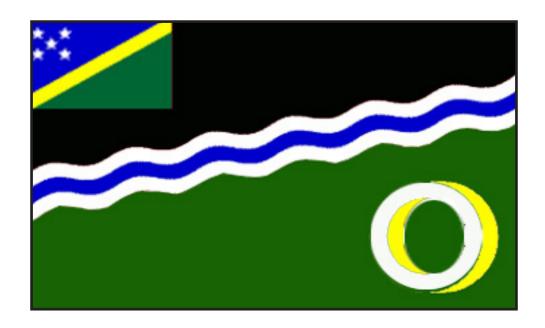
# WESTERN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT



# WESTERN PROVINCE YOUTH POLICY

**June 2010** 

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Finally but not the least, to all young men and women who participated in the Provincial Workshop, without your meaningful contributions the Western Provincial Youth policy and plan of action would lack ownership. The policy is yours and ensures that it serves its purpose for your future.

The Premier and his Executives values so much all of your effort and contributions during the process and sincerely endorse this document as surety for the youths of Western Province.

#### A. PREFACE

With its diverse cultures, traditions, religions, and languages; the young people of Western Province are unified by a province that is known for its scenic beauty, which includes one of the world's largest coral reef lagoons surrounded by beautiful islands and natural resources which were best endowed in the country.

While the Province has good supplies of food in its gardens, forests and seas, and land suitable for agriculture development, this has changing drastically over the years at an alarming rate.

Western Province has got young people making a significant percentage of the province's total population. This means that it is of paramount importance that the government makes necessary provisions to cater for its young and growing population. In terms of development needs this translates into an expanding demand for more education, health and other social services – and for employment opportunities.

It was against this backdrop, that the Western Province Youth Policy is developed. This policy carries the views, concerns and aspirations of young people in the province. This policy has been formulated under a wider consultation with young people and various stakeholders who have deep interest in the positive development of youths in the province. This youth policy is a way forward for youth development in the province.

On behalf of the current government, I wish to thank the National Government through the Ministry of Women, Youth and Children Affairs and my provincial Youth and Sports Division, in consultation with the National Youth Congress, Community Sector Program, Oxfam International and other development partners who have provided guidance and support to the completion of the Western Provincial Youth Policy.

The Western Provincial Youth Policy and Plan of Action will enable the provincial government and other institutions in the province to take youth issues and concern more seriously in their policy and planning from 2010 and beyond.

It is my government's intention to see this youth policy and plan of action implemented by providing appropriate supportive mechanisms that can drive the policy to meet the ever changing needs and aspirations of young people in the Western Province.

As the responsible minister of youth affairs, I encourage all stakeholders, development partners, churches, parents, care-givers and young people themselves to be responsible in addressing the youth issues and challenges in the province.

Hon. Leong Mamu

Minister of Women, Youth, Children & Ecclesiastical Affairs

Western Province

#### **B. INTRODUCTION**

#### **Background**

Western Province consists of an archipelago of islands stretching from the southern tip of Bougainville Island to Mborokua, an uninhabited volcanic crater that situated north of Russell Islands, Central Province. New Georgia is the largest island and other sizeable islands include Vangunu, Kolombangara, Vella Lavella and Ranongga.

The Province is known for its scenic beauty, and it has potential areas for tourism development as it includes one of the world's largest coral reef lagoons, the Marovo Lagoon. On the southwest of Marovo Lagoon situated Kavachi, the 'sometimes island'. Kavachi Island is an active submarine volcano that continuously emerging and eroding from the sea.

Western Province has a tropical climate and generally fertile soil. The combination of large lagoons, extensive coral reefs, and deep passages contributes to a productive marine environment supported by coastal mangrove forests. While the people enjoy good supplies of food from their gardens, the forests and sea, this gradually changes.

In terms of natural resources, Western Province is the best endowed province in the country. The Province's timber and fish resources have been the source of high proportion of National income. This triggers a sense of unfairness on the Western Province people by having to "support" the rest of the country through distribution of their Province's wealth to other areas. As a result, the Province is determined to have more control over its resources and has been at the forefront of moves towards the state government.

During the 1999 population census, the population of Western Province is 62,739, ranking the second highest populated province in the country. It accounts for 15.3 percent of the total population of the Solomon Islands. The average annual growth rate of Western Province is 3.2 percent which is higher than the national average annual growth rate of 2.8 percent. According to the 1999 census, there are 9,992 households giving an average household size of 6.3 persons. The table below summarized population by broad age group and by sex.

Age group Male **Female** Total **Percentage** 0 - 1413,184 12,204 25,388 40.5% 22,645 15 - 3412,069 10,576 36.1% 35 - 646,832 5,827 12,659 20.2% 942 65+ 1,105 2,047 3.2% Total Pro 33,190 29,549 62,739 100.0% vince

**Table 1:** Population by broad age group and by sex

Source: 1999 Census, Census Office, Honiara

Table 1 show that Western Province has a very young population of 40.5 percent who are less than 15 years of age. This indicates that approximate two-fifth of the total population are 0-14 years and in terms of development, this translates into an increasing demand for education, employment opportunities, health and other social services. It also results in a very high dependency ratio of 43.7 percent, measured as the proportion of young and old to the total population. Thus 43.7 percent of the population is dependent

on the remaining population for its economic needs. The data also shows that only a small proportion of the total population lives beyond 65 years.

According to the 1999 census, the sex ratio (male to female) is 112.3, which is significantly higher than the national sex ratio of 106.9 males for every 100 females. In terms of

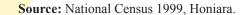
population density, Western Province's population density is 11.4 persons per square kilometer, slightly below the national average of 14.8 persons per square kilometre.

The Province's population is concentrated mainly in the Gizo/Kolombangara constituency, which has three wards, Gizo with a population of 5,323, East Kolombangara with 3,609, and West Kolombangara with 2,012. The Gizo ward is the Provinces administration and services hub while Kolombangara has considerable forest plantation activity.

Table 2 below provides population by sex and by ward in 1999. The urban population is 6,442 with 2,960 residing in Gizo and 3,482 in Noro. This represents 10.3 percent of the population of the province.

**Table 2:** Western Province by ward and sex

Ward	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Outer Shortlands	595	589	1,184	1.9
Inner Shortlands	1,208	1,130	2,338	3.7
Simbo	888	784	1,672	2.7
North Ranongga	202	210	412	0.7
Central Ranongga	1,011	1,042	2,053	3.3
South Ranongga	1,339	1,261	2,600	4.1
Vonunu	1,332	1,236	2,568	4.1
Mbilua	1,430	1,358	2,788	4.4
Ndovele	778	760	1,538	2.5
Irringgilla	1,184	1,096	2,280	3.6
Gizo	2,784	2,539	5,323	8.5
East Kolombangara	2,010	1,599	3,609	5.8
Vonavona	2,310	2,188	4,498	7.2
Kusaghe	888	858	1,746	2.8
Munda	1,294	1,134	2,428	3.9
Nusa Roviana	849	861	1,710	2.7
Roviana Lagoon	1,958	1,641	3,599	5.7
South Rendova	1,150	1,057	2,207	3.5
North Rendova	800	700	1,500	2.4
Kolombaghea	813	727	1,540	2.5
Mbuini Tusu	1,259	1,069	2,328	3.7
Nono	1,434	1,262	2,696	4.3
Nggatokae	1,177	1,200	2,377	3.8
North Vangunu	1,211	1,040	2,251	3.6
Noro	2,165	1,317	3,482	5.6
West Kolombangara	1,121	891	2,012	3.2
Total	33,190	29,549	62,739	100.0



#### **Youth Definition**

This policy recognizes and acknowledges the definition as stated in the National Youth Policy that youth are defined as young people at the age of 14 to 29 years. This policy however, is obligated to address needs and issues of those under 14 years and above 29 years, who may otherwise need that kind of service.

#### **Youth Profile**

The youth population is about 33 percent of the total population. Almost 50 percent of the youth population lives in the rural areas whilst the other 50 percent is distributed across the schools and urban centers. The province is serviced by 33 secondary schools, 117 primary schools, and 5 Rural Training Centers.

In terms of employment opportunities, Western Province has more available employment opportunities in comparison to other provinces and this is due to the establishment of industrial and administrative centers such as Noro, Ringi, Gizo and Munda. However, in spite of this, these opportunities are insufficient to cater for the demands of the increasing young population.

#### **Youth Issues and Challenges**

#### 1. Education and Training

- Poor quality education facilities and curriculum contributes to the high drop-out rate and causes youths leaving the province seeking better and higher education.
- Limited access to basic education thus resulted in illiteracy among youths
- Inadequate vocational skills training opportunities

#### 2. Unemployment

- Lack of employable opportunities in the formal economy causes urban drift to Gizo, Ringgi, Noro and Honiara.
- Community land owners not providing access to land and its resources for unemployed young people to participate in the informal economy creates idleness among youths.

#### 3. Climate Change and Environment

- A greater need for youths to be aware of the effects and implications brought about by climate change to the environment and their surroundings.
- Degradation of natural resources especially the forests by the logging activities insecure the future generation.
- Rising sea level and frequent earthquakes that can possible generate big waves threatens the livelihood of the young people.

#### 4. Alcohol & Substance abuse

- Consumption of alcohol (kwaso, jungle juice, homebrew, toddy) and smoking of marijuana by young people can lead to anti-social and destructive behavior.
- As a source of income for unemployed youths, they illegally produce and sell alcohol to the community including under-age youth.

#### 5. Sex-related crimes

• Sex-related crimes such as rape, incest, child abuse, creeping are faced by young people in the Western Province, especially those in the logging and



disaster stricken/ affected camps and settlements.

#### 6. Crimes and Juvenile Delinquency

• Lawlessness and increasing criminal activities leads to aggressive behavior such as stealing, fighting, vandalism of community property etc.

#### 7. Lack of participation and involvement

- Low recognition of youth deprives young people's participation in decision making
- Lack of youth oriented activities, programs, opportunities and services

#### 8. Family planning and health related issues

- Lack of HIV/AIDS awareness programs in communities' results in Sexual Transmitted Infections and HIV/AIDS threats, teenage pregnancies, early marriages (e.g. aged 12 and 14), abortion, infidelity, and other health problems.
- Poor awareness on family life planning results in poor parenting skills among youths, domestic violence, divorce and parents not spending enough time with their children to make sure they grow up with strong values and reach their potential.
- Low self-esteem and suicide amongst young people

#### 9. Culture & Respect

- Youth disrespect local culture and traditional norms as well as their elders.
- Strict observance of traditional values sometime results in elders not recognizing the rights of the youths in the communities.
- External influences brought about by foreign activities, contributes to the breaking down of the local culture and young people become copy cats, resort to prostitution and distribute pornography
- Young people involve in cult practices and cultural rituals such as witchcraft(*pela, jiama* etc) used to ruin other people's property and lives
- Lack of respect for youths with special needs

#### 10. Land disputes

- Community leaders and elders giving land for development without considering youth's opinions and needs or vice-versa
- Chiefs give land to companies and there is nothing left for young people to develop.
- Creates arguments and fighting between youths of the different tribes and families
- Creates an unsafe environment for youth development either mentally, physically and spiritually.

#### 11. Gambling and unproductive activities

- Selling of stolen goods to participate in gambling
- Less participation on community activities and family obligations due to more time and money spent on gambling
- Excessive youth activities such as gambling, dancing nights, drinking may leads to less participation and involvement to much needed development in the community and villages



#### 12. Lack of government support for youth orientated activities e.g. sporting facilities

- Uneven distribution of national government resources towards youth priorities in the provinces (Honiara versus Gizo, urban versus rural)
- Lack of the Provincial Government recognition and support to rural areas on youth orientated activities and programs

## Summarize and verified below are the issues and challenges facing young women and men in the Western Province.

- Limited access to skills training programmes and employment opportunities for young people
- Degradation of natural resources, particularly the forests and sea (e.g. Marovo Lagoon)
- Increasing population
- Lack of respect for young people with special needs
- Suicide and low self-esteem
- Lack of awareness programs in rural communities such as HIV/AIDS, STIs
- Issues of climate change and rising tides
- Marginalization
- Shortage of land (e.g. Simbo Island)
- Conflict between individuals, within the family, culture and religion
- Low recognition of young women's issues and potentials

#### **Development of Youth's Services and Programs**

The youth issues in Western Province are first addressed in the 1980s when the National Youth Congress undertakes an awareness raising programs. Succeeding workshops and conferences are organized and in the late 1980's, the youth and sports division is established and youth affairs officers are recruited under the UNV DDS Program of the UNDP.

By 1990's, the Province has participated in National Youth Affairs programs and activities and it vigorously addresses youth affairs at the provincial level. In the late 1990's and early 2000, the ethnic tension has caused some disturbances to the programs and activities. However, the National Youth Affairs Forum of 2002 and the release of the Youth Affairs Forum Communiqué have stipulated the need to revive the youth offices and recruits relevant officers. This acted as a catalyst to reviving youth affairs in the province.

The Religious sector and Faith based organizations were equally pro-active in addressing youth issues and challenges at their own pace and levels. This is evident by the number of faith based youth groups throughout the communities and villages. There is also the presence of uniform youth organizations such as the Path Finder's, Boys and Girls Brigades.

Communities have also taken an active part in addressing youth challenges at their own level. There are other development partners and Non-Government Organizations that are more vigilant in youth development programs and activities at the provincial, community and village levels.

This Provincial Youth Policy will be a medium that enable the province to coordinate a comprehensive youth development program with the financial and technical support of donors and partner organisations.

### **Principles and Values Underlying the Policy**

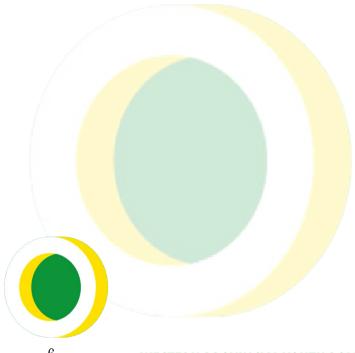
This policy acknowledges the principles and values as stipulated in the National Youth Policy.

• Respect for human rights as enshrined in the National Constitution of Solomon Islands including freedom of religion and expression; democracy; and protection from



discrimination on the grounds of color, race, and place of origin, creed or gender.

- Respect and acknowledge the rights of individuals', responsibilities and obligations therein.
- Pursuance of a just and fair society.
- Fostering unity in diversity and multi-ethnicity.
- Recognition of young women and men as potentially mature physically, socially, economically, culturally and spiritually, and whose potential and well being must be developed.
- Enhance partnership between all youth stakeholders and young people for youth involvement in development and in the decision making process.
- Pursuance of quality and equitable provision of opportunities in education and employment in nonformal education and self-employment.
- Upholding the traditional family unit base, respect for parents, the elderly, and all members of the community.
- Upholding parental and societal expectations of young people to enter adulthood equipped to respond responsibly to socio-economic challenges and contribute positively to peace, progress and prosperity.
- Upholding expectations to enjoy youth life and enter adulthood confidently with positive outlooks.
- Recognition and commitment to gender equity in the development and provision of relevant programs and services.
- Recognition of social justice for the disabled, economically disadvantaged, and rural youth are given opportunities to participate in nation building.
- Respect for the natural environment and a sense of responsibility for sustainable development.



#### C. VISION STATEMENTS AND GOALS

#### **Vision Statement**

The Western Provincial Youth Policy recognises, young people as assets and resources, and ensures that their energy and potential, skills and creativity is recognized and utilized as partners in the development of the province, such that they are actively involved in decision making at both the community and provincial level.

#### Goals

- 1. Ensure the Youth and Sports Division is fully resourced (including staff, facilities and equipment) to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the provincial youth policy.
- 2. Realise the full potential of youth to participate in the formal and informal economy through education, training and access to entrepreneurship opportunities.
- 3. Recognise the need for a strong youth sector structure as a platform for participation of young people in the development of the province at both the community and provincial level.
- 4. Ensure young people have the physical and mental well-being to actively participate in cultural and sporting activities and decision making at appropriate levels of the province.

#### **D. POLICY OBJECTIVES**

- 1. To ensure youth affairs is recognized, resourced and facilitated as a component of provincial development plans and programs. (Mainstreaming of youth affairs).
- 2. To facilitate the establishment of appropriate policy and administrative frameworks at the provincial and community levels.
- 3. To provide opportunities for young people including youths with special needs to fully participate in decision making processes
- 4. To recognise and support the churches' roles in youth development programs.
- 5. To provide information and communication centres at the community level.
- 6. To lobby for the strengthening of the community justice system (community policing in community).
- 7. To address substance abuse by young people in the community.
- 8. To enable young people to utilise and build on their knowledge and skills gained from school through employable and voluntary community service opportunities.
- 9. To increase appropriately resourced formal and informal education opportunities for young people.
- 10. To improve family life education services to young people in the communities.
- 11. To provide quality and youth friendly services in health centers and clinics.
- 12. To revise and strengthen appropriate cultural norms and values, as with reference to foreign influences, development trends, etc.



- 13. To encourage young people to live by Christian principles and values (social, spiritual, physical & mental).
- 14. To lobby for the sustainable harvesting of natural resources.
- 15. To ensure the community recognises the rights of youth, women, children and youth with special needs in the province.
- 16. To provide access to accurate traditional knowledge and land boundary information for young people.
- 17. To provide and improve sporting, music and recreation facilities for young people in all communities.
- 18. To address the needs of youths with special needs in the province and ensures that young people living with HIV/AIDS have equal rights to life.
- 19. To secure needed resources and access to development funds (RCDF, Micro funds, Livelihood Fund etc) to enable young people to venture into business enterprises.
- 20. To provide opportunity and equal representations at the national, regional and international youth events.

#### E. RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

This policy acknowledges the responsibilities and obligations as stated in the National Youth Policy.

- The freedom of expression and association in cultural, religious, social, economic and political activities.
- Rights of the child as stipulated in the Convention of the Rights of the Child that is subscribed to by the Government.
- Right of equal protection of the law and protection from discrimination, exploitation, violence or any other form of abuse.
- Right of access to education, employment, vocational training, health care, legal services and sports and recreational facilities.
- Right to healthy, supportive and stable family surroundings, good parental care and community guidance.
- Access to participation in decision-making process on issues affecting young people.
- Right to decent and dignified existence.
- Right to safe and clean environment.
- Right to equal access to land rights and its usage.
  - Right to the share of the country's natural resources
  - Right to enjoy youth-hood and be adequately equipped to confidently enter adulthood with positive outlooks.
  - Right of the disabled youths to fully participate in community activities



• Right to participate in decision making processes

#### F. KEY STRATEGY AREAS

#### **Education and Training:**

- Increase the number of vocational schools (RTC's) and improve the existing schools.
- Increase access for young women to be enrolled at vocational and RTC's.
- Establish facilities within schools for youths with special needs.
- Educational Curriculum to include skills training to enable drop-outs to access employable training opportunities.
- Provides and produces qualifying and experienced teachers to teach in schools and RTC's.

#### **Employment:**

- Provide employable and life skills training for youths in rural areas.
- Promotes youth employment opportunities to the operating companies and industries.
- Government and other sectors to provide more job opportunities.
- Promotes and encourages self employment among youths.

#### Health:

- Provide improved awareness /activities on health and family planning issues.
- Establish more rural clinics and health centers.
- Initiate visiting clinics to villages and rural areas, hence access to those who cannot make it to the clinic and health centers.
- Improve timely supply of medicine to clinics and health centers.
- Employ more qualified nurses in the health centers and clinics.
- Provide training and equipment to improve water and sanitation.

#### Law and Order:

- Provide and strengthen community policing outreach program.
- Establish more police posts around the province.
- Strengthening legal institutions in the communities.
- Involve youths to participate in community policing and community activities.
- Awareness on laws and regulations of Solomon Islands.
- Awareness on International Conventions (CRC, CEDAW) and obligations.

#### **Environment:**

- Raise awareness on conservation of resources.
- Provide proper facilities e.g. rubbish bins/drums.
- Awareness and education on sustainable harvest of resources.
- Liaise with responsible NGOs and Provincial and National Government sectors to provide trainings.
- Provide an emergency disaster management program for young people.

#### **Sports and Recreation:**

- Provide better facilities, venues and sport /recreation equipments.
- Improve the existing sports and recreational facilities.
- Create youth centers in administrative centers and wards.
- Organise outdoor activities: vakatepe, annual gatherings, youth festivals etc.
- Provide opportunities for young sports men and women.
- Proper coordinating of programs and activities.

#### **Culture:**

- Chiefs/elders to revive cultures, values, beliefs and respect.
- Build strong family values.



• Proper passing on (educating) the traditional norms and values to younger people.

#### Lotu (religion):

- Organize attractive program and activities for young people e.g. congress, youth rallies etc.
- Encourages and promotes unity and networking between different youth groups of different denominations.
- Promotes tolerance, respect and understanding for beliefs of different faith.

#### Fishery:

- Create fishery centers in communities to ease accessibility to fishermen.
- Provide funding projects for fishing gears and boats for young fishermen.
- Support youths wishing to operate fishing businesses with training, funding, equipment, etc.
- Establish fish market outlets around Western Province.

#### **Agriculture:**

- Provide training, facilities, materials and equipment.
- Appoint local trained agriculture officer who can provide training in local languages.
- Establish proper market outlet.
- Provide financial assistance for farming.
- Encourages and educates agricultural practices in subsistence gardening.

#### **Communication:**

- Provide effective mass communication for information sharing.
- Government and other development partners to establish and support ICT networks in the province.

#### **Music:**

- Provide access to training and musical instruments.
- Organize band contests to promote youth musical talents.
- Set up recording studio and provide marketing assistance.

#### Infrastructure:

- Provide and improve road access to villages.
- Establish a proper youth centre in urban centers.
- Improve and create more wharf and Jetty.
- Build better bridges and drainages.

#### **G. PRIORITY TARGET GROUPS**

#### **Unemployed Youths**

• Recognizes young women and men that are not involved in any formal employment or self-income generating project but remain idle in the communities. Therefore the youth policy will ensure to provide more job opportunities in the formal and informal sector to cater for the high number of school push-outs, uneducated youths due to illiteracy and take into proper consideration youth with special needs to involve in the socio-economic development of the province.

#### Young School Push-outs

• Create and provide other learning opportunities for young people who have been pushed out of the formal school system. The opportunity provided for skills development and vocational training such as in the Rural Training Centers (RTCs) is one avenue for school push-outs.



#### Teenage and Young Women

• Address the special needs of young women and supports the provision of relevant programmes to address single mothers, teenage pregnancies and other health related issues as abortion and STIs. Make alternative provisions for young women in schools

to be offered special opportunities or trainings/awareness to also address these issues that concern them.

#### Alcohol & Drug Users

• Support the continued efforts in advocacy on dangers of drugs and alcohol use to combat its increasing rate among young people. The policy also aims to provide relevant rehabilitation programs for young people as drug addicts.

#### Youth with special needs

• Recognizes the rights of young people with special needs and provides relevant activities to support them e.g. sports and to ensure their maximum participation.

#### Spiritually weak youths

• Provide support and strengthen existing and on-going religious activities for non-attending youths and encourage their participation in church related activities e.g. youth congresses, youth rallies, etc.

#### Young Offenders

• Increase awareness of socio-economic problems which is the cause of the surge of young offenders in the general populace. It aims to widen the responsibility for good behavior and create support and strengthen the legal institutions in the community to deter young people from getting involved in illegal and unacceptable practices.

#### Youths losing traditional values

Recognizes the importance of our culture and also seeks to provide activities that help young people
to understand their identity, their traditional values expected of them in their communities and their
place within the community.

#### Youths who practice unsafe sex

• Youths have the right to access information and sex education is essential for youths to be aware of. The Youth Policy seeks to address and arrange for development partners to raise awareness for young people of the negative consequences of practicing unsafe sex.

#### Young sports men & women

• Provide improved sporting facilities, trainings and competitions for young people to be competent and excel in sports. And be able to participate in sport development programs and events at the provincial, national and regional level.

#### Youth disaster victims

• Prioritize the physical and psycho-social needs of young people in times of disasters. And provide an emergency disaster management program for young people.

#### Youths living with STIs and HIV/AIDS

• Respect youths living with HIV/AIDS and provide awareness on HIV/AIDS and break the stigma in the community.

#### H. IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

This policy document seeks to provide the basis for integrated and elaborative efforts by all Government agencies impinging on youth and the efforts of non-government organizations and the churches committed to youth developments.

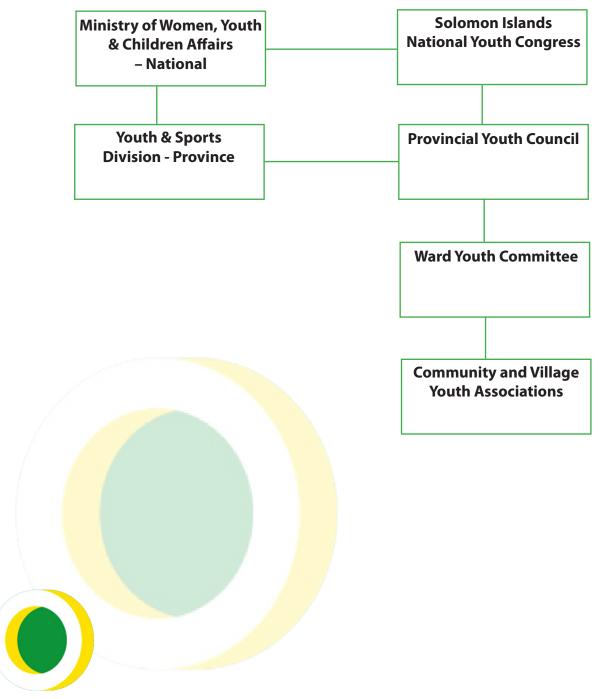
The implementation of this policy attracts training of youth workers, churches, schools, NGO's and young people. This is to ensure that the monitoring and evaluation of the policy goals and objectives are achieved.



Therefore the implementation mechanisms include the following:

- Youth & Sports Division to coordinate the efforts and initiatives of the Provincial Government in implementing the policy. It will also maintain regular consultation with all government departments, churches, NGO's and other youth stake holders.
- The Western Youth Council (WYC) will oversee the implementation of the policy and programs outline in the Western Provincial Youth Action Plan.
- **Churches** are encourage in setting up their own operational structure and may where appropriate link with the provincial government and other youth stakeholders.
- Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation of the Policy will be an ongoing process to assess the impacts of programs and activities.

#### **ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**



#### I. CONCLUSION

The Western Provincial Youth Policy is set to unleash young peoples' potentials for development in the province. It is anticipated that this recognition alluded to young people is seen as the right approach in facilitating avenues to bring about capableness of youths, in taking up their rightful places and responsibilities in the society.

It is the role of all youth stakeholders, Provincial Government, individuals, youth organizations and community to realize our respective obligations towards young people's development. They represent a significant percentage of the provinces population.

The Provincial Youth Policy accords formal recognition of the status of young people, and is premised on partnership with the adult population. Each organization is at liberty to use this as a framework and guide to work with its specific youth constituencies.

It is of paramount importance that a review of the effectiveness of this Policy in terms of adequately meeting the changing needs and aspirations of young people and all organizations concerned with their welfare and development, is carried out on a regular basis. To assist in facilitating such a review, a constant monitoring and evaluation process is required of all youth programs and services to assess their impact on young people. This will be the task of the "Provincial Monitoring Committee".



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