

IV. Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

There is no list at the moment and this is where the information from this project could provide some insights. There are some considerations that might be particularly worthy of considerations in areas of the Solomon Islands that have been listed or tentatively listed as UNESCO's World Heritage List and these areas are listed below.

East Rennell is the only listing in the UNESCO's World Heritage List for the Solomon Islands. This has been on the UNESCO's World Heritage List since 2013. East Rennell is reportedly the world's largest raised coral atoll; its lake, Lake Teganio is the largest lake in the insular Pacific, and contains a number of endemic species.

East Rennell's forests are largely undisturbed and it has a high number of endemic species of birds. The impacts of human activity on East Rennell is relatively low because the invasive predators eg rats, land snails, etc., are absent. East Rennell is an important site for the study of the science of biogeography and other related sciences and certainly warranted some consideration.

Although East Rennell has been listed because of its scientific ecological significance, it could be considered as a representative list of intangible cultural heritage of humanity.

The Marovo Lagoon located in the Western Province is on the tentative list of the UNESCO World Heritage List. This area is tentatively listed as the Marovo-Tetepare Complex and consists of mixed natural and cultural sites. The area include the marine areas of Marovo Lagoon and some terrestrial areas of Vangunu, the Gatokae Islands, the uninhabited island of Tetepare and associated marine and coastal areas, southern tip and southwest coast of Rendova Island and associated coastal and marine areas, and the uninhabited islands of Hele. The Marovo-Tetepare Complex area consists of approximately 1600km² of both marine and terrestrial ecosystems. The area is part of the Bismarck Solomon Seas Ecoregion and the Coral Triangle (the global centre of coral diversity). It is also declared with New Guinea as the area of high plant diversity.

The Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Solomons Islands is also on the tentative list of the UNESCO World Heritage List. This comprise a representative tropical rainforest areas of the Solomon Islands and includes the Bauro Highlands of

Makira-Ulawa Province, the central caldera volcanic skirt of Kolombangara in Western Province, the Mt. Maetambe area of Choiseul Province and the Mt. Popomanaseu area of Guadalcanal Province. The four sites that comprise the proposed site in the UNESCO's World Heritage tentative listing include an area of about 1500 km². They are situated within the Udvardy Papuan biogeographic province of the Oceanian realm.

In the light of the above, it is suggested that all the representative lists currently suggested should in fact be recommended to UNESKO for inclusion into the UNESCO Heritage lists as follows:

East Rennell; the Marovo Lagoon; the Tropical Rainforest Heritage of the Solomon Islands which include these four areas: 1) the Bauro Highlands of Makira-Ulawa Province; the Central Caldera Volcanic Skirt of Kolombangara of Western province; the Mt Maetambe area of Choiseul province, and the Mt Popomanaseu area of Guadalcanal province.

These four sites cover an area of 1500 square kilometres.