

Rennell Island Oil Spill Class Action and Litigation Funding Exercise, Solomon Islands

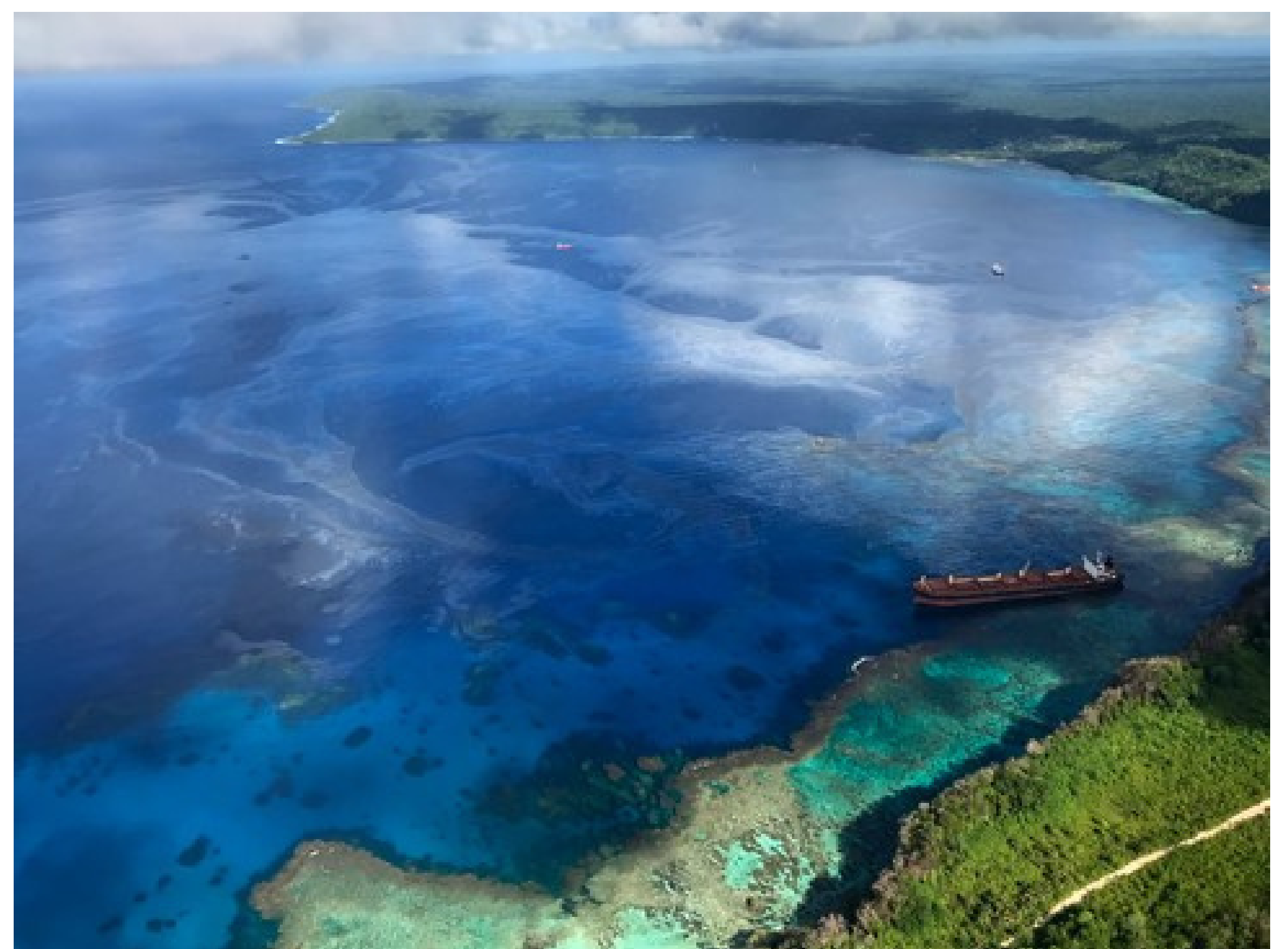
Pacific Legal Network

Acting pro-bono to run and source external litigation funding for a class action on behalf of indigenous landowners of Solomon Islands for biggest oil spill in the history of the South Pacific.



In 2019, a ship carrying +700 tonnes of oil wrecked on the reefs surrounding our clients' island, spilling +300 tonnes of oil and destroying their environment. Our firm has acted pro bono for them to prepare the claim, file it, and source litigation funding to run it against large corporate defendants.

Our firm has agreed with the clients to run the claim pro bono at no cost to the clients until such time as we have sourced litigation funding. Once litigation funding is obtained, we have agreed a bespoke fee return which caters for our clients' pecuniary position. The claim value is between USD 30 million and USD 100 million.



Landowners whose customary lands have been decimated by an oil spill (including contamination of waterways and marine food sources vital to their existence) will have their day in court and hopefully be compensated for the damage caused 6 years after the actual oil spill occurred.