

"Presentation on Examples of Successful MPAs: The Palau Case"
Ambassador Otto and Dr. Golbuu
Rome – March 9, 2016

1. How to start a Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

- a. Should have a Vision that
 - Values a Culture of conservation - 'bul' (tambu, in PNG?)
Protecting biodiversity
Management of natural resources
 - Puts premier effort into "generating increasing (beneficial) returns for their peoples" as in the SAMOA Pathway 58(b & l): Goods & Services
 - Views MPAs as adding value to use of resources [SPwy 58(h), talks about adding value to outputs from small-scale initiatives] : as (Healthy Islands, talks about adding values in terms of the environment that "Invites Learning and Leisure".

2. Make MPAs self sustaining

- MPAs need to be ground on firm foundation of
- a. Enabling Framework through leadership in conservation as SPwy 54)
Political will at all levels: in Palau, the PAN Act (2008) had indicates commitment from Governors of each state, the Congress and the President; Our President took the idea of MPAs to form the Micronesian Challenge, and most recently our we have declared our National Marine Sanctuary, our own contribution to global healing of the planet. Leadership at the international level also includes such things as what Italy and Ocean Sanctuary Alliance and here we'd recognize also the leadership Ambassadors Kamau, Donaghue as well as Korosi exerted, regarding Goal 14 as stand-alone goal, during the OWG and the development of the 2030 Agenda.
 - b. Long-term sustainability
Allow for and seek additional investment by other parties and partners. For instance, we want to thank again the Government of Italy for their monetary contribution to help us jump-start the National Marine Sanctuary initiative. "Genuine and durable partnership" is the underlying theme of the SPwy and in (58 m & n, specific to oceans and seas). Sometimes this partnership is "forced" such as the \$30.00 we ask, by law, from all visitors to Palau, as their "contribution" to protection of the environment. This is the money that funds all of our MPAs.
 - c. Non-government influence
Build in protections or ensuring fees used for intended purpose.
 - d. Maintaining inspiration – Ecological balance is a source of Pride (Healthy Islands). This is important for us in Palau as many of the our

- children and young people need to be taught/be reminded of the value of conservation and preservation so they can continue to enjoy the pristine beauty of Palau and be able to leave it for their children and future generations.
- e. Alignment with other frameworks, i.e, UNFCCC; Coral Reef Initiative, CBD, etc., as in SPwy 58 (d,e, i and j).

3. **How to make an MPA effective.** The foundation of the MPA program:

- a. Should not be *ad hoc*
For us, our PAN Act, ensures a participatory process that includes opportunities for input from **all key stakeholders**
- b. Should have fiscal accountability
Again the roles and responsibilities of various persons involved in the program are clearly defined in the law. This includes an independent entity to administer and disburse funds.
- c. Should utilize the best available science [SPwy 58 (d, n)]
 - should incorporate concepts of resilience and ecological integrity
 - should strengthen sharing of information and best practices
- d. Should Address the 3 dimensions of Sustainable Development [SPwy 58(e)]
 - should be able to address global impacts of climate change
 - should address, enhance resilience

Yanuca Declaration - 1995

(Vision of Healthy Islands for the New Millennium)

This was the Vision for the New Millennium that the Pacific Island Health Ministers declared when they met in Yanuca, Fiji, in 1995, to formulate their vision for the Pacific Islands from 2000 and beyond. In this vision, Healthy Islands are places (islands) where:

1. Children are nourished in body, mind and soul*
2. People work and age with dignity
3. Environment invite learning and leisure
4. Ecological balance is a source of pride
5. Ocean which sustains and connects us is protected**

*In 2000, the Palau National Women conference in a resolution added, "soul" to this declaration to recognize/emphasize 'values and other spiritual components' of the human experience.

** This element was added to the Declaration during the meeting of Minister of Health in 1999, in Palau.