**Region: Melanesia**

Countries Include: Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, West Papua (Indonesia)

**Color Key:**

No data or not enough to justify Grey;

Adverse or hostile conditions for IPLCs in the country Red;

Limited/conflicting progress in achieving IPLC recognition, rights, and supporting legal frameworks Yellow;

Strong legal frameworks, recognition, and willingness to support IPLC rights Green.

**Legal Framework, Scale of Recognition, & Government Willingness**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Framework** | **Scale of Recognition vs actual IPLC governance** | **Government willingness** |
| Fiji (Terrestrial) | According to [Landmark](http://www.landmarkmap.org/map/#x=-102.46&y=13.47&l=3&a=community_FormalDoc%2Ccommunity_NoDoc%2Ccommunity_FormalClaim%2Ccommunity_Occupied%2Cindigenous_FormalDoc%2Cindigenous_NoDoc%2Cindigenous_FormalClaim%2Cindigenous_Occupied), “In Fiji, customary tenure is formally recognized and protected “ - although more clarity is required on the nature of that recognition. | According to [Landmark](http://www.landmarkmap.org/map/#x=-102.46&y=13.47&l=3&a=community_FormalDoc%2Ccommunity_NoDoc%2Ccommunity_FormalClaim%2Ccommunity_Occupied%2Cindigenous_FormalDoc%2Cindigenous_NoDoc%2Cindigenous_FormalClaim%2Cindigenous_Occupied), Customary lands cover 88% of the country land area, the rest being public land (4%) and freehold lands (8%). | No data-refer to EOI |
| Fiji (Marine) | According to [Too-Big to Ignore,](https://issfcloud.toobigtoignore.net/) there is a basis for co-management/governance of fisheries with IPLCs in Fiji, although further details are unavailable. | According to [Too Big to Ignore](https://issfcloud.toobigtoignore.net/) the fisheries were reported as being under either :   * Co-management / co-governance * Community-based management * Self governance   Whether this applies to a subset or all fisheries is not clear. Also it is not clear if the self or community based management has been recognized by the government. | No data-refer to EOI. |
| Papua New Guinea (Terrestrial) | Papua New Guinea’s legal framework provides a strong basis for recognizing IPLC ownership of their lands.  (Source: RRI. 2015. Who Owns the World’s Lands?) | ~44 Mha have been recognized by the government as owned by IPLCs, which represents 97% of the country’s total land area.  (Source: RRI. 2015. Who Owns the World’s Lands?) | No data-refer to EOI |
| Papua New Guinea (Marine) | No data-refer to EOI | No Data - Refer to EOI | No data-refer to EOI. |
| Solomon Islands (Terrestrial) | According to [Landmark](http://www.landmarkmap.org/map/#x=-102.46&y=13.47&l=3&a=community_FormalDoc%2Ccommunity_NoDoc%2Ccommunity_FormalClaim%2Ccommunity_Occupied%2Cindigenous_FormalDoc%2Cindigenous_NoDoc%2Cindigenous_FormalClaim%2Cindigenous_Occupied) “customary tenure is formally recognized and protected in Solomon Islands” although more clarity is required on the nature of that recognition. | According to [Landmark](http://www.landmarkmap.org/map/#x=-102.46&y=13.47&l=3&a=community_FormalDoc%2Ccommunity_NoDoc%2Ccommunity_FormalClaim%2Ccommunity_Occupied%2Cindigenous_FormalDoc%2Cindigenous_NoDoc%2Cindigenous_FormalClaim%2Cindigenous_Occupied), Customary lands cover 87% of the country land area, the rest being public land (8%) and freehold land (5%). | No data-refer to EOI |
| Solomon Islands (Marine) | It is unclear if IPLC governance of fisheries is recognized by the state or if [Too Big to Ignore](https://issfcloud.toobigtoignore.net/), reflects de-facto governance. Refer to EOI. | According to [Too Big to Ignore](https://issfcloud.toobigtoignore.net/) the fisheries were reported as being under either :   * Top-down hierarchical governance * Community-based management, or * Self governance   Whether this applies to a subset or all fisheries is not clear. Also it is not clear if the self or community based management has been recognized by the government. | No data-refer to EOI. |
| Vanuatu (Terrestrial) | According to [Landmark](http://www.landmarkmap.org/map/#x=-102.46&y=13.47&l=3&a=community_FormalDoc%2Ccommunity_NoDoc%2Ccommunity_FormalClaim%2Ccommunity_Occupied%2Cindigenous_FormalDoc%2Cindigenous_NoDoc%2Cindigenous_FormalClaim%2Cindigenous_Occupied): “The Constitution adopted at independence affirms the principle that all land is owned by the indigenous customary owners and their descendants.” | According to [Landmark](http://www.landmarkmap.org/map/#x=-102.46&y=13.47&l=3&a=community_FormalDoc%2Ccommunity_NoDoc%2Ccommunity_FormalClaim%2Ccommunity_Occupied%2Cindigenous_FormalDoc%2Cindigenous_NoDoc%2Cindigenous_FormalClaim%2Cindigenous_Occupied) “98% of the country land area), although the Government is also entitled to own land (2% of Vanuatu land area).” | No data-refer to EOI |
| Vanuatu (Marine) | No data-refer to EOI | No Data - Refer to EOI | No data-refer to EOI. |
| West- Papua Indonesia (Terrestrial) | Indonesia’s legal framework has multiple tenure regimes for the recognition of customary control over forests, and one for the recognition of customary ownership (Adat) due to a ruling by the constitutional court. However, the national law to enact this recognition and to make the processing of claims more systematic has not yet been passed.  (Source: RRI. 2020. Opportunity Framework) | 0.35 Mha have been recognized by the government as under community control - mostly forests. This represents 0.01 percent of the country’s total land area and less than 1 % of the total area that have been estimated by the constitutional court in favor of IPLCs customary forest tenure rights (40 Mha).  (Source: RRI. 2015. Who Owns the World’s Lands?)  According to [Landmark](http://www.landmarkmap.org/map/#x=-102.46&y=13.47&l=3&a=community_FormalDoc%2Ccommunity_NoDoc%2Ccommunity_FormalClaim%2Ccommunity_Occupied%2Cindigenous_FormalDoc%2Cindigenous_NoDoc%2Cindigenous_FormalClaim%2Cindigenous_Occupied), very little recognition of IPLC lands has taken place on the island of West Papua - with a handful of sites on the northern coast. | While the national government has expressed interest in the recognition of IPLC rights and set ambitious targets, the promises have not yet materialized after several years of being in power.  However, several sub national governments are in favor of recognizing IPLC lands due to strong political mobilization by IPLC groups. |
| Indonesia (Marine) | According to [Too-Big to Ignore,](https://issfcloud.toobigtoignore.net/) there is a basis for co-management/governance of fisheries with IPLCs in Indonesia, although further details are unavailable. | According to [Too Big to Ignore](https://issfcloud.toobigtoignore.net/), the fisheries in West Papua that they reported on appear to be under IPLC governance.  It is not clear if the self or community based management has been recognized by the government. | No data- refer to EOI. |