



Status of policy and target development for MMA/MPAs in the Pacific Region

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Outline

- Background
- Policy and targets development
- Tracking progress
- Lessons learnt
- Challenges, gaps and needs
- Concluding remarks



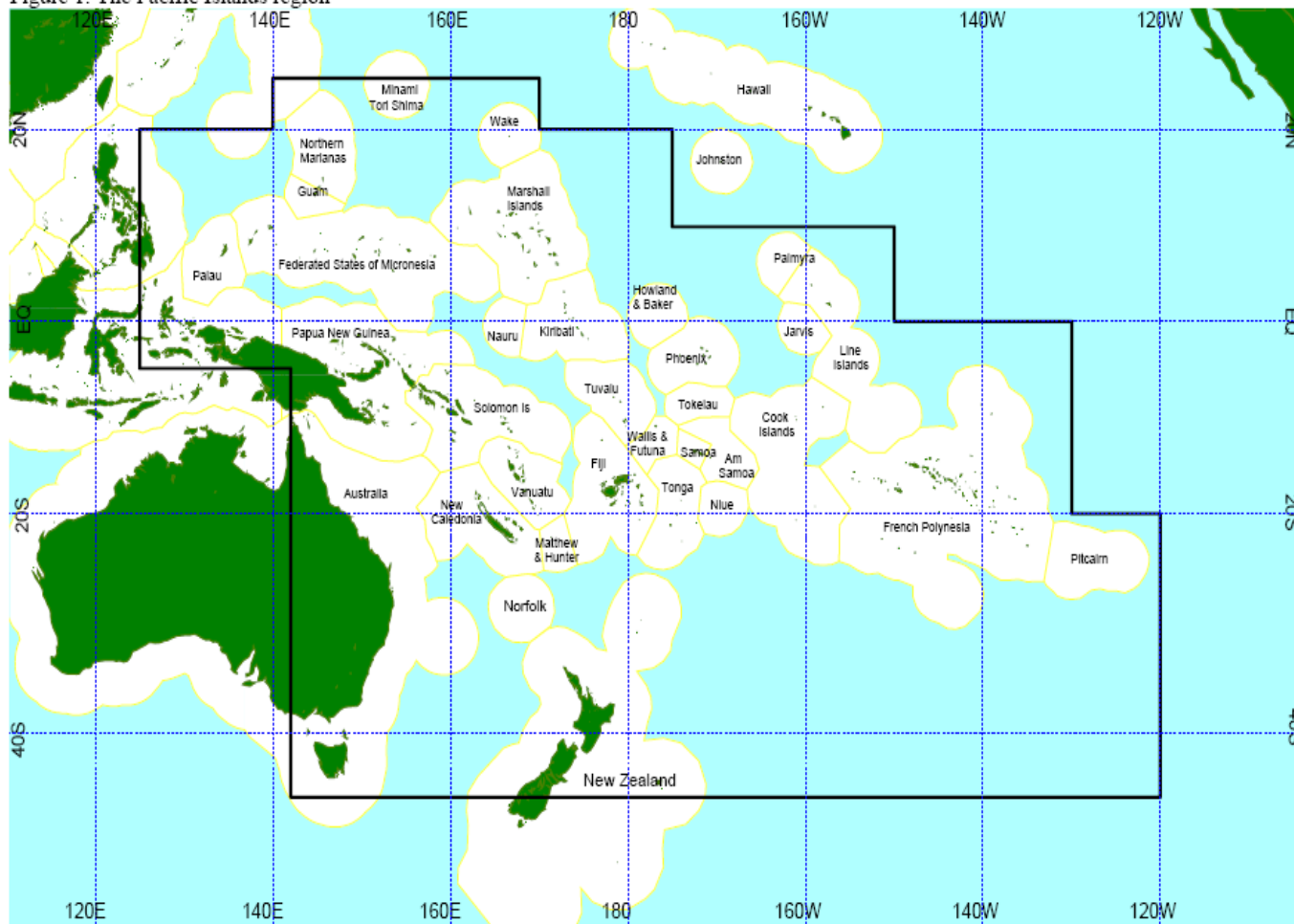
Background

- 17th SPREP Intergovernmental meeting and Ministerial Forum’
- “to *develop a regional framework for the establishment and management of MPAs to strengthen the conservation of marine biodiversity of coasts and oceans in the Region.*”
- Baseline assessment of MMA policy and implementation
- Our Sea of Islands Regional Forum for Oceania on marine managed areas (Jan2007)



Background-Pacific Island Region

Figure 1. The Pacific Islands region





Background

- 10,000 kms from east to west and 5,000 kms from north to south, with a combined EEZ close to 38.5 million km²
- Diverse globally significant marine and coastal ecosystems (coastal, inshore, deep sea, pelagic)
- Livelihoods and economies of Pacific Island Countries (eg Fisheries, tourism)



Review of policies and targets

Approach

- Inventory of policies at international, national and regional levels
- Presence and absence of targets, numerical targets
- Political commitments



international

MPA as a tool for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development

- CBD/WSSD targets *" to halt the decline of biodiversity loss by 2012 and develop a network of PA by 2020. "*
- CBD IBPOW: *" By 2010 at least 10% of each of the island ecological regions effectively conserved "*
- CBD PA POW: *' by 2012 of a comprehensive and effectively managed and ecologically representative national and regional systems of protected areas in marine areas"*



National

- **NBSAP (8) and equivalent (US and French Territories)**
 - refer to PA and MPAs, no numerical targets
- **National political commitments**
 - Fiji - 30% by 2020 under management - 387 000km² (inshore/offshore)
 - Kiribati, Phoenix island Protected areas(8% of EEZ - 184 700km²
 - Micronesia Challenge - 30% inshore marine under conservation management by 2020.



Regional

- Pacific Island Forum (PIF) Pacific Islands Regional Oceans Policy (PIROP)
 - Networks of MPAs, no numerical targets, not applicable to non PIF members
- SPREP Action strategy on Nature Conservation (2003-2008)
 - 5 year target: 5% increase in area under conservation
 - 5 year target: At least 20 millions KM2 as whale sanctuary



Regional

- Pacific Island Forum-Pacific Plan
 - Endorse the Micronesia Challenge, Fiji and Kiritiba commitments
 - recognise use of MPA as an important part of sustainable development under the Pacific Plan
 - encouraged Members to consider similar, substantial and specific commitments to the conservation and sustainable management of marine and terrestrial resources



Tracking progress - assumptions

- **Definition**
 - Marine Managed Areas (MMAs) : diversity of design, type, scale and approach found in coastal and oceanic areas managed for conservation and/or sustainable use of marine resources.
- **Assessment of MPA status**
 - use IUCN categories (new Community Conserved Areas)
 - Against global targets (CBD/WSSD) eg 10% by 2010
 - Dependent sources of information
 - Oceania larger than Pacific Island Region
 - Does not reflect all target requirements



Tracking progress- results

Oceania

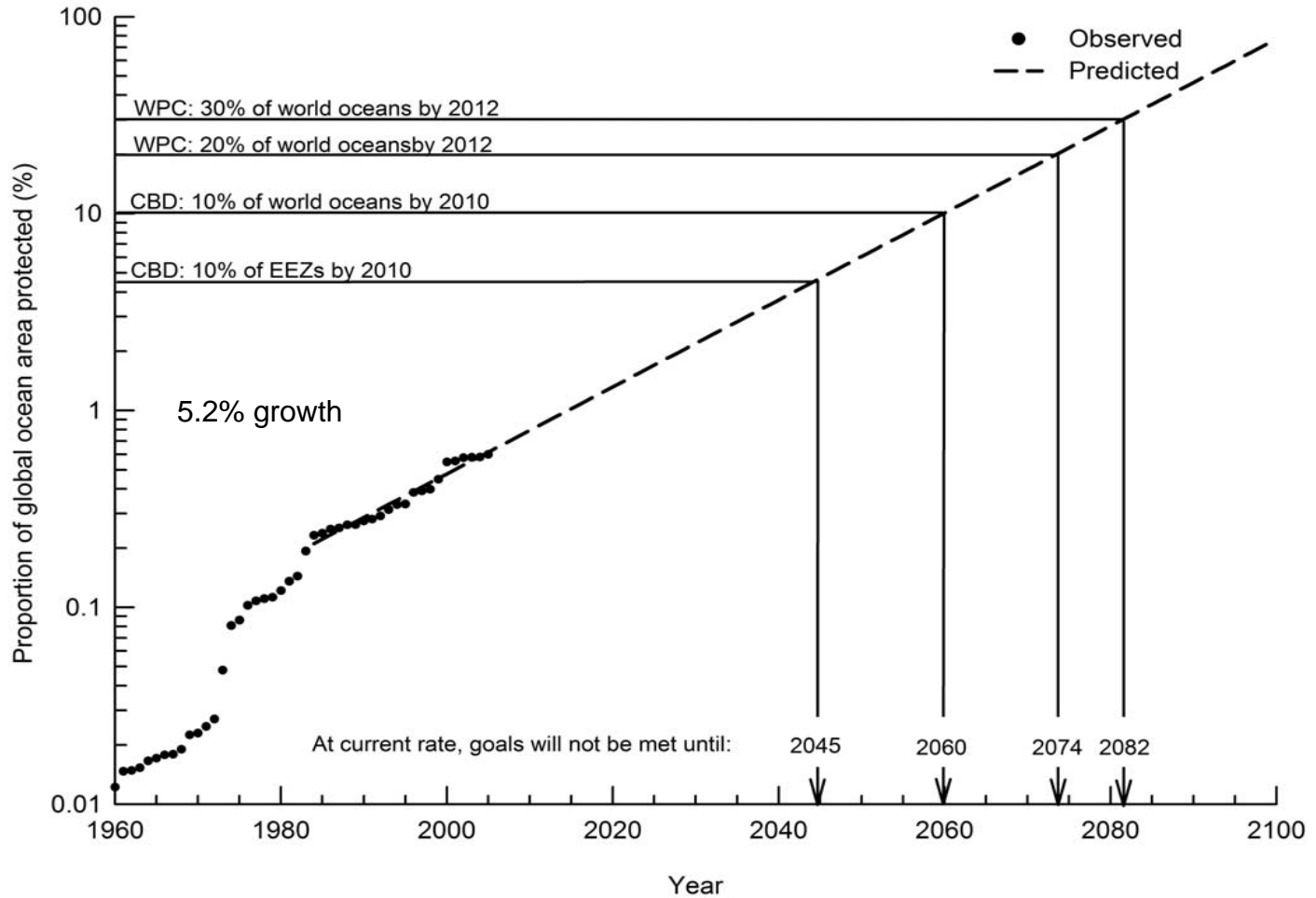
- 1997: 65 MMAs community based sites for coastal management (SPREP 2001)
- 2006: 210 MPAs (gazetted), 554,000km² including NWHI, PIPA, 1.7% of the region's EEZ, 25% world MPAs (exclude MMAs)

Globally

- 2006: 4607 MPAs, 2.2 million km², 0.6% of the world's oceans, and 1.5% of the area within EEZs



Which targets can be met, and when? (wood 2006)





Tracking progress (Wood 2006)

Which targets can be met, and when?

An alternative way to understand the scale of the area still needing protection within Oceania's EEZs (in order to meet targets) is to compare it to existing large MPAs:

Target	How many are needed?	
	NWHI	PIPA
CBD	8	15
WPC20	17	32
WPC30	27	50



Concluding remarks

- Achievements
 - Strong policy development and leadership
 - Significant contribution to global MMAs (almost 2%)
 - If
 - Successful community based models in coastal areas, not necessarily reflected



Concluding remarks

- Issues for consideration
 - No protection of marine biodiversity in EEZs in 75% of Pacific Islands countries
 - If commitments at same rate as since 2005, targets would be met in 2017
 - Targets requirements: networks of representative comprehensive and effectively managed areas
 - information and capacity to monitor effectiveness of management - Planning underway



Challenges ahead

- How to learn from and upscale local initiatives into ecologically, and socially meaningful MMA networks?
- Conservation of ocean and coastal biodiversity of the Pacific region and how to effectively engage with regional fisheries interests and institutions
- Harnessing resources effectively through strong partnerships mechanisms to meet CBD targets for MPA/MMAs