USING ART AS A TOOL TO MOBILIZE SUPPORT FOR DUGONG CONSERVATION IN SOLOMON ISLANDS

By Chelcia Gomese & Jan van der Ploeg
WorldFish Solomon Islands
Threats to dugongs and seagrass

• Opportunistic killing (dugongs not legally protected)
• Sedimentation (logging)
• Lack of awareness
• Weak governance
The Saltwater People
Lau Lagoon, Malaita
The woman called Faifu
The Kidipale Tribe
Naro, West Guadalcanal
Conclusion

- Art is an effective tool to engage people in community-based resource management: reflects and reinforces values, priorities and worldview of people

- Cultural values are context specific: but conservation message resonates widely

- Up-scaling: how to reach 6000 coastal communities?

- Biocultural approach cannot solve all problems: f.e. logging
Thank you