What is Marine Spatial Planning and what is its role in the Pacific?

Tim Carruthers
SPREP Coastal and Marine Adviser

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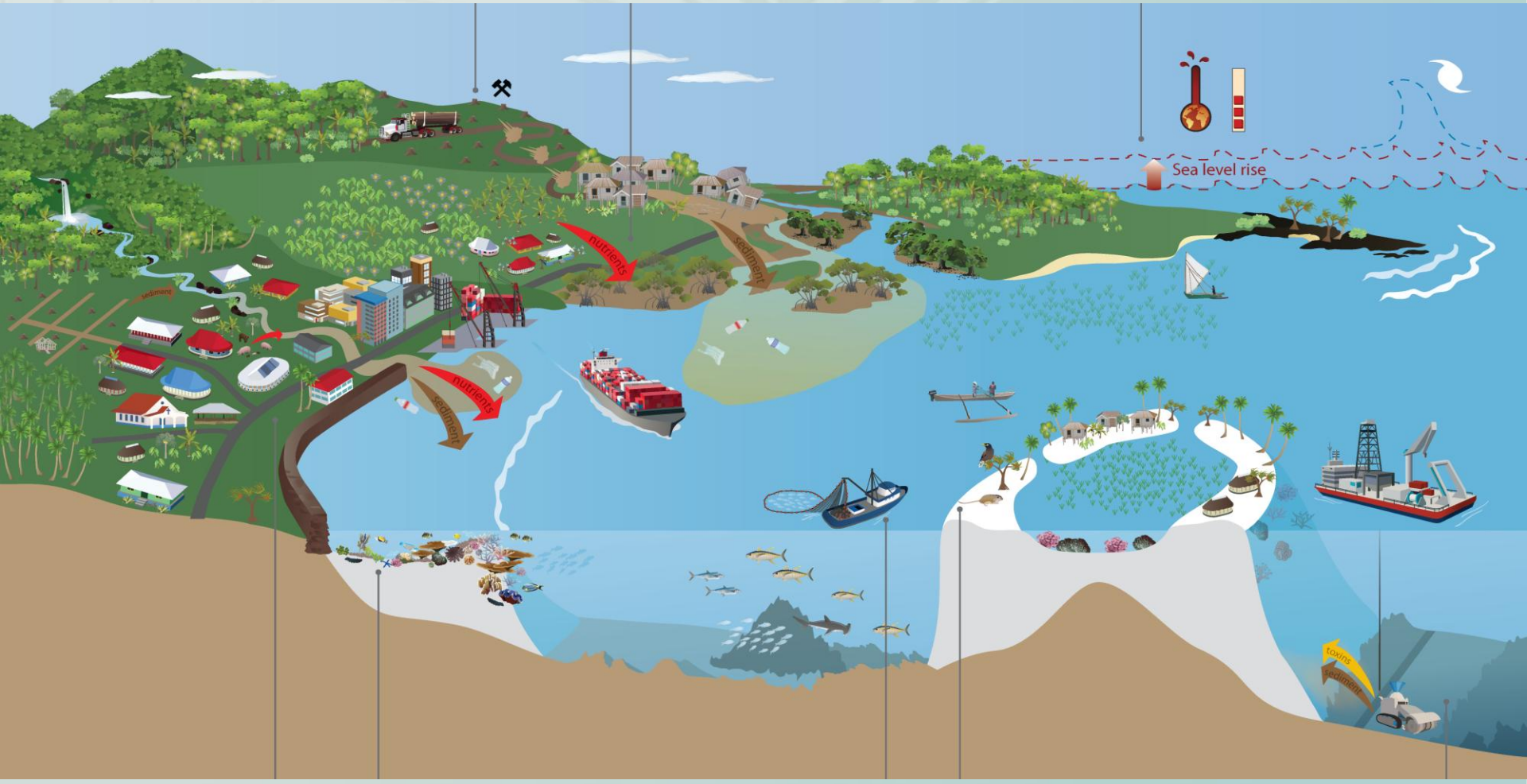
Multiple resource uses require an integrated solution

Shipping

Tourism

Biodiversity Conservation



Coastal Development

Fishing

Deep Sea Minerals

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Marine Spatial Planning is:

- A process to *support* ***informed and coordinated decision making*** for marine resources
- ***Inclusive of multiple sectors,*** *government departments* and resource users
- A mechanism for integrated decision making ***identifying potential non compatible desirable resource uses***
- A ***participatory*** and iterative process over time
- A planning process to deliver a ***balance of economic, social and ecological sustainability***

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Marine Spatial Planning is based within Ecosystem Based Management - there are many other other management strategies

Least integrated

- Species management
- Marine Protected Areas
- Watershed management
- Marine Spatial Planning
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management
- Ecosystem Based Management

Most integrated

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Ecosystem Based Management
“Ridge to Reef” or “Ridge to Deep Sea”

The geographic scope of EBM can collectively cover all five of the main management strategies:

1) the coastal lands and nearshore environment of ICZM;

2) the marine environment of MSP;

3) the rivers and drainage basins in watersheds that drain into the sea;

4) the waters supporting exploited fish stocks; and

5) the coastal and marine environments encompassed by MPAs.

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EBM can be implemented to different extents

No EBM or Low EBM

Individual species management

Single sector management
— fisheries, for example

Restricted scale management
— local only, for example

Short-term perspective:
what do we need from the
ecosystem this year?

Managing commodities

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EBM can be implemented to different extents

No EBM or Low EBM	*Incremental EBM*
Individual species management	Managing groups of species
Single sector management — fisheries, for example	Integrated management of two sectors — fisheries and offshore energy, for example, to avoid user conflicts
Restricted scale management — local only, for example	Coordinated management at local and state levels
Short-term perspective: what do we need from the ecosystem this year?	Medium-term perspective: what services do we need the ecosystem to provide 5 years from now?
Managing commodities	Managing activities with those commodities in mind

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EBM can be implemented to different extents

No EBM or Low EBM	*Incremental EBM*	*Comprehensive EBM*
Individual species management	Managing groups of species	Managing whole ecosystems
Single sector management — fisheries, for example	Integrated management of two sectors — fisheries and offshore energy, for example, to avoid user conflicts	Integrating all sectors that impact, or are impacted by, the ecosystem
Restricted scale management — local only, for example	Coordinated management at local and state levels	Coordinated management at all levels relevant to the ecosystem
Short-term perspective: what do we need from the ecosystem this year?	Medium-term perspective: what services do we need the ecosystem to provide 5 years from now?	Long-term perspective: what will the ecosystem look like in 20 years with climate change?
Managing commodities	Managing activities with those commodities in mind	Managing activities with system functioning in mind

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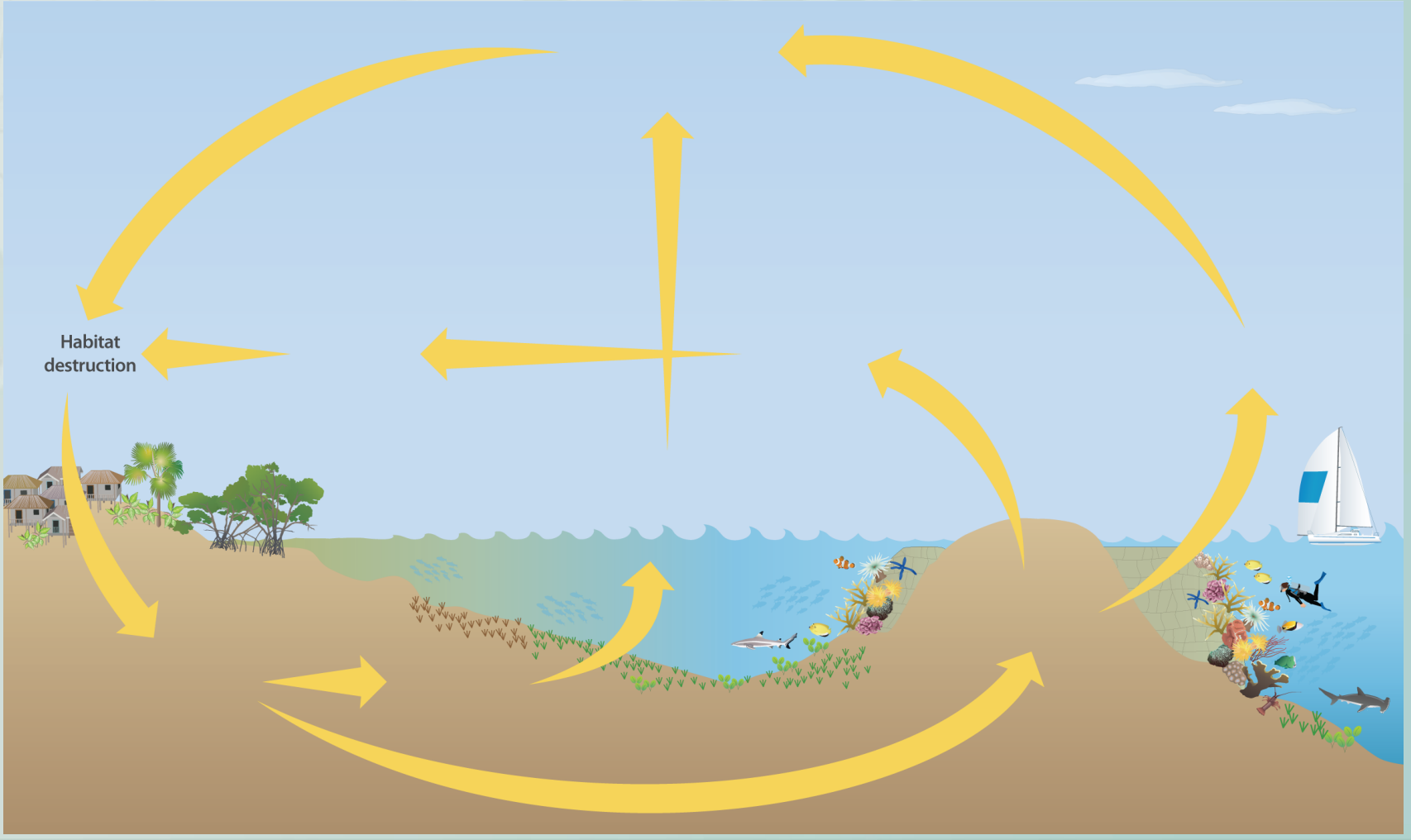
EBM recognizes the connections within and across ecosystems



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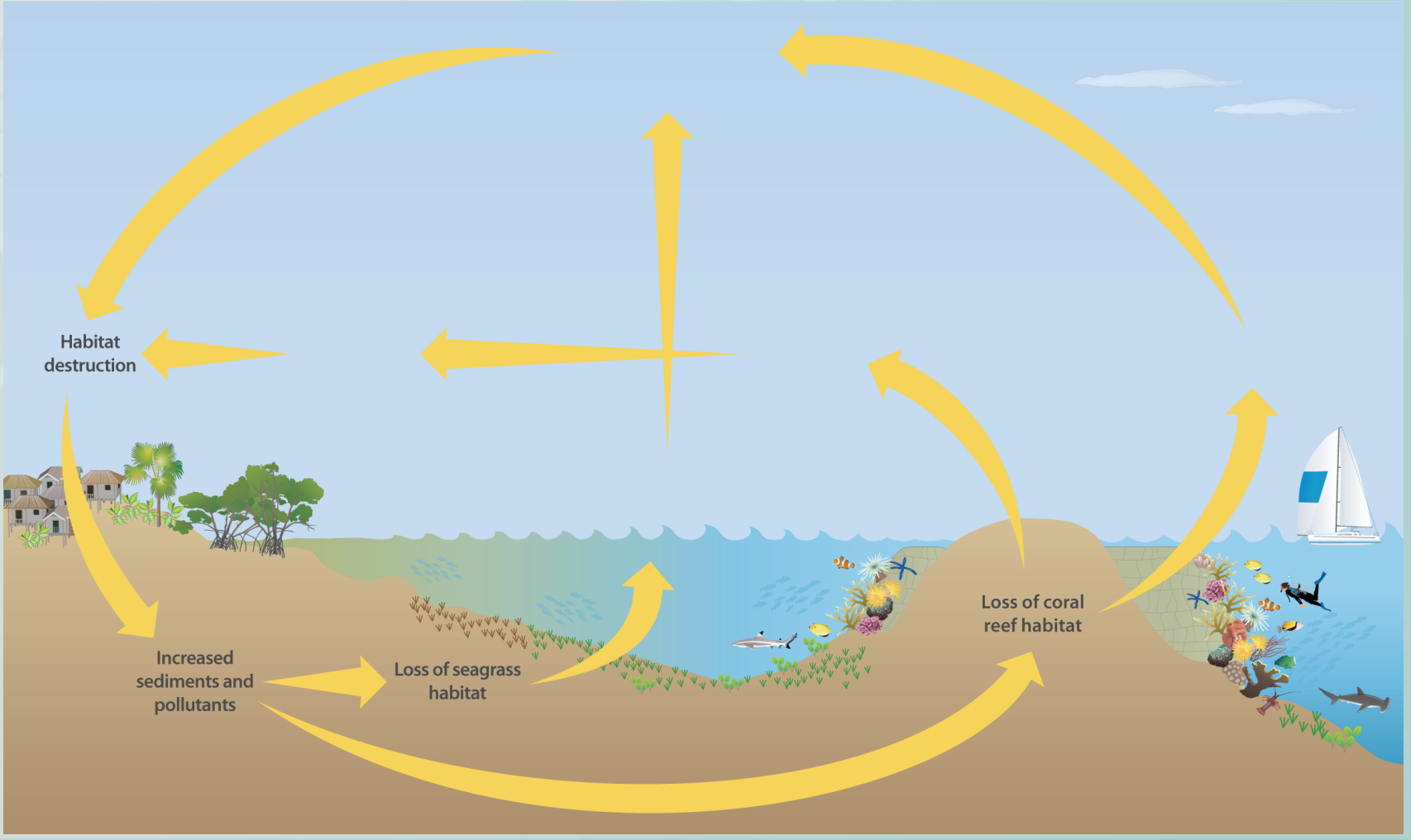

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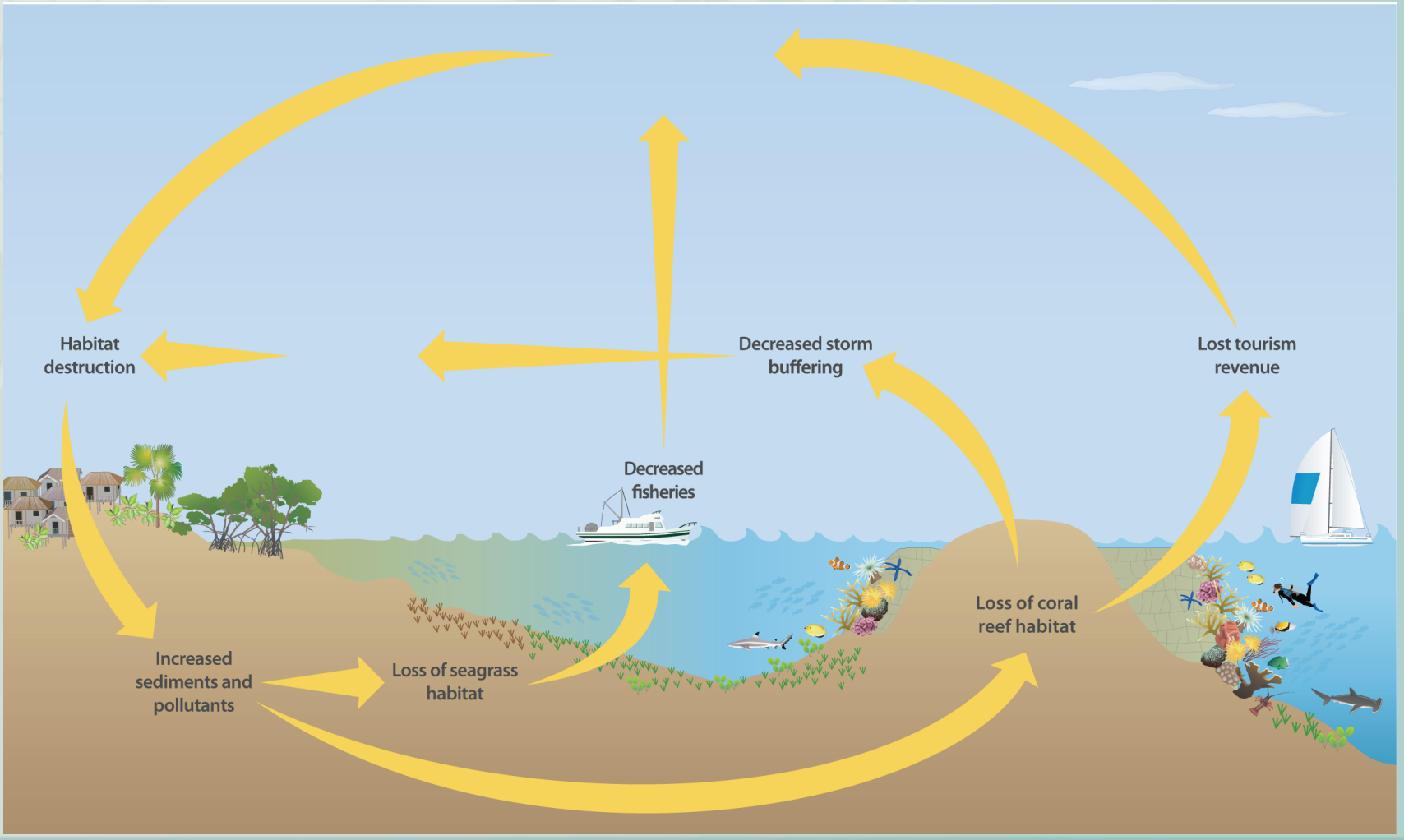

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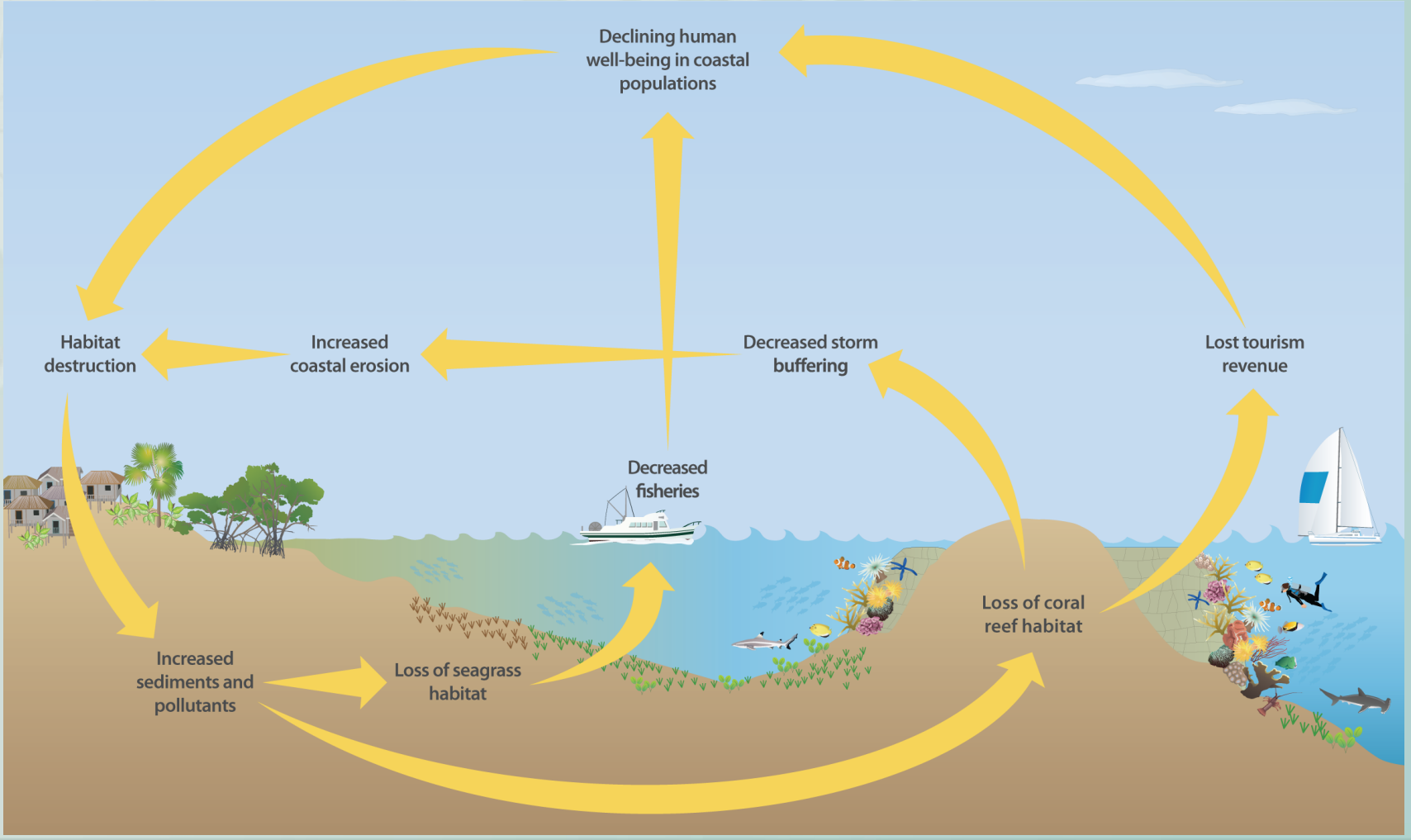

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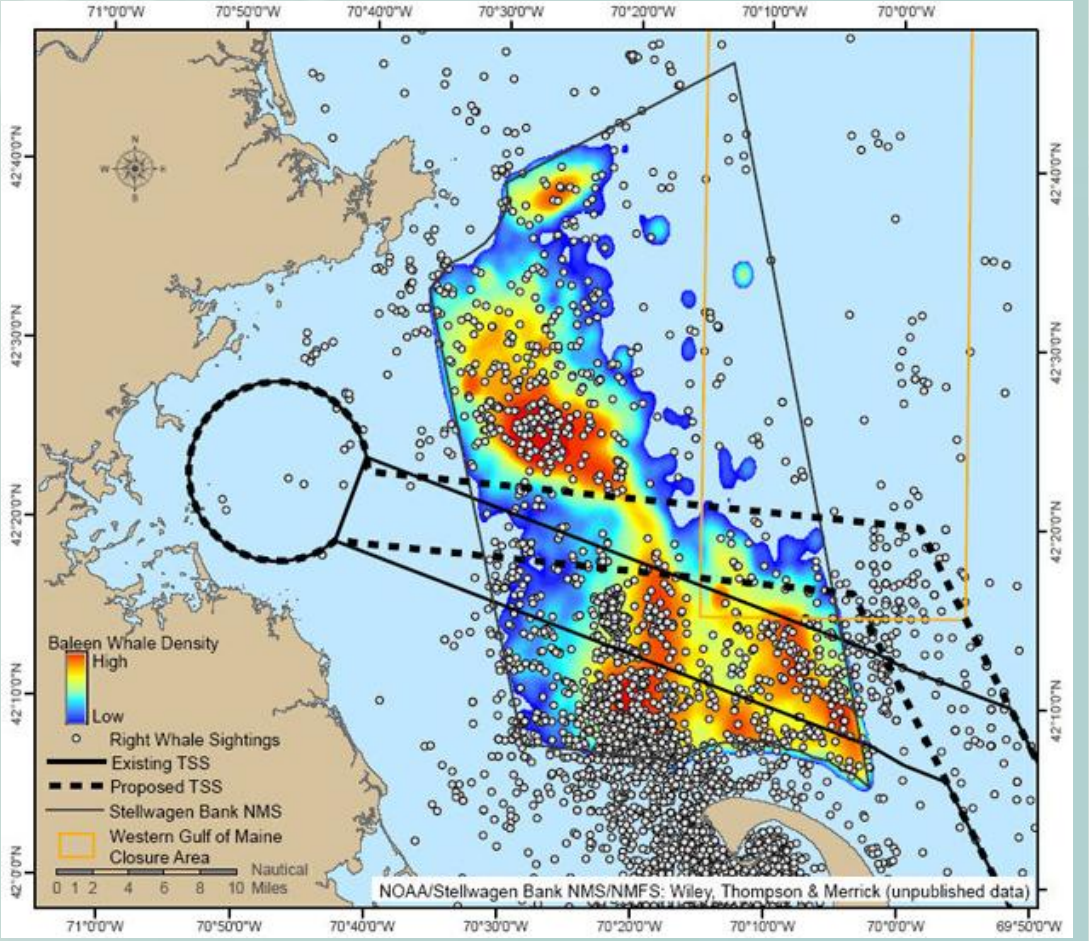
Small scale integrated best solution

Aim: To reduce ship (economic , social) and whale (environmental) risk.

Action: Used spatial data and MSP to proposed new route.

Result: Increased travel time 10-22 minutes. Collisions with Baleen whales reduced by 81%.



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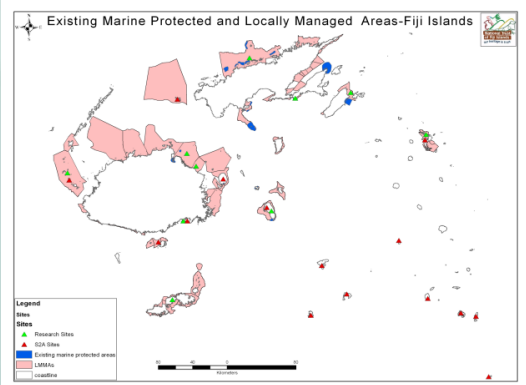
Example from LMMA

- Marine Spatial Planning involves participation and discussion
- Marine Spatial Planning involves maps, identifying both resources and resources users



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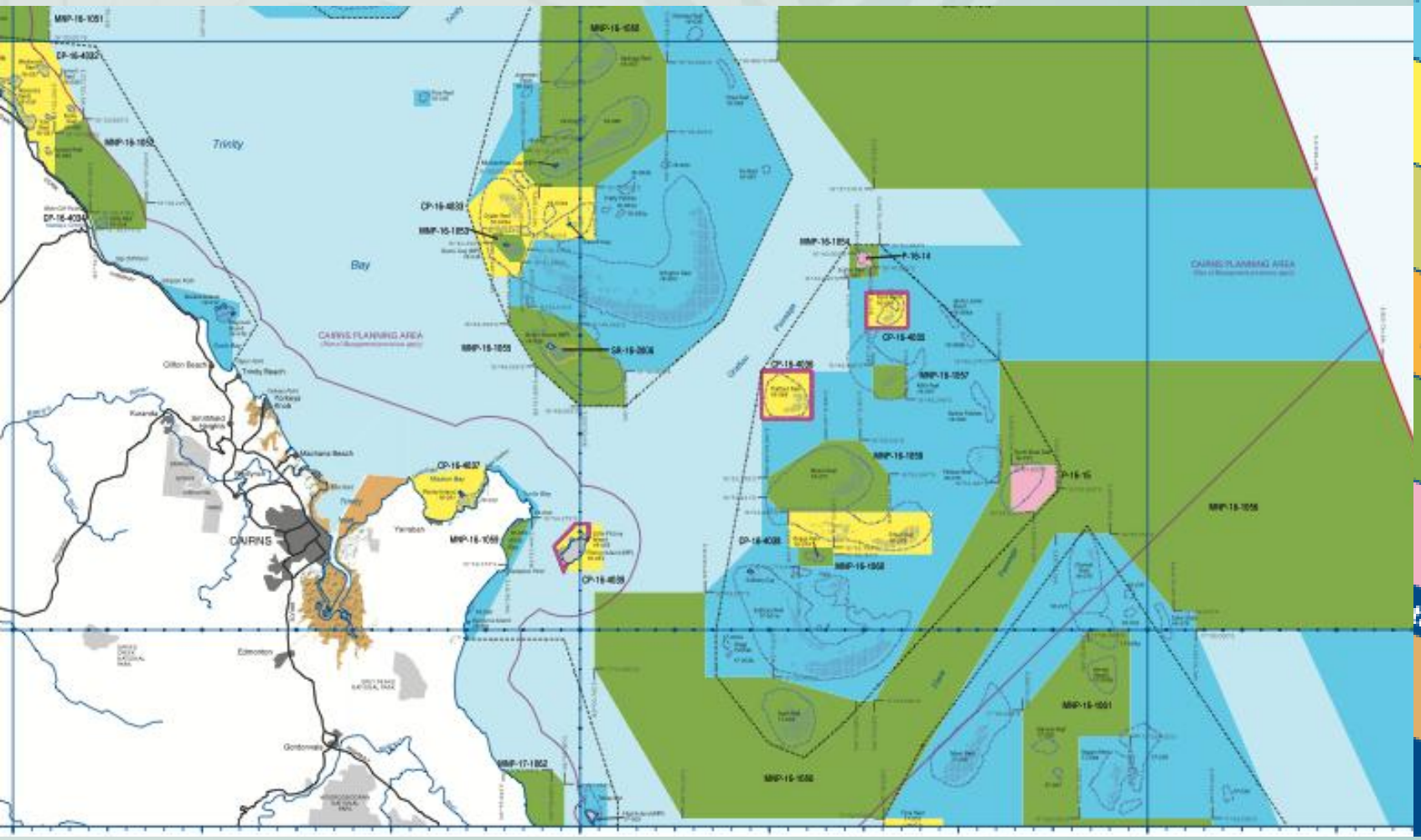
Marine Spatial Planning includes Zoning use: Example from Great Barrier Reef, Australia



General Use Zone
Habitat Protection Zone
Conservation Park Zone
Buffer Zone
Scientific Research Zone
Marine National Park Zone
Preservation Zone
State Zoning only
Estuarine Conservation Zone

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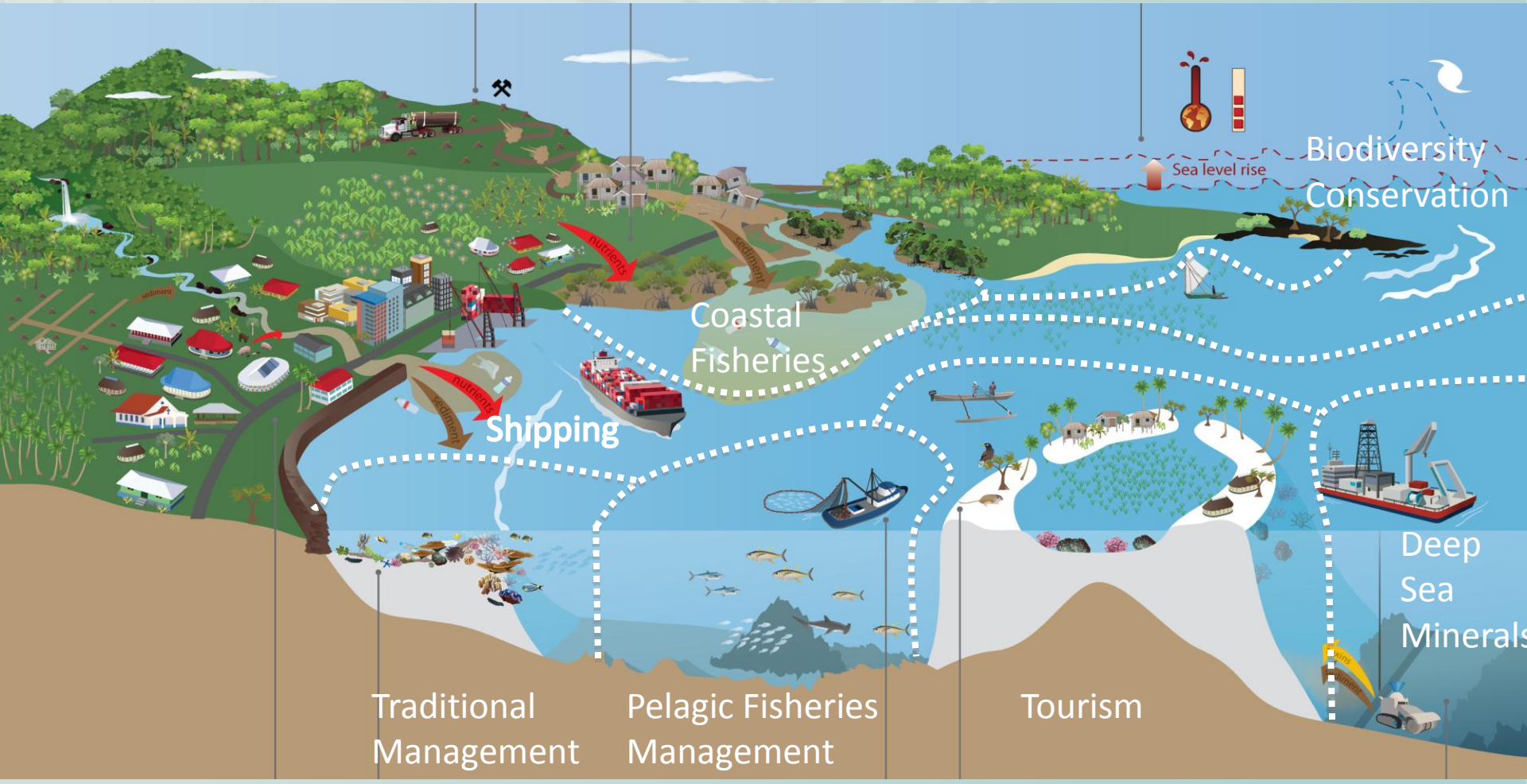
A vision for Marine Spatial Planning:

communicating the process is essential for successful engagement



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Take home messages – Marine Spatial Planning is…:

- 1. …an integrated and cross sectoral planning process
- 2. … mechanism for engagement and discussion across agencies, resource owners and users
- 3. … long term process of refinement and revision

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Thankyou

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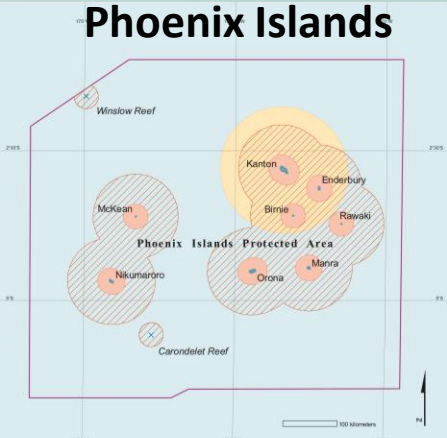
Large Scale marine management

- **Phoenix Islands Protected Area**
  Location: Kiribati
  Area: 408 thousand square kilometers
  Established: 2008
  Marine spatial planning: Phase 1 implemented



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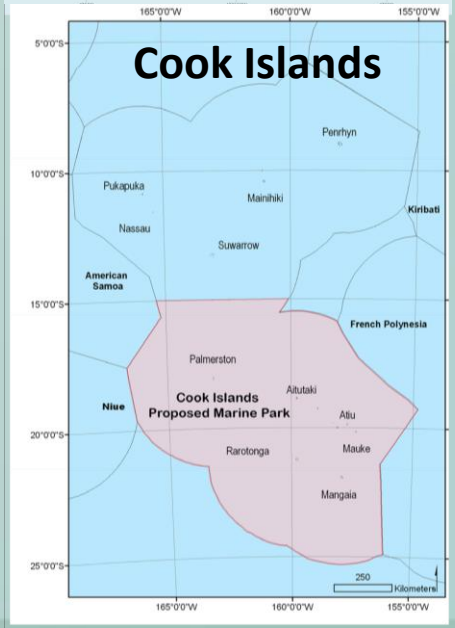
- **Cook Islands Marine Park**
  Location: Cook Islands
  Area: 1 million square kilometers
  Established: 2012
  Marine spatial planning: underway



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Elements of regional policy framework for marine management support in the Pacific

Pacific Plan
-Primary regional policy-

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Pacific Regional Sea Programme
-Global linking mechanism-

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Pacific Oceanscape
-Visionary framework-

Marine Sector Working Group

Noumea Convention
-Legal instrument-

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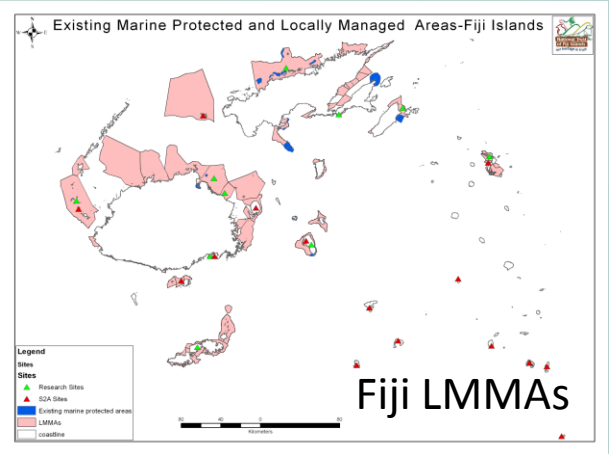
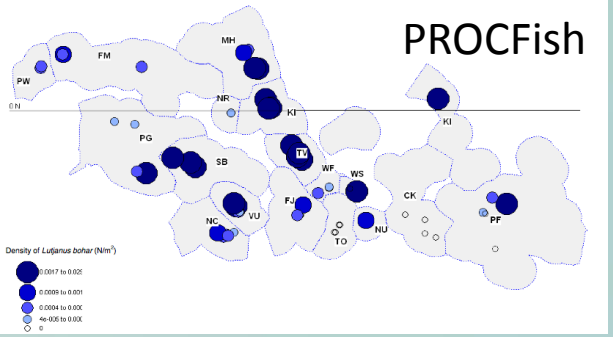
Inshore fisheries, community approaches and marine planning

- LMMAs are established with a participatory approach, prioritizing areas for spatial and temporal closures

- Identification of marine and terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas (Samoa, Kiribati, regional).

- PROCFish: baseline data and climate change monitoring - effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas for managing inshore fisheries





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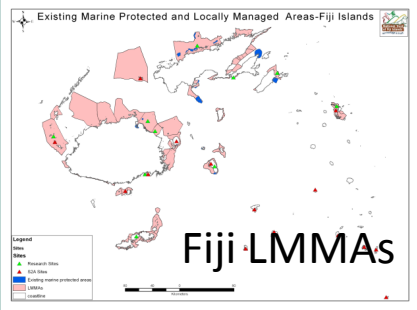
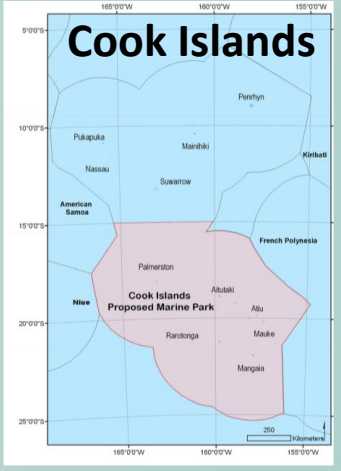
Throughout the Pacific, a key current challenge is to look for commonalities in approaches to marine management

- All ecosystem services, including climate change resilience, sustainable fisheries, and maintained biodiversity, require intact and functioning ecosystems.

- Linking areas under different marine management approaches into a network, can assist in achieving these goals.





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Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal

Seeking guidance on needs for linking managed area resources amongst Pacific islands

Please fill in the survey:
https://www.sprep.org/pipap

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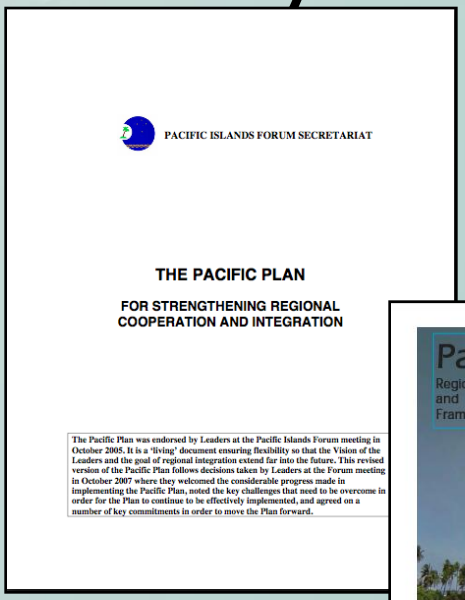
Pacific Policies promote maintaining intact ecosystems

- **Pacific Plan**: *sustainable development* requires balanced resource use and maintenance of *intact ecosystems*.

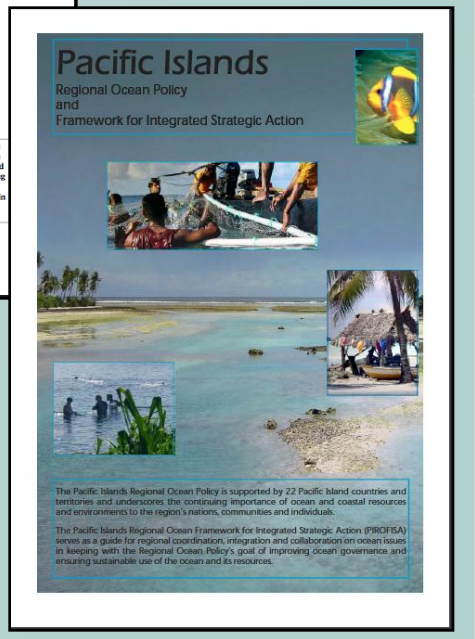
- **Pacific Island Regional Ocean Policy**: *sustainably develop, manage and maintain health* of the Pacific Ocean (Principles 2&3).


PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT

THE PACIFIC PLAN

FOR STRENGTHENING REGIONAL COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION

The Pacific Plan was endorsed by Leaders at the Pacific Islands Forum meeting in October 2005. It is a 'living' document ensuring flexibility so that the Vision of the Leaders and the goal of regional integration extend far into the future. This revised version of the Pacific Plan follows decisions taken by Leaders at the Forum meeting in October 2007 where they welcomed the considerable progress made in implementing the Pacific Plan, noted the key challenges that need to be overcome in order for the Plan to continue to be effectively implemented, and agreed on a number of key commitments in order to move the Plan forward.


Pacific Islands

Regional Ocean Policy and Framework for Integrated Strategic Action

The Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy is supported by 22 Pacific Island countries and territories and underscores the continuing importance of ocean and coastal resources and environments to the region's nations, communities and individuals.

The Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Framework for Integrated Strategic Action (PIROFISA) serves as a guide for regional coordination, integration and collaboration on ocean issues in keeping with the Regional Ocean Policy's goal of improving ocean governance and ensuring sustainable use of the ocean and its resources.

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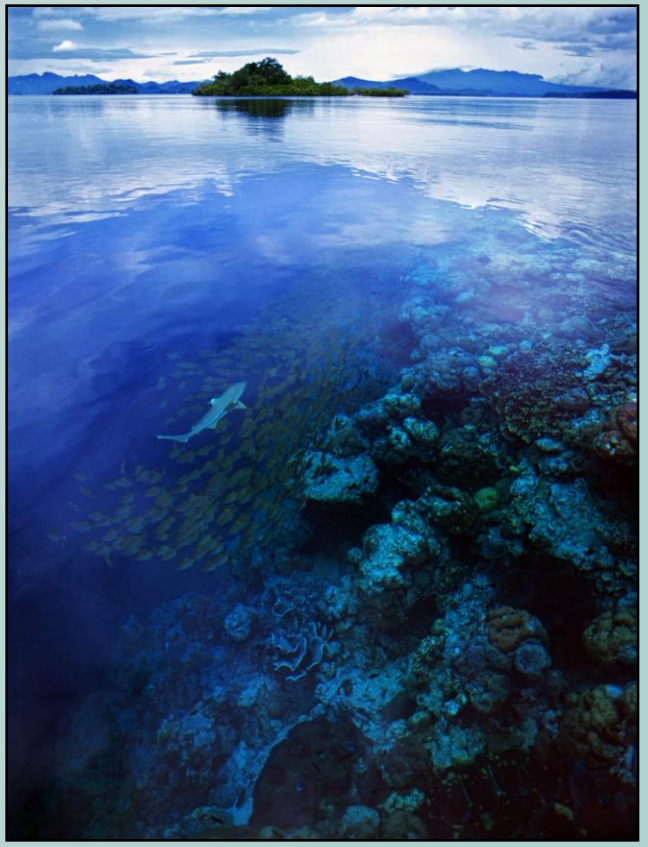
Oceanscape Vision for integrated management of Pacific resources



- **2009**: proposed by President of Kiribati
- **2010:** endorsed by PI leaders
- **2012:** Ocean Commissioner established
- **2012:** countries make significant commitments under the Oceanscape

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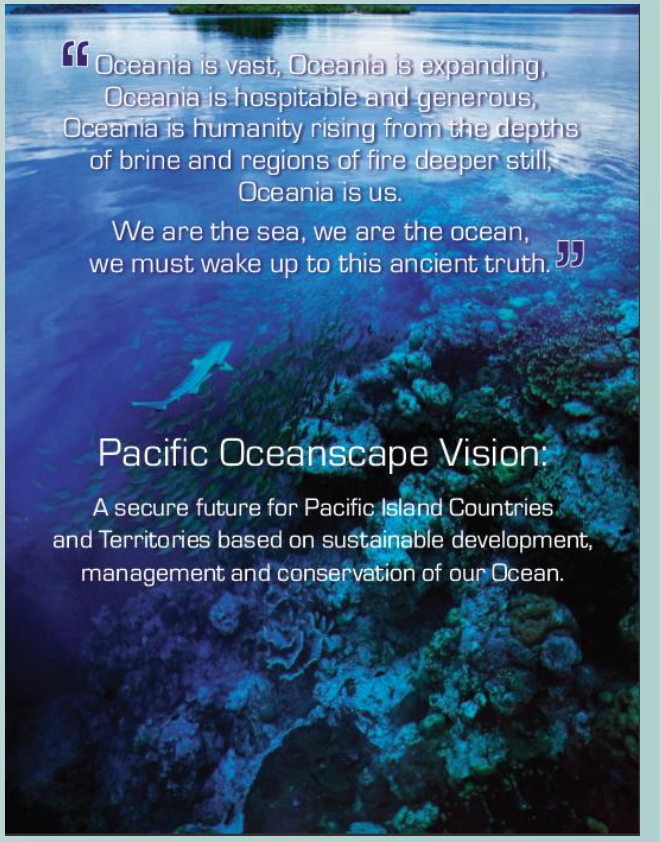
Key Priorities of the Pacific Oceanscape

- **Stategic Priority 3** – '*Sustainable development, management and conservation*',
  Action 3B – '*explore and build marine spatial planning mechanisms for improved EEZ management to achieve economic development and environmental outcomes*'.



Goal 1.1: Establish and strengthen national, regional and global MPA networks

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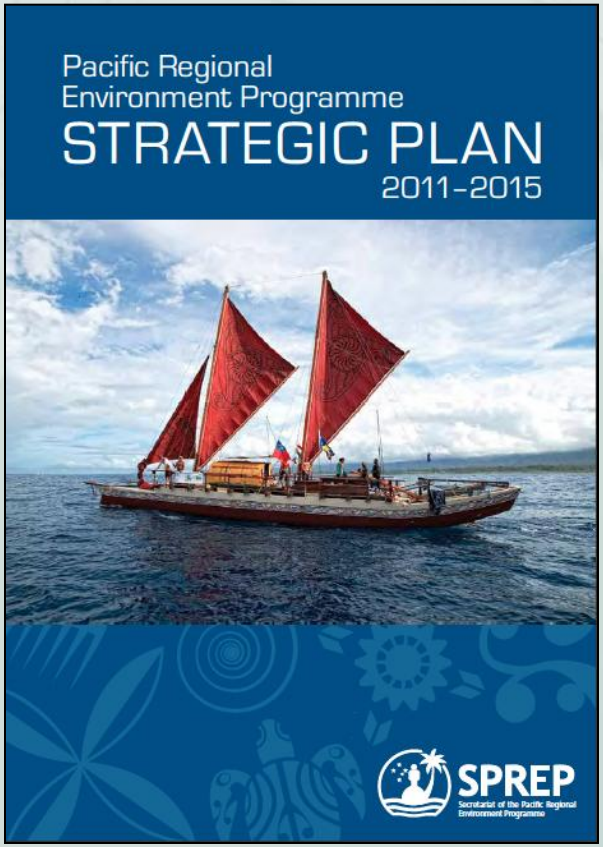
SPREP – Secretariat Pacific Regional Sea



www.sprep.org

- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
- 26 Member countries and territories (UK joined in 2012)
- Four Divisions:
  - Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management
  - Climate Change
  - Waste Management and Pollution
  - Environmental Monitoring and Governance
- Currently 76 staff, based in Apia, Samoa

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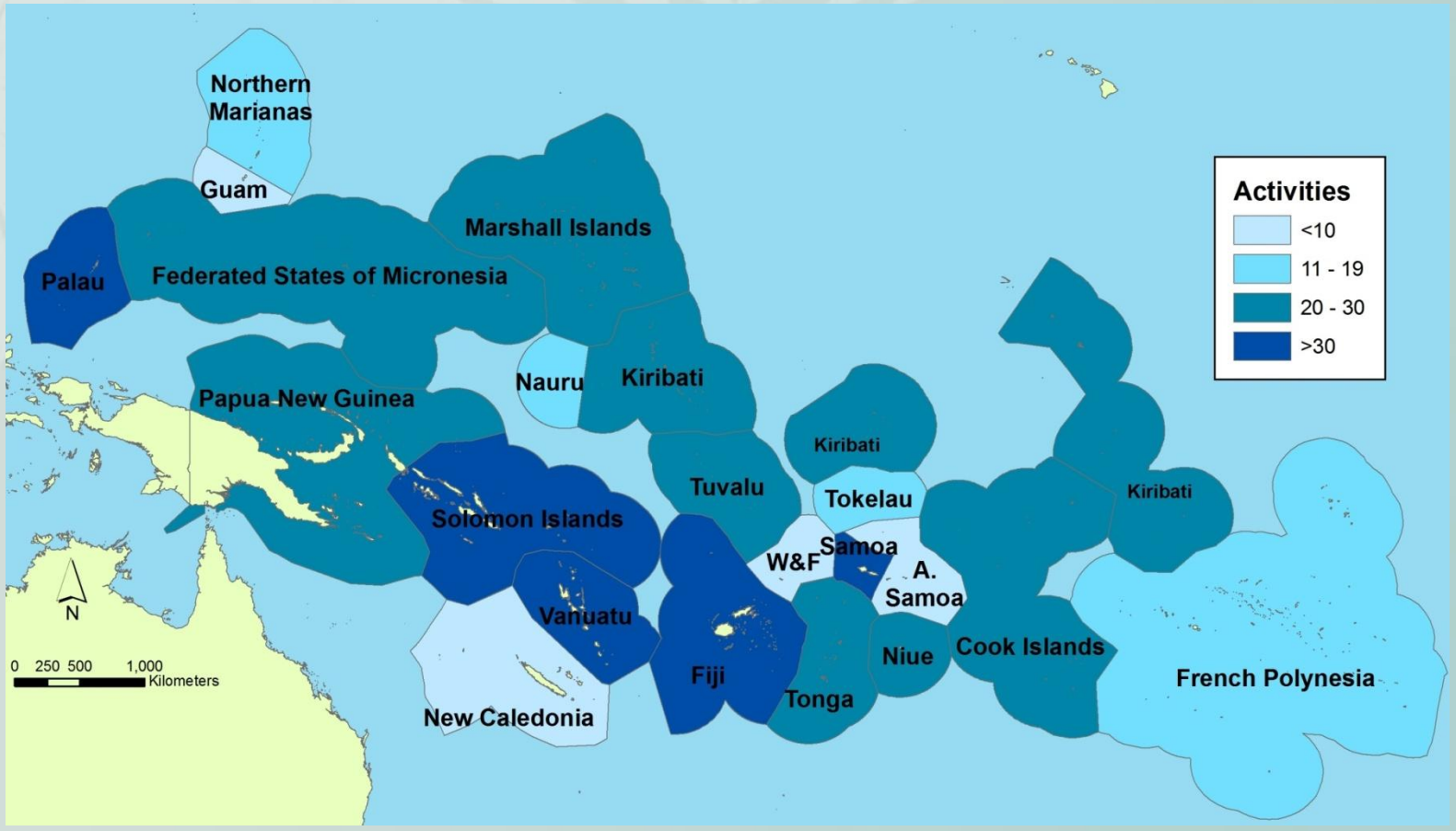
SPREP members and Regional and National Activities 2012



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