

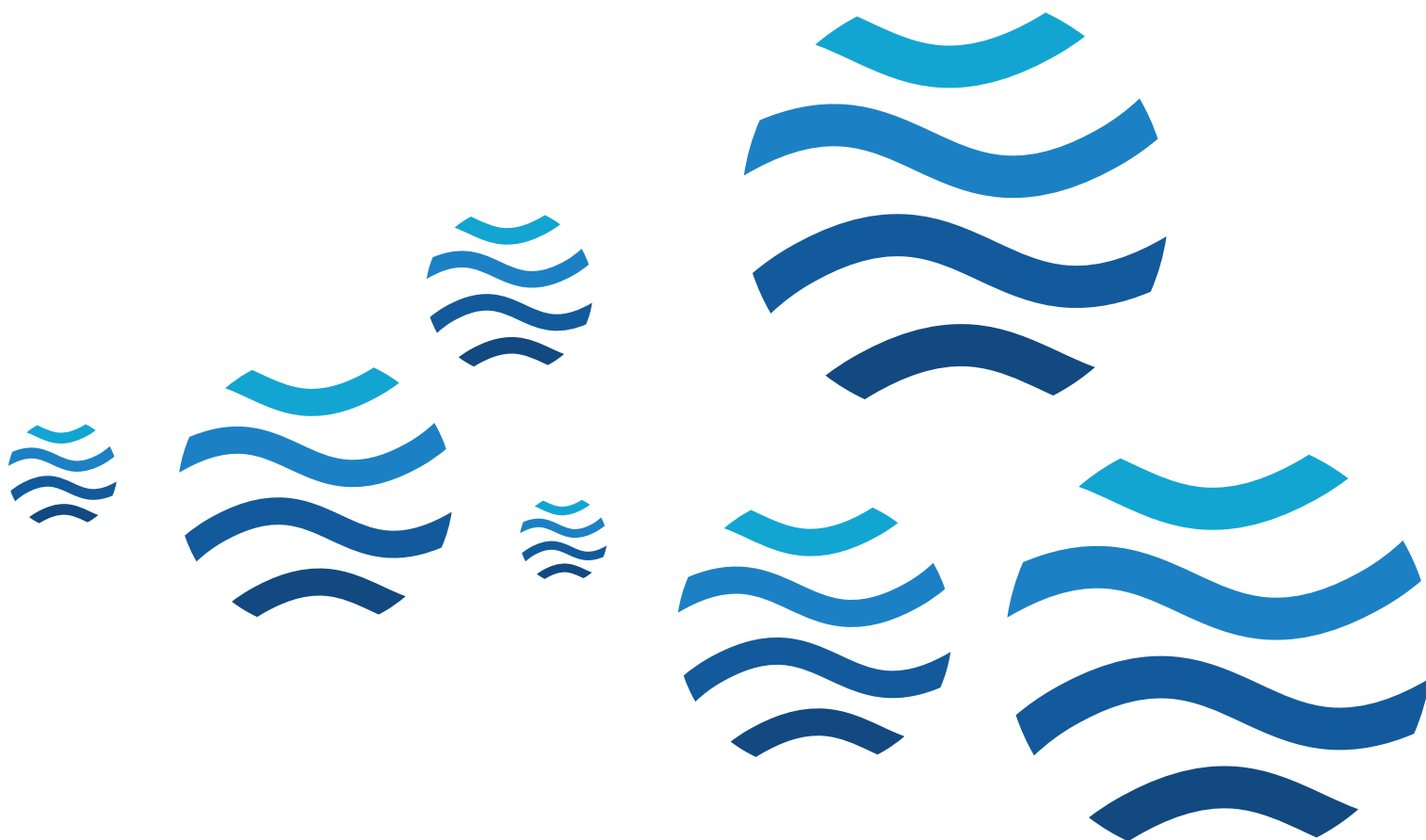


# MARITIME LABOUR MOBILITY AND SHIPPING REGISTRY NATIONAL ROADMAP

Build a Maritime Labour Force, Build a Maritime Nation

# **Solomon Islands Maritime Labour Mobility and Shipping Registry National Roadmap**

A strategic roadmap to maximise labour mobility and give access to Solomon Islanders to the international shipping and fishing industries



# Introduction

The Solomon Islands Government wants to maximise labour mobility opportunities for Solomon Islanders in the international shipping and fishing industries by providing an internationally recognised and skilled labour force and an attractive shipping registry.

## Background and Rationale



**Solomon Islands a large ocean state**

The Solomon Islands Government wants to maximise labour mobility opportunities for Solomon Islanders in the international shipping and fishing industries by providing an internationally recognised and skilled labour force and an attractive shipping registry.



**Solomon Islands a maritime nation**

The maritime sector has the potential to unlock major development opportunities and be a source of sustainable and inclusive employment. The maritime education and training system can be developed to supply an internationally recognised and skilled maritime labour force employed in the international and domestic shipping industries.



**Solomon Islands a fishing nation**

Fisheries play a major role in Solomon Islands. Inshore fisheries are an important source of income and food for most of Solomon Islanders. Offshore fisheries (tuna fishing) is a major source of income for the Solomon Islands Government and employ an increasing number of people in the formal sector. The international and domestic fishing industries operating in Solomon Islands present promising employment opportunities for Solomon Islanders seafarers and fishers.

## Developing Maritime Labour Mobility and Shipping Registry

This roadmap captures the Solomon Islands Government's vision, strategic objectives and initiatives to offer Solomon Islanders with maritime labour mobility opportunities by developing maritime education and training and facilitating access to the international shipping and fishing industries.





## OUR VISION

**An internationally recognised and skilled maritime labour force is employed in the international shipping and fishing industries contributing to improving social and economic livelihoods of all Solomon Islanders.**



## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

In implementing this roadmap, the Government will pursue the following strategic objectives over the period 2024-2027:

1



**Solomon Islands seafarers & fishers are recognized and employed internationally**

2



**The Solomon Islands vessel registry is attractive to international vessels**

The Government will undertake major projects and activities under the four main initiatives below to achieve its strategic objectives:



### Strategic Initiative 1.1

- Maritime College upgrade (internationally recognised seafarer trainings)
- SINU Maritime College / Department of Fisheries collaboration
- Seafarers/fishers & hospitality training courses development



### Strategic Initiative 1.2

- Partnerships with shipping & fisheries industries
- Advocate for Solomon Islands seafarers & fishers and women in maritime
- Market Solomon Islands flag



### Strategic Initiative 2.1

- Maritime & fisheries legislative review
- Amendments to maritime & fisheries laws
- Accession to international maritime & labour conventions



### Strategic Initiative 2.2

- SIMA/MFMR collaboration & advocacy of Solomon Islands flag
- National coordination & partnership
- Resource mobilisation & donor/partner reachout



# Build a maritime labour force, build a maritime nation

## Developing maritime labour mobility

With a population expected to reach 1 million in 2030 and 1.3 million in 2050, and made of 70% under the age of 34, young people will join the labour market by thousands in the next decades. The Government is resolved to offer them the best employment opportunities for their personal development and contribution to the national economy including offering development opportunities to all women and girls.


The Solomon Islands Maritime College and the Department of Fisheries Studies of the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) used to be regionally recognised maritime training institutes. At relatively low investment and building on current development projects and partnerships, they have the potential to supply in the short term an internationally recognised and skilled labour force for the shipping and fishing industries.

As a maritime and fishing nation, Solomon Islands is well-placed to extend its labour mobility scheme in the international shipping and fishing industries by focusing on maritime training and education and upgrading its maritime and fisheries training institutes. Solomon Islanders will be able to get well-paid jobs and bring back precious skills to the maritime and fisheries industries in Solomon Islands.

## Making attractive our shipping registry

The Solomon Islands Government is resolved to make our shipping registry attractive to international vessel operators, financially in terms of investment and operational costs, and technically to facilitate registration and certification of vessels and facilitate employment of foreign and Solomon Islands seafarers.

In 2023, 305 individual vessels visited Solomon Islands. More than half of these vessels were licensed fishing vessels and cargo vessels engaged in logging and mining industries. By reforming maritime and fisheries laws and promoting a safe environment for shipping and fishing operators and investors, the Solomon Islands flag will become attractive for registration of international vessels and employment of Solomon Islands seafarers and fishers.

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# IMPLEMENTING THE MARITIME LABOUR MOBILITY AND SHIPPING REGISTRY NATIONAL ROADMAP

**2026 - 2027**

**Advocate Solomon Islands  
registry and maritime labour  
mobility scheme**

**Adopt new Shipping Act and  
accede to relevant maritime  
and labour conventions**

**2025 - 2026**

**Deliver internationally recognised  
trainings for seafarers and fishers**

**Refurbish maritime college and draft  
legislative bills and amendments**

**2024 - 2025**

**Secure Roadmap resources & partnerships  
and conduct legal and technical reviews**



# NATIONAL ROADMAP



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