

Project Code: <b>85</b>	Country: <b>Solomon Islands</b>	Sector: <b>Transport</b>
<p><b>Objective:</b> To buy a ten-seat helicopter to transport tourists to and from holiday destinations in Solomon Islands at a cost of US\$2.25 million by December 2005</p>		
<p>CHARLEY'S HELICOPTER CHARTERS</p>		
<p><b>Brief Description:</b> The helicopter service will be a means to transport tourists to secluded and faraway resorts. Air transport provided in the Solomon islands is not always reliable and can leave tourists stranded. It will also be used to do search and rescue services, site-seeing of various mountainous terrain, lakes, lagoons and the hundreds of islands of the scattered Solomon islands and various other activities. Qualified helicopter pilots will be employed to do day-to-day flights.</p>		
<p><b>Economic impact:</b> The helicopter service will employ 6 permanent employees managed by the owners. Indirect employment will account for 10 additional jobs. The business is expected to be profitable in 3 years and will therefore contribute enormously to the local economy through taxes, fees, accommodation and others.</p>		
<p><b>Present Ownership:</b> Land will be secured at the country's international airport area and a lease agreement will be entered into if the application is approved. Electricity and water available at the site.</p>		
<p><b>Development Possibilities:</b> The helicopter will be used to carry out aerial surveys, to fly over mountainous islands, views of hundreds of islands in Solomon Islands, viewing of lakes and lagoons, carry out search and rescue operations and carry out relief services if and when natural disaster occur.</p>		
<p><b>Estimated Development costs:</b> Land lease at nominal rent, Office spaces and others. \$0.15m, landing space, \$0.10m. Equipment and helicopter \$2.0m.</p>		
<p><b>Financing framework:</b> Land Commercial Value: \$1.0m, Equity \$0.1m, Proposed share subscription \$0.15m, Commercial Financing, \$1.75m.</p>		
<p><b>Other notes:</b> All flights will be coordinated from Honiara and fares will be charged on distance, load weights and different scenes to be visited. This would be the first commercial helicopter service in Solomon Islands.</p>		
<p><b>Project Proponent</b></p> <p>No. of employees: N/A</p> <p>Annual turnover: N/A</p>	<p><b>Responsible Contact</b></p> <p>Name: Charles Stennett Kereau. Position: M.D.  Address: SIBC, PO Box 654, Honiara, Solomon Is.  Tel. (677)20051, Fax. (677) 23159  e-mail: <a href="mailto:ckereau@yahoo.com">ckereau@yahoo.com</a></p>	