



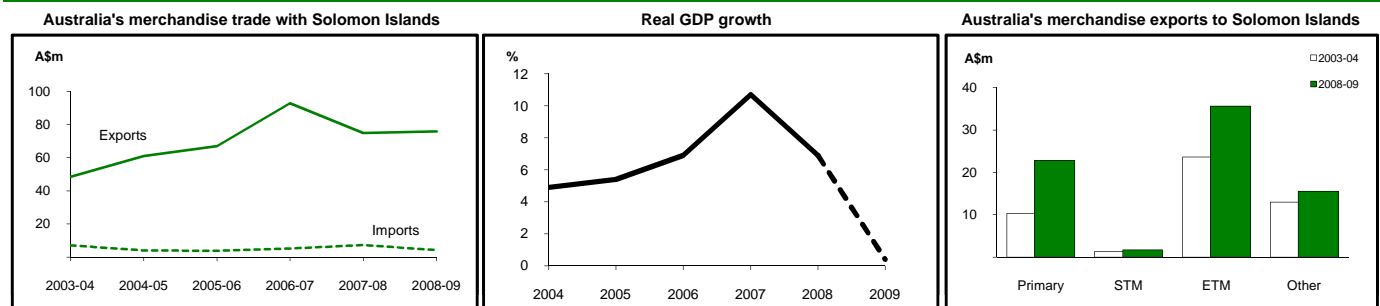
# SOLOMON ISLANDS *Fact Sheet*

## General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; June and December

|                           |                              |                            |  |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Capital:</b>           | Honiara                      | <b>Head of State:</b>      | HM Queen Elizabeth II, represented by        |
| <b>Surface area:</b>      | 28.9 thousand sq km          |                            | Governor-General, HE Mr Frank Ofagioro Kabui |
| <b>Official language:</b> | English                      | <b>Head of Government:</b> | Prime Minister The Hon Dr Derek Sikua        |
| <b>Population:</b>        | 537,000 (2009)               |                            |  |
| <b>Exchange rate:</b>     | A\$1 = SI\$6.4770 (Jul 2009) |                            |  |

| <i>Recent economic indicators:</i>           | 2004  | 2005  | 2006  | 2007  | 2008(a) | 2009(b) |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| <b>GDP (US\$m) (current prices):</b>         | 375   | 414   | 457   | 541   | 642     | 668     |
| <b>GDP PPP (US\$m) (c):</b>                  | 1,046 | 1,111 | 1,226 | 1,396 | 1,525   | 1,555   |
| <b>GDP per capita (US\$):</b>                | 801   | 860   | 923   | 1,064 | 1,228   | 1,244   |
| <b>GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (c):</b>        | 2,235 | 2,309 | 2,480 | 2,747 | 2,917   | 2,894   |
| <b>Real GDP growth (% change yoy):</b>       | 4.9   | 5.4   | 6.9   | 10.7  | 6.9     | 0.4     |
| <b>Current account balance (US\$m):</b>      | 61    | -29   | -29   | -67   | -120    | -74     |
| <b>Current account balance (% GDP):</b>      | 16.3  | -7.0  | -6.4  | -12.4 | -18.7   | -11.1   |
| <b>Goods &amp; services exports (% GDP):</b> | 47.9  | 46.5  | 51.7  | 55.6  | 61.9    | na      |
| <b>Inflation (% change yoy):</b>             | 6.9   | 7.1   | 11.1  | 7.7   | 17.2    | 8.0     |



## Australia's trade and investment relationship with Solomon Islands (d):

| Australian merchandise trade with Solomon Islands, 2008-09: |    | Total share: | Rank: | Growth (yoy): |
|---|----|--------------|-------|---------------|
| Exports to Solomon Islands (A\$m):                          | 76 | 0.0%         | 65th  | 1.3%          |
| Imports from Solomon Islands (A\$m):                        | 4  | 0.0%         | 117th | -41.6%        |
| Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m):                     | 80 | 0.0%         | 77th  | -2.5%         |

### Major Australian exports, 2008-09\* (A\$m):

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Wheat                             | 5 |
| Tobacco, manufactured             | 4 |
| Refined petroleum                 | 4 |
| Measuring & analysing instruments | 2 |

\*Includes A\$15m of special transactions, 20% of total exports.

### Major Australian imports, 2008-09 (A\$m):

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Wood, simply worked | 3 |
| Gold                | 1 |

### Australia's trade in services with Solomon Islands, 2008-09:

|  |    | Total share: |
|--|----|--------------|
| Exports of services to Solomon Islands (A\$m):   | na | na           |
| Imports of services from Solomon Islands (A\$m): | na | na           |

### Australia's investment relationship with Solomon Islands, 2008 (e):

|   | Total: | FDI: |
|---|--------|------|
| Australia's investment in Solomon Islands (A\$m): | 40     | 40   |
| Solomon Islands' investment in Australia (A\$m):  | 72     | na   |

## Solomon Islands' global merchandise trade relationships:

### Solomon Islands' principal export destinations, 2007:

|   |                   |       |
|---|-------------------|-------|
| 1 | China             | 50.8% |
| 2 | Republic of Korea | 7.0%  |
| 3 | Thailand          | 6.8%  |
| 9 | Australia         | 2.1%  |

### Solomon Islands' principal import sources, 2007:

|   |           |       |
|---|-----------|-------|
| 1 | Singapore | 28.2% |
| 2 | Australia | 25.4% |
| 3 | Japan     | 4.6%  |

Compiled by the Market Information and Research Section, DFAT, using the latest data from the ABS, the IMF and various international sources.

(a) All recent data subject to revision; (b) IMF/EIU forecast; (c) PPP is purchasing power parity; (d) Total may not add due to rounding; (e) Stock, as at 31 December. Released annually by the ABS. na Data not available.