

Chevening Alumni Solomon Islands hosts symposium on the sustainable development goals

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The inaugural symposium brought together leaders to reflect on national progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Chevening Alumni of Solomon Islands (CASI) hosted a 2-day leadership and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) symposium from 16 to 17 April in Honiara.

The inaugural symposium brought together leaders from government, private sector, civil society, and the Chevening alumni community to reflect on national progress towards the United Nations SDGs.

The symposium, themed around “Leadership, Accountability and Sustainable Nation Building”, marks 10 years since Solomon Islands adopted the SDGs in 2015.

It aims to provide a shared space for dialogue, collaboration, and reflection on how policy commitments can be more effectively translated into practical outcomes for communities across the country.

Organised by CASI and supported by the British High Commission in Honiara through the Chevening Alumni Programme Fund (CAPF), over 30 participants attended. This included representatives from government ministries, middle and senior management from the public and private sectors, and Chevening alumni residing in Solomon Islands.

Delivering special remarks on behalf of the British High Commission, Ian Gorman said:

The United Kingdom strongly encourages Chevening alumni to see themselves as part of a lifelong leadership community, with a shared responsibility to give back. Your education, experience, and networks are powerful tools, and when they are applied collectively, their impact is even greater.

The programme featured SDG progress updates from the Ministry of National Planning and Aid Coordination, alongside thematic panel discussions focusing on climate and environment; water, sanitation and health; education and human development; economic growth and livelihoods; and sustainable communities.

Leadership and vision sessions also examined the role of accountable leadership in achieving sustainable development goals.

A key objective of the symposium is to highlight the crucial role of middle management leaders in driving national development outcomes. It will also promote stronger collaboration between institutions directly engaged in SDG implementation. The symposium also provides opportunities for professional networking.

The initiative further reflects a commitment to Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI), ensuring broad participation and inclusive dialogue as part of sustainable nation-building efforts.

As Patron of Chevening Alumni of Solomon Islands, the British High Commissioner to Solomon Islands continues to support CASI's role in fostering leadership, strengthening partnerships, and contributing to national development through the alumni network.

Concluding on Friday 17 April, the symposium is expected to produce a brief report capturing key discussions and recommendations, while strengthening partnerships among institutions working to advance the SDGs in Solomon Islands.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chevening-alumni-solomon-islands-hosts-symposium-on-the-sustainable-development-goals>