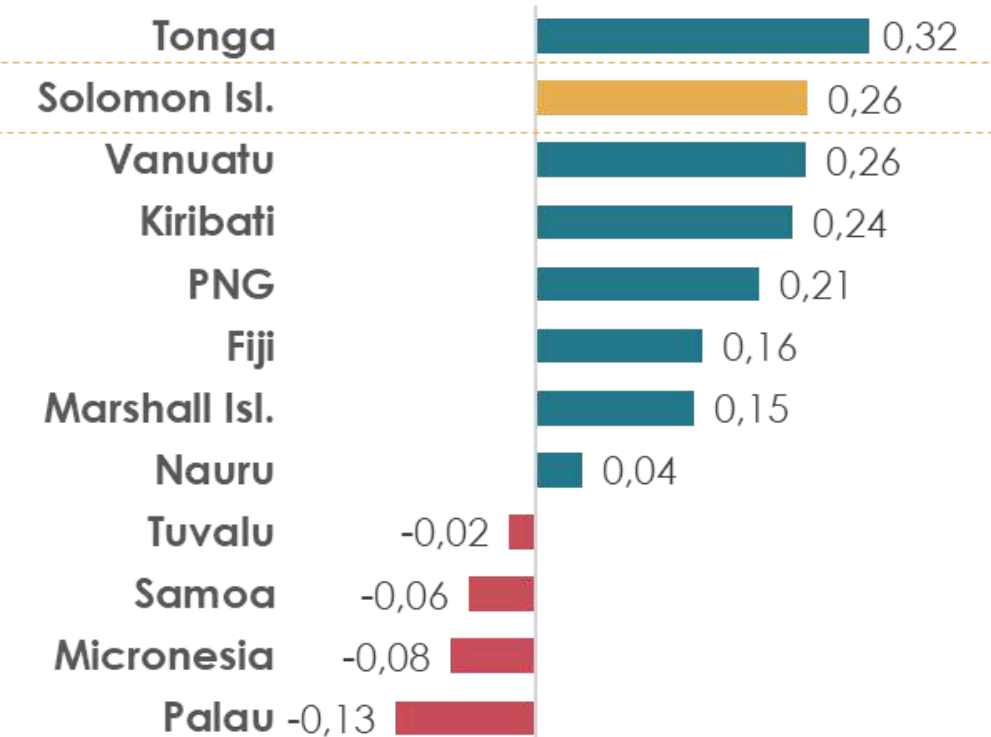
Over the past years, the country has strengthened political stability, advanced policy performance, introduced attractive fiscal incentives, and developed a solid portfolio of tourism sites, all underpinned by a robust legal framework that guarantees investor protection.

Growing political stability

The Solomon Islands has made remarkable progress in stability and governance.

The Political Stability & Absence of Violence Index improved from 0.19 in 2017 to 0.45 in 2023, nearly doubling in six years. With a 0.26-point gain, the country ranks as the 2nd fastest-improving nation in the Pacific, reinforcing confidence in a safer and more predictable environment for investors.

Political stability & absence of violence/Terrorism Score Variation, (2017-2023)



Note: Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism: Perceptions of the likelihood of political instability and/or politically-motivated violence, including terrorism. By 2023 Solomon ranked 12th among the 13 Pacific countries.

Source: The World Bank Database (<https://databank.worldbank.org/>)





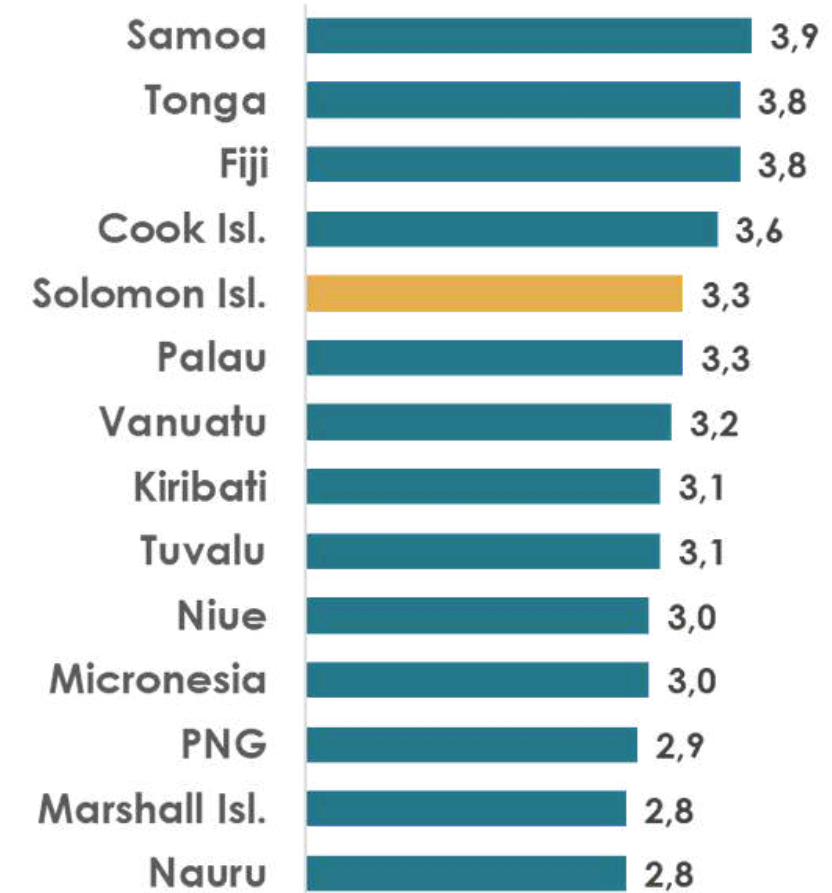
Among the Pacific's top policy performers

The Solomon Islands ranks 5th out of 14 Pacific Island States in the Asian Development Bank's Country Performance Assessment.

Its strong position reflects the country's capacity to maintain sound economic management, implement structural reforms, and ensure effective governance, building trust and confidence among investors.

- **Economic management:** Ranked 4th in the Pacific, with top performance in Debt Policy and Management (#1) and Monetary & Exchange Rate Policies (#1). This demonstrates disciplined fiscal policies and a resilient macroeconomic framework.
- **Structural policy foundations:** Also ranked 4th in the Pacific, leading in Financial Sector Development (#1) and performing well in Business Regulatory Environment (#4), supporting a stronger financial system and pro-investment regulations.
- **Regional competitiveness:** These results position Solomon Islands among the Pacific's most consistent policy performers, creating a stable and predictable environment for investors.

Policy Performance Index in the Pacific,
2024 (Score)



Source: Asian Development bank (ADB) Country Performance Assessment (CPA).



4.3

REASON #3: BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND TAX INCENTIVES



Attractive tax incentives

To stimulate private sector growth, the Solomon Islands provides 14 tailored investment incentive packages focused on tourism, aviation, and marine activities.

1

Manufacturing and Export-oriented goods

3–6 years income tax holiday with >25% local value added.

2

Investments above SBD \$10 million (US\$1.2 million)

5–10 years income tax holiday.

3

Export and agriculture

- 3–6 years income tax holiday + 150% deduction for promotion of agricultural, manufactured, or seafood exports.
- 5–10 years income tax holiday for agriculture, livestock, reforestation, fisheries, and deep-sea operations.

4

Factory space

Write-offs for new or expanded factory space (40% first year, 5% thereafter).

5

Other income tax deductions

- 150% for inter-province transport of raw materials.
- 200% for professional training in higher education (local or overseas).

These targeted incentives create a highly competitive framework for investors across key sectors.



6

Depreciation allowances

- 5% – Buildings, fixtures, bridges, wharves, boilers, and oil tanks.
- 25% – Vessels, aircraft and plants.
- 100% – Assets and cost of planting for coconut, cocoa and oil palm; livestock facilities; erosion control; and R&D expenses.
- 20% – Annual capital expenditure in mining.
- 100% – Special development assets benefiting the national interest (as approved by the Minister).

7

Loss Carry-Forward

- Business losses can be offset against future profits.
- No time limit, provided shareholding remains substantially the same.

8

Tourism projects

- 5-year income tax holiday + 2-year write-off on depreciable assets
- 150% deduction for approved overseas promotion.

9

**New Tourism Investments (#1)
US\$2.4 million (SBD\$20m)**

- Tax free period: up to 10 years tax holiday for capital investment
- Trading loss tax offset: up to 5 years with ownership continuity
- Import duty exemption: 100% on all capital goods not available locally and renewable energy equipment.
- Accelerated depreciation: 20% deductible in any 5 of 7 years (excluding land).
- Self-generation & sale: hotels can generate their own electricity and sell excess to the grid.

10

**Tourism joint venture incentives
US\$1.8m (SBD\$15m)**

- Extended Tax Incentive: Additional 5-year income tax exemption for hotel developers or any Tourism-related Business with at least 25% local equity partnership.

Note: In addition to the incentives listed above, the Government of Solomon Islands also grant case-by-case tax incentives based on the sector, investment size, and expected contribution to national development.

Source: Foreign Investment Division



11

New tourism investments (#2)
US\$120,000 (SBD\$1m)

- Investment tax allowance: 55% of capital expenditure deductible against tourism income. Applies to renovations, refurbishments, and extensions.
- Trading loss tax offset: up to 5 years with ownership continuity.
- Import duty and good & service tax exemption: 100% on building materials, furnishings, equipment, and room amenities not made locally. 5% duty on water sports equipment and heavy machinery (with re-export conditions).
- Accelerated depreciation: 20% allowance (excluding land) claimable in any 5 of 7 years.
- Electricity generation incentive: businesses can generate electricity and sell excess power to the grid.

12

Marine & dive tourism investments
US\$240,000 (SBD\$2 million)

- Investment tax allowance: 55% of total capital expenditure deductible against tourism business income.
- Tourism cruise vessel: 100% capital expenditure on vessel purchase deductible against future income; unused allowance after 3 years can offset income from other marine or tourism activities.
- Dive equipment exemption: 100% duty and good tax exemption on imported specialized dive equipment.

13

Aviation incentives
Us\$605,000 (SBD\$5 million)

- Import duty and goods & service tax exemption: 100% exemption on aviation fuel.
- Aircraft investment allowance: 55% of aircraft purchase cost deductible against future business income.

14

Existing tourism operators
US\$2.4m (SBD\$20m)

- Income Tax Exemption: Up to 5 years tax holiday for facility upgrades, renovations, or expansion to meet Tourism Minimum Standards.
- Import Duty Exemption: Up to 100% on building materials and furniture for required upgrades.
- Renewable Energy Incentive: 100% duty exemption on renewable energy equipment for tourism facilities under the Upgrade Program.
- Marketing Deduction: 150% tax deduction on expenses for overseas marketing and promotion programs.

Note1: In addition to the incentives listed above, the Government of Solomon Islands also grant case-by-case tax incentives based on the sector, investment size, and expected contribution to national development.
Note2: Investment amounts refer to minimum investment requirement (excluding land cost).
Source: Tourism Investment Package 2017



Special Economic Zones (SEZ)

The Solomon Islands has created the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) regime to attract international investors, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs. These **zones are designed to provide a competitive platform for businesses** with clear regulations, incentives, and infrastructure support.

Key Features:



Definition: Approved areas to promote investment, diversification, and development in agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing, technology, and tourism.



Economic Activities: Export-oriented production, storage & processing of goods, support services, and tourism & recreation developments (excluding casinos and gaming).



Prerequisites for Investors:

- Official designation and alignment with the national SEZ plan.
- Minimum foreign investment of US\$5 million.
- Compliance with environmental, social, and labor standards.
- Demonstrated financial capacity and technical expertise.

Three categories of SEZ TAX Incentives:

SEZ investors can benefit a package of fiscal and operational incentives across three categories: infrastructure development, export-oriented production, and domestic market production.

- Duty- and tax-free imports of machinery, raw materials, equipment, and specified vehicles (admin, ambulances, firefighting, staff buses).
- 10-year corporate tax holiday plus exemptions on rent, dividends, PAYE for foreign staff, stamp duties, and withholding on foreign loans/royalties.
- Automatic visas/work permits (up to 5 foreign staff during start-up) and business visas on arrival.
- Profit repatriation allowed in foreign currency, including proceeds from sale or liquidation.
- Additional benefits: sales tax exemption on utilities, access to export credit guarantees, and reliable SEZ-provided services.





4.3

REASON #3: BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND TAX INCENTIVES



Portfolio of Investable Tourism Sites

A ready-to-go pipeline of tourism assets in Western Province gives investors speed and certainty. Over 60 legally-register sites ready for investment in the Western Province.

- **Ready-to-use land portfolio:** Clear titles with reliable, detailed profiles (location, size, tenure, attractions, tourism potential, and challenges).
- **Accessible and pre-assessed:** Sites located within 20 km of airports or one hour by boat, evaluated for tenure clarity, tourism appeal, and environmental & social risks.

Three strategic hubs:

Gizo

World-class diving and WWII heritage.

Munda

International airport and lagoon attractions.

Seghe

Gateway to Marovo Lagoon and eco-tourism opportunities.



Sources: IFC & Ministry of Culture and Tourism (2021), Western Province Investable Sites.

 Strong and reliable legal framework

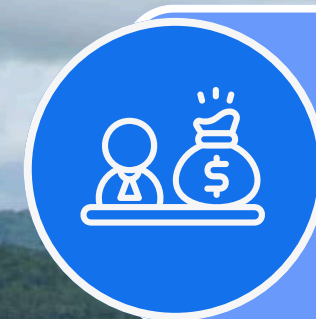
The Solomon Islands guarantees investor protection through modern laws and international agreements:

**Investment regulations:**

- National Development Strategy 2016-35
- Foreign Investment Act 2005/2006 and amendment 2009
- Foreign Investment Regulation 2005 and amendment 2016
- Investment Policy and Promotion Strategy 2023-2043)

**International agreements:**

- ACP-EU Samoa Agreement¹ (2023)
- PACER Plus² (2017)
- SPARTECA (1980)
- Cotonou (2000)
- WTO's IFD Agreement³ (under negotiation).

**Investor guarantees:**

- No expropriation without fair compensation.
- Equal treatment for local and foreign investors.
- Free transfer of funds in freely convertible currency.

1. **ACP - EU Samoa Agreement:** African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (77 states) - European Union (28 states). Status "signed". It includes same states from Coconut agreement which status is "in forced".

2. **Pacer Plus:** Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (14 Pacific states). Status "in forced". It includes same states from SPARTECA which status is "in forced".

3. **IFD:** Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement (World Trade Organization Joint Statement Initiative with 127 states). Status "in negotiation".



The Solomon Islands offers a unique combination of scale, stability, and sustainability.

4.4

REASON #4: COMPETITIVE OPERATIONAL COSTS



Efficient and affordable workforce

The Solomon Islands offers one of the most cost-competitive labor environments in the Pacific.

- **Minimum wage:** US\$186 per month (2025), the 2nd lowest in the Pacific.
- **Labor system:** 45-hour work week, 15 days of paid annual leave, and modest social security contributions (12.5% total – 7.5% employer, 5% employee).

This provides flexibility and affordability while maintaining fair standards for workers.



US\$186 Monthly minimum wage

(SBD\$1,560/month)

- US\$0.86 (SBD\$7.2) per hour for workers in fishing and agriculture
- US\$0.95 (SBD\$8) per hour for workers in any other sector
- 12 salaries per year: No obligation for bonuses & allowances



45 hours per week working schedule

Commonly spread over five and a half or six days

- Overtime: 1.5x weekdays after standard hours, 2.0x Sundays & 2.0x Public holidays.
- Annual leave: 15 working days of paid annual leave after 1 year of continuous employment, 22 days of sick leave, and 12 weeks of maternity leave. Paid leave on national public holidays is mandatory.



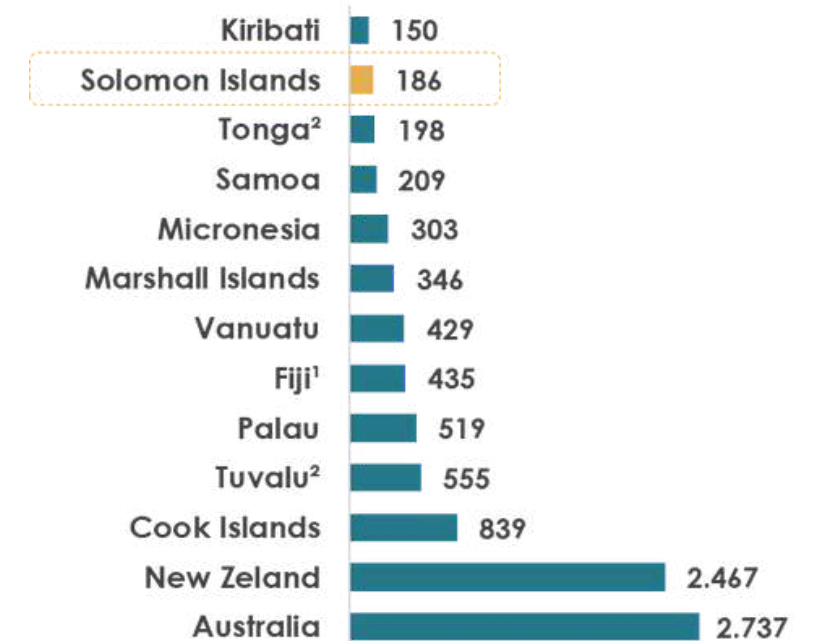
12.5% for Social security

For National Provident Fund (SINPF), with 7.5% paid by the employer and 5% by the employee.

- Employers must withhold income tax under the PAYE system, based on taxable income and rates (0–35%).
- No separate payroll tax applies beyond PAYE and SINPF contributions.



Monthly Minimum Wage in the Pacific, 2025 (US\$/Month)



1: Average monthly salary corresponds 40 hours per week. Fiji and Solomon Islands are the exception with 45 hours per week.

2: Values only for reference. These may change according to exchange rate fluctuations or legislation updates. Salaries do not include mandatory social benefits.

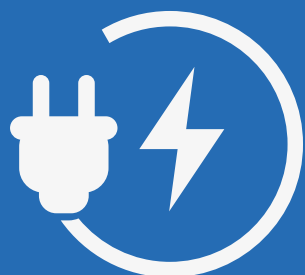
- Minimum wages are set according to province, industry and skill level.
- There is no statutory minimum wage. Lowest average salary is used in stead.

Source: wageindicator.org - www.salaryexplorer.com -
www.rivermate.com/guides - www.globalexploration.com



Moderate utility and service costs

Businesses benefit from relatively accessible and predictable utility prices:



Electricity:

Average US\$0.69/kWh
(range US\$0.30–0.81).

The Pacific region is the most expensive in the world, averaging US\$0.35 kWh, excluding developed economies and overseas territories (values for 2021).

Source: <https://www.cable.co.uk> - IRENA renewable capacity statistics 2024 – World Bank Database 2023.



Mobile data:

US\$6.96 per GB,
supported by an expanding submarine cable network and a second cable under construction.

The Pacific is one of the most expensive in the world, averaging US\$3.72 per 1GB per 30 days (values 2023).

Source: <https://www.cable.co.uk> - <https://www.submarinecablemap.com>



Water:

Average US\$1.52/m³,
below the Pacific regional average.

Tariff based on a consumption of 15m³ per month. Average tariffs per country weighted by population served.

Source: <https://tariffs.ib-net.org>

Simple and transparent tax system

The Solomon Islands provides a clear and competitive tax framework designed to support investors:



Corporate Income Tax:

30% for domestic companies;
35% for foreign branches.



VAT: 10%*

one of the lowest in the Pacific.

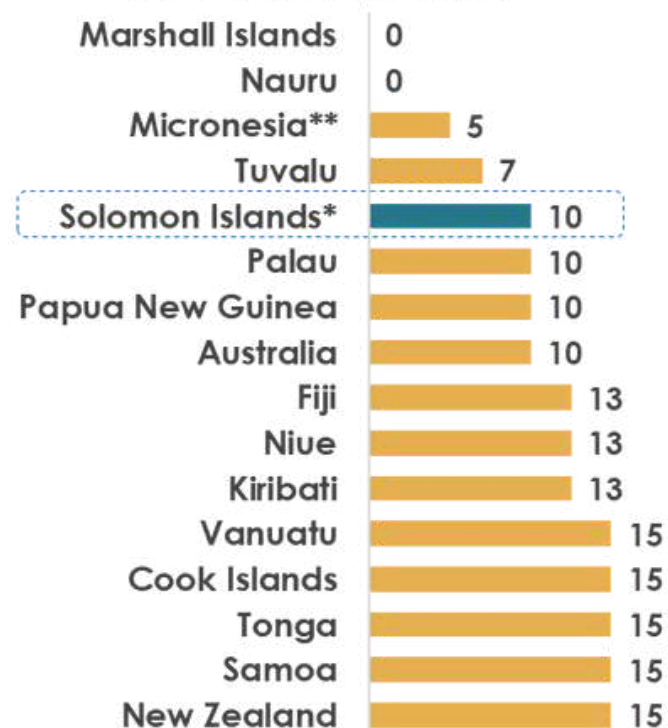


Other benefits:

No complex capital gains tax or hidden levies, ensuring transparency and predictability for long-term planning.



Sales Tax Avg. (VAT) Rate in the Pacific, 2025 (%)



15% for import goods. Exempt:
Education, medical, and exports

Advantage	Solomon Islands	Pacific Average
Corporate Income Tax	30% (locally registered companies) 35% (foreign/branches)	20%–30%
VAT / Sales Tax	15% on imports Exemptions: education, medical, exports	14%–15%
Minimum Wage	US\$186/month (SBD\$1,560)	US\$300–600
Electricity Cost	US\$0.69/kWh (avg)	US\$0.35/kWh
Mobile Data (1GB)	US\$6.96 (avg)	US\$3.72

Investor advantage

By combining low wages, moderate utility costs, and a straightforward tax regime, the Solomon Islands stands out as one of the most cost-effective and business-friendly environments in the Pacific. Investors can maximize profitability while operating in a stable and supportive market.

(*) In Solomon Islands VAT it is called Goods Tax.

Note1: Income tax by type of activity: Resident company 30%, non-resident company 35%, income from contracting 7.5%, outward income from ships/aircrafts 15%, insurance premium 7.5%, pole & line fishermen 10%, purse seiner fishermen 15%, lease of equipment 15%, and film rental 5%.

Note2: Other taxes: Dividend Withholding Tax (30% on dividends to non-residents and 20% on to residents. Dividends are deductible from company income); Services Tax (5% on professional services); Turnover Tax (0.5% of gross income if company reports no profit or loss. Final tax, not offset later. Exempt for companies with tax incentives); Withholding Tax (15% on interest and royalties paid to non-residents).

Note3: Rates for other countries are only for reference. They may vary according to company's sector, revenue, size, new legislation, etc.

Source: Tax Foundation - VatCalc - Foreign Investment Division



A dynamic labor force

With a population of 819,200 people (2024), the Solomon Islands has the youngest demographic profile in the Pacific, 64% of its citizens are under 30 years old. This ensures a growing, energetic, and trainable labor pool, ready to drive economic growth across sectors.

Expanding workforce participation

The Solomon Islands has the third-largest labor force in the Pacific, with 422,700 people actively engaged in the economy (59.4% of total population). This represents both a strong domestic market and an abundant resource for export-oriented industries such as tourism, fisheries, agribusiness, and ICT.

Strong investment in education

Education is a national priority, with the Solomon Islands investing 8.3% of GDP in education (2023), significantly higher than the global average (3.8%) and East Asia & Pacific average (3.4%). This reflects a commitment to building human capital for the future.

Pacific Island States Population, 2024 (Thousands)

PNG	10.576,5
Fiji	928,8
Solomon Islands	819,2
Vanuatu	327,8
New Caledonia	292,6
Samoa	218,0
Kiribati	134,5
Micronesia	113,2
Tonga	104,2
Marshall Islands	37,5
Palau	17,7
Nauru	11,9
Tuvalu	9,6

Note: Solomon Islands, as most of the Pacific Island States, faces challenges in labor availability due to ongoing outward migration, as many locals take up employment opportunities overseas, particularly through seasonal worker schemes.

Source: The World Bank Database.



 **Institutions of higher learning**

The country is home to a growing network of universities and training centers that prepare students for modern industries:



Solomon Islands National
University (SINU)



University of the South
Pacific's (USP)



Don Bosco Technical
Institute (DBTI)



Australia Pacific Training
Coalition (APTC).



Vatu Rural Training Centre

Together, these institutions ensure that the workforce is not only young and dynamic, but also skilled and adaptable to international standards.



Global commitment to sustainability

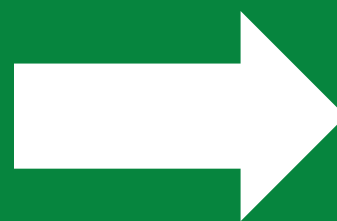
The Solomon Islands is recognized as one of the world's leaders in environmental protection and climate resilience. Sustainability is not just a policy, it is a national priority that shapes investment opportunities in tourism, forestry, energy, and the Blue Economy.

Rich natural heritage

- UNESCO World Heritage Site: East Rennell, the world's largest raised coral atoll, symbolizing biodiversity and cultural value.
- Forest cover: 90.1% of total land area, among the highest globally.
- Marine biodiversity: Vast coral reefs and fisheries resources, supported by conservation and community management initiatives.

Low carbon footprint

The Solomon Islands is among the lowest greenhouse gas emitters in the world: 0.9 t CO₂e per capita, far below the averages for East Asia & Pacific (9.1), World (6.4), and the Pacific island small states (2.7) for 2023.



This positions the country as an ideal partner for ESG-aligned investors and international climate finance initiatives.

Protected areas and conservation

- 2.4% of terrestrial territory and 0.1% of marine areas are legally protected.
- Ongoing efforts to expand conservation zones under national climate and biodiversity strategies.
- Ranked 6th in the Pacific on the Environmental Performance Index (2024), with strong results in climate mitigation and air quality





Proven investments across multiple sectors demonstrate the Solomon Islands' resilience, openness, and long-term potential. From fisheries and tourism to construction and agribusiness, international partners are already thriving here, creating jobs, driving exports, and contributing to sustainable growth.



SolTuna
Singapore – Fisheries

*Investment: US\$36.5 million |
1,822 jobs*

Tuna processing and preservation facility producing frozen loins, canned tuna, and fishmeal for regional and international markets.



Heritage Park Hotel
Papua New Guinea – Tourism

*Investment: US\$18.2 million |
165 jobs*

A four-star hotel in Honiara, offering accommodation, dining, events, and entertainment — setting new standards in hospitality for the Solomon Islands.



CCECC South Pacific Ltd.
China – Construction

*Investment: US\$1.2 million |
159 jobs*

Specialized in building and civil works, producing gravel, concrete, sand, and bricks, while also supplying construction materials through wholesale trade.



GPPOL (Guadalcanal Plains Palm Oil Limited)

Papua New Guinea – Agribusiness

Investment: US\$79.6 million | 1,500 jobs

A palm oil project covering 6,900+ hectares in Eastern Guadalcanal, developed in partnership with local landowners. Includes plantations, crude oil extraction, and kernel processing



BNBM Homecenter Papua New Guinea – Wholesale & Retail

Investment: US\$1.2 million | 36 jobs

A one-stop wholesale and retail supermarket, combined with a home center and construction material distribution — enhancing local supply chains.



Solomon Islands Commodities Private Ltd.

Singapore – Agribusiness

Investment: US\$2.4 million | 60 jobs

Manufacturer and exporter of crude coconut oil and copra meal, supplying both domestic use and international markets.



Long-term Partnerships, Regional Impact

These projects showcase how global investors are already finding success in Solomon Islands, building strong partnerships, contributing to communities, and driving sustainable economic transformation.

Note: Investment amounts and job creation figures are estimates provided by companies in their Foreign Investment Registration Certificates (FIRC).

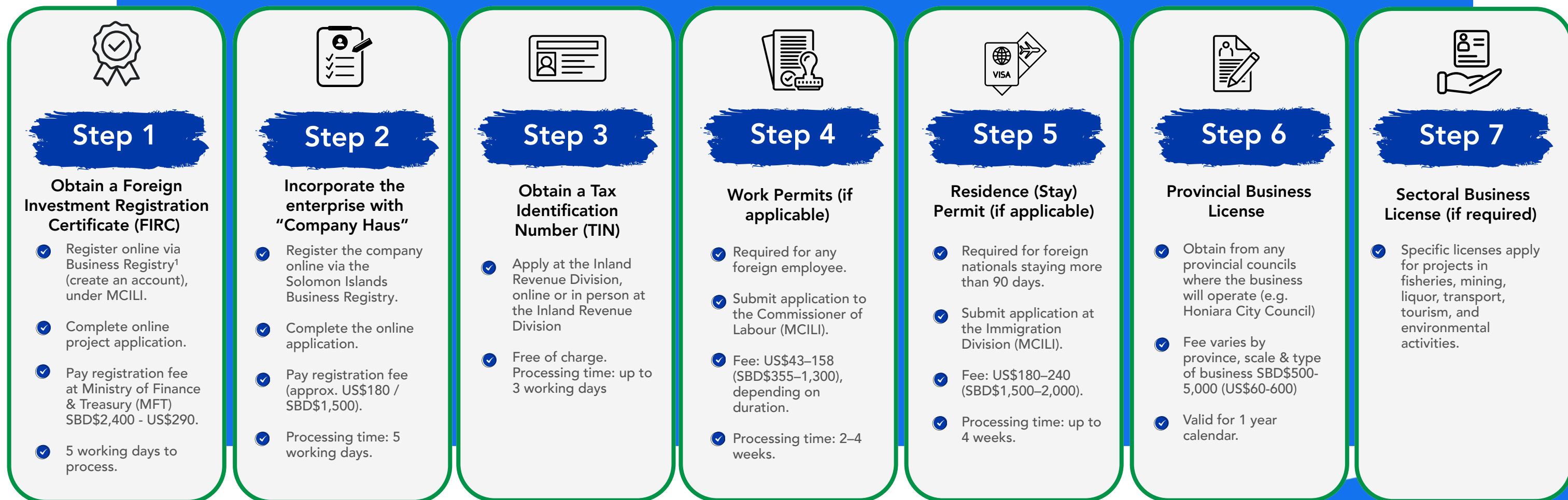
Source: Invest Solomon (Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration)

06 HOW TO INVEST



Setting up a business in the Solomon Islands is clear and straightforward, supported by a strong legal framework and investor facilitation through Invest Solomons (MCILI). The process can be completed within 15–30 working days, depending on the type of project.

7 Steps to Set Up a Foreign Investment Business



MCILI: Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labor and Immigration. Investors can either manage the process independently or engage a reputable local agent to assist.

Total expected time to complete the process 15-30 working days.

Sources: <https://www.solomonbusinessregistry.gov.sb/> - <http://www.ird.gov.sb> - <https://www.labour.gov.sb> - <http://www.commerce.gov.sb/>



Your gateway to investing in Solomon Islands

Invest Solomons (formerly the Foreign Investment Division) operates under the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration (MCILI). It is the official agency responsible for promoting, facilitating, registering, and monitoring both domestic and foreign investment in the country.

We are committed to supporting investors, from first inquiry to long-term growth, with clear procedures, dedicated facilitation, and policy advocacy to ensure a smooth and successful journey.

Our Services for Investors



Tailor-made information & market intelligence: Up-to-date and customized data on Solomon Islands' economy, sectors, and regulations.



Site visits & local linkages: Connecting investors with government agencies, suppliers, and service providers.



Investor aftercare & policy advocacy: Ongoing support to expand operations, solve challenges, and contribute to a better business climate.



Foreign Investment Registration: Assistance with applications and certification for seamless market entry.

Our Approach

Professional. Reliable. Investor-focused.
We believe investment is not just about capital, it is about partnership.

*Unlock the possibilities in Solomon Islands.
Your next investment destination in the heart of the Pacific.*

CONTACT US

Invest Solomons

Part of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration (MCILI)

Address:

Mendana Avenue, P.O. Box G26, Honiara – Solomon Islands

Websites:

www.InvestSolomons.gov.sb

www.solomons.gov.sb/ministry-of-commerce-industry-labour-and-immigration

www.solomonbusinessregistry.gov.sb

Emails:

ldawheyal@commerce.gov.sb

SiallyNgumi.Turanga@commerce.gov.sb

Social Media:

Facebook: facebook.com/sigMCILI/

Phone: (+677) 20521



PACER Plus

