

Protected Areas Network (PAN) of Palau

Small Investment, Priceless Return



*Elbuchel Sadang, Minister of Finance
Republic of Palau*

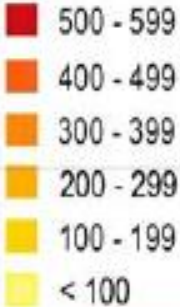
Overview



- Palau: Location & Resources
- Emergence of Adaptive Conservation
- Community Efforts
- Realization of Global & National Threats
- National Efforts
 - PAN Act 2003
 - Micronesia Challenge 2006
 - PAN Act 2006
- Updates
- Conclusion

Global Center of Coral Diversity

Number of coral species



Okinawa

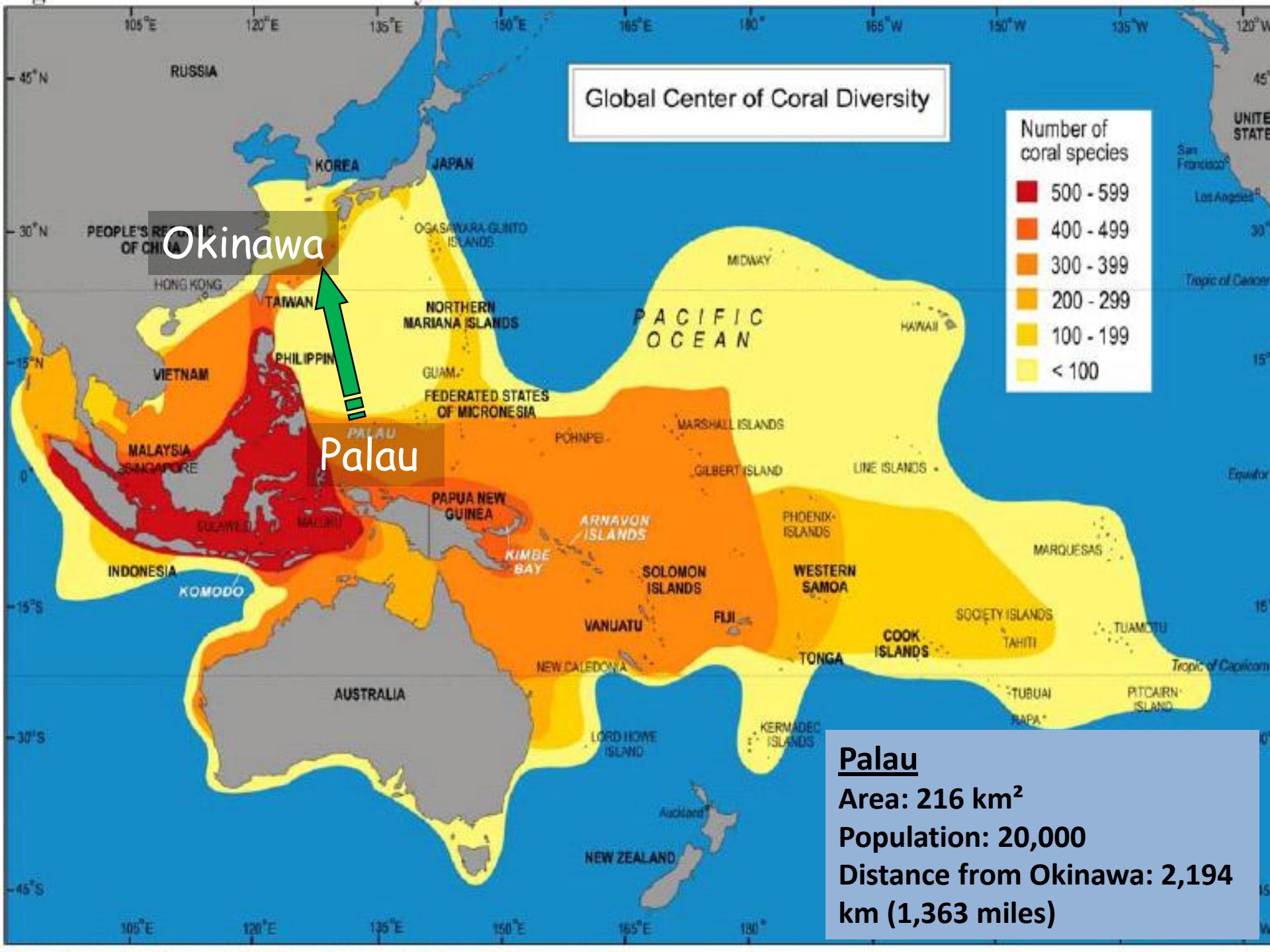
Palau

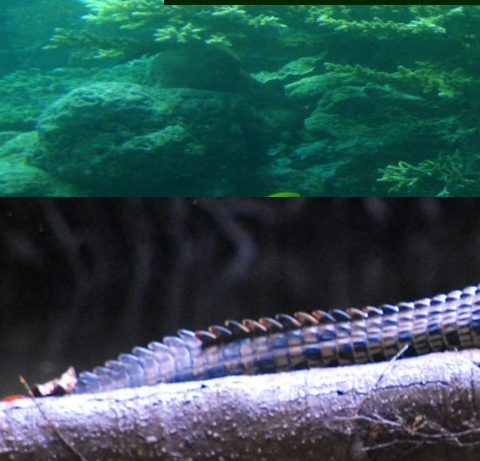
Palau

Area: 216 km²

Population: 20,000

Distance from Okinawa: 2,194 km (1,363 miles)





NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

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50 OF THE WORLD'S last GREAT places

Destinations of a Lifetime

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Emergence of Adaptive Conservation

1983-Fisheries development subsidy

- Ice plants, boats, gears, etc., overharvesting

Issues Arising

- Poaching, dynamite fishing, & pollution

In the absence of government law, “Bul” or traditional law emerges as an emergency stop gap measure

- Kayangel & Ngarchelong, 1994



Local Community Efforts

1994 – Bul on Northern Reefs spawning aggregation channels etc.

1994 – *Establishment of Palau Conservation Society*

1994- Marine Protection Act

1998 – Ngardok Act, Melekeok

1999 – Ngardmau Marine and Upland Conservation Areas

2000 – Ebiil Conservation Area Act



Realization of Global & National Threats



Wake up Call!

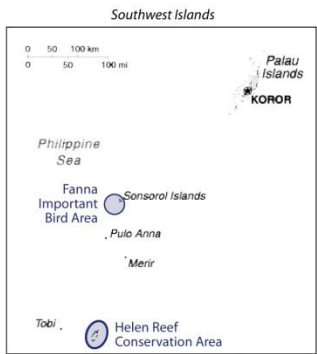
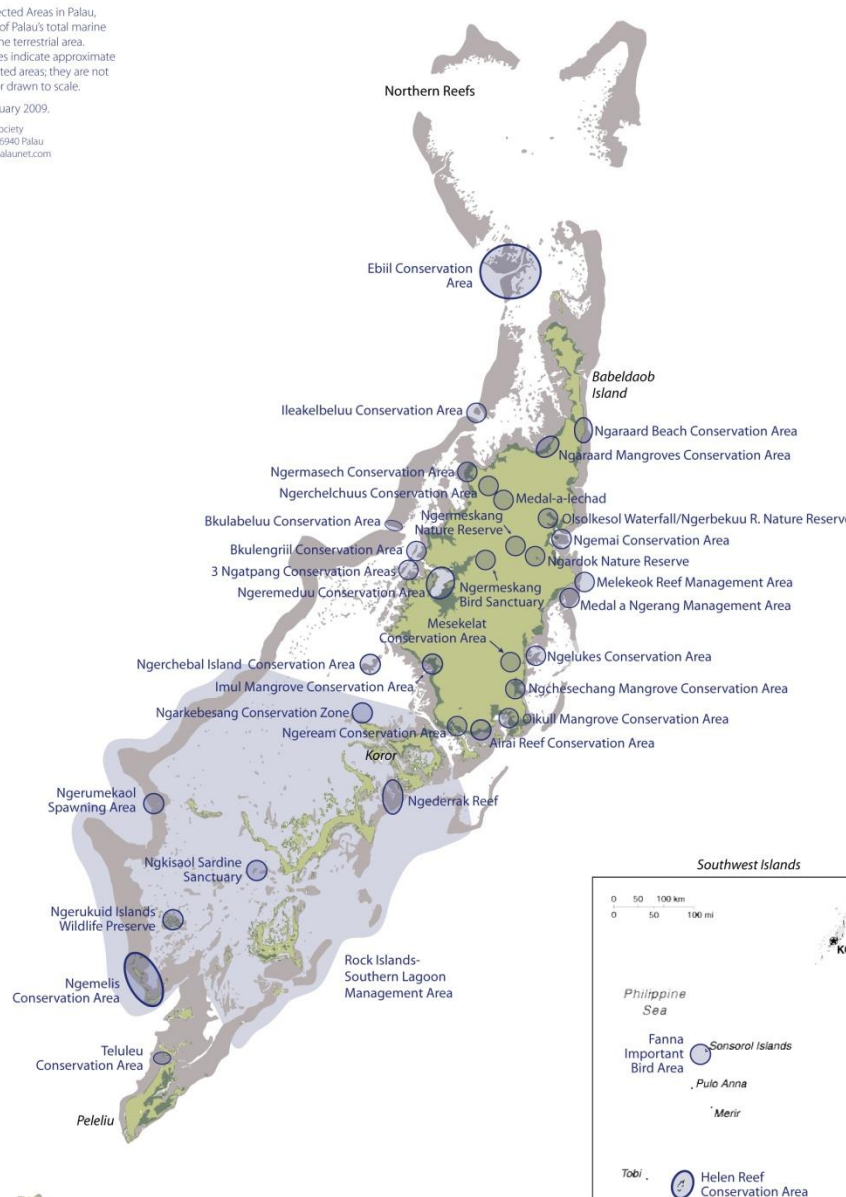
The 1998 coral bleaching event affected about 90% of Palau's coral reefs with a mortality of >50%.

From 1998 to 2006, the construction of the 52 mile (84km) Babeldaob road poured tons of sediment into the Babeldaob lagoon.

Protected Areas Republic of Palau

There are 39 Protected Areas in Palau, which cover 40% of Palau's total marine area and 23% of the terrestrial area. On this map, circles indicate approximate location of protected areas; they are not true boundaries or drawn to scale.

Map updated January 2009.
Palau Conservation Society
Box 1811, Koror PW 96940 Palau
680-488-3993 pcs@palau.net.com



National Efforts

Realization of need for a

Resilient Network of Protected Areas that meet biodiversity and cultural needs of Palau

...embracing local and community efforts!

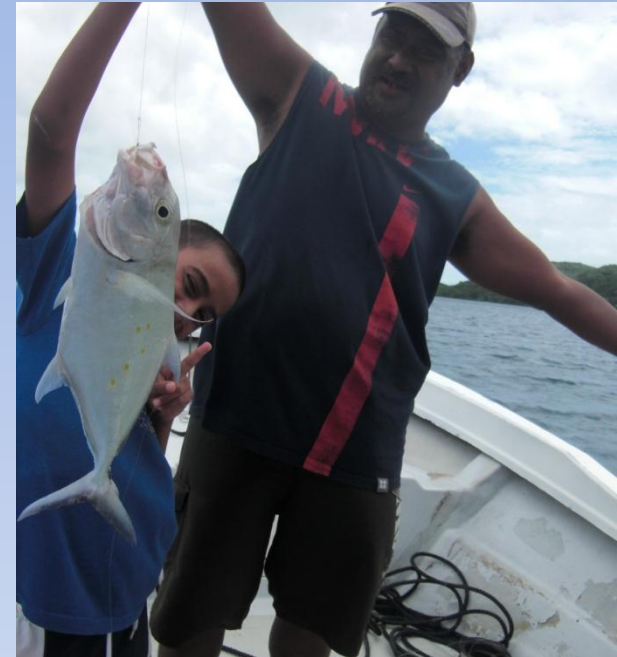
PAN Act 2003

Section 1 of RPPL 7-42 reads: "Legislative Findings. There exists in Palau a network of protected areas, created by RPPL No. 6-39, known as the Protected Areas Network (PAN). In addition, **states, at the initiative**

of state governments, traditional leaders, and individuals, have independently protected areas within their boundaries that have environmental or ecological significance. The national government of Palau supports the states' efforts to protect their lands and waters and encourages sustainable development of state lands. These efforts also further the goals of the Micronesia Challenge, a commitment made by the Chief Executives of the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Territory of

Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and endorsed by the Olbiil Era Kelulau in

House Joint Resolution No.7 -60-10, to place at least 30% of the nearshore marine and 20% of the forest



Community Benefits



State Manages



National Support

2006

Declaration of Commitment: 'The Micronesia Challenge'

Recognizing that human economic and development activity has altered, and in many instances degraded, ecosystems more rapidly and extensively in the last 50 years than at any other period in the history of our planet;

Recognizing the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals and the agreement by the global community during the World Summit on Sustainable Development to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010;

Recalling the targets and timetables agreed to under the Convention on Biological Diversity to establish comprehensive systems of protected areas by 2010 for terrestrial and 2012 for marine habitats;

Reiterating the 2005 Forum Leaders' vision for the Pacific that calls for the sustainable management of the region's resources and the 2005 Pacific Plan that encourages the development and implementation of national and regional conservation and management measures for the sustainable utilisation of resources;

Recognizing that the future economic, cultural and political health of the Micronesian Islands depends upon the conservation of our marine and terrestrial environments;

Acknowledging the need to work on a regional basis to address the environmental and sustainable development issues confronting the Micronesian region in the New Millennium, and in this context:



MC Action Planning Meeting 2006 - Palau

- Institutionalization of the Micronesian Challenge
- Regional coordinating body
- Regional finance mechanisms and fundraising strategy

PAN enacted in Ngarchelong

on the last day of the Ngarchelong Leaders Summit

BY PHILIP N. HARUO
Horizon News Staff

PRESIDENT Tommy Remengesau, Jr. enacted into law House Bill No. 7-156-9, HD3, SD2, CD2 yesterday in Bai Mengellakl, Ngarchelong. The bill, which has been the subject of numerous debates

that led to two conferences amongst members of both houses of the Olbiilera Kelulau (OEK), in becoming law, shall amend Chapter 34 of Title 24 of the Palau National Code to "clarify the intent of the Protected Areas Network (PAN); to endorse the Micronesian Challenge; to provide financ-

ing provisions of PAN; and to implement an Environmental Protection Fee to be collected with other fees and taxes at departure, for the financial stability of the PAN."

Prior to signing the bill into law, Remengesau made certain that those present in the Bai understood the significance of

the act. He said that his decision to sign the bill into law at Ngarchelong is indicative of the national government's will to provide for and to look for alternative means of assistance to support the efforts of people – from the community level to the national level – in their struggles to conserve and pro-

tect Palau's natural resources. Remengesau also clarified misconceptions that have been rumored about the PAN and the Micronesian Challenge. The PAN and the Micronesian Challenge, he said, are similar in a sense that both are focused on the conservation and protec-
PAN/P.2

Tropical storm causes rains, gusty winds

By BERNADETTE H. CARREON
Horizon News Staff

A TROPICAL storm is creating windy and rainy conditions in Palau.

The National Emergency Management Office said in a special weather statement that there is a monsoon surge across Micronesia at this time which is caused by Tropical Storm Rammansun.

The tropical storm, NEMO said is located at about 220 miles Northwest from Palau and moving West-Northwest.

According to the National Weather Service Forecast in Guam the storm is located 220 miles West-Northwest of Palau.

The forecast said Tropical Rammansun is moving West-Northwest at 9 miles and is expected to turn Northwest yesterday and North-Northwest of



President Remengesau (seated center) claps with members of both Houses of the OEK, traditional and elected leaders of Ngarchelong State, and participants of the Ngarchelong Leaders Summit after he signed the PAN bill into law yesterday in Bai

President Tommy E. Remengesau signs Amendment to PAN Act to establish PAN Fund (PANF) during Northern Reef Summit in Ngarchelong in 2006

Letter from the President



*H.E. Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.,
President of the Republic of Palau
during the UNCBD CoP8
in Curitiba, Brazil,
March 2006.*

The Republic of Palau is a relatively young country, yet it confronts many of the challenges that are faced by the developing nations of the world. In our efforts to sustainably develop our islands we are ever aware of our small domestic market, remoteness from major markets, narrow resource base, heavy dependence on trade and foreign assistance, and vulnerability to external shocks and natural disasters.

Our response to these realities is to emphasize our strength, which is our unique and bountiful natural environment. For years now, I have stated that, for Palau, "The Environment is our Economy." We have therefore chosen to take the path that fits our reality. This path, at its beginning and at its end, leads to the comprehensive protection of our diverse natural habitats.

We also know that we must work with global partners and with our regional friends to curb the current tide of environmental degradation that threatens us all. That is why I, along with my partners from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Territory of Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands presented the Micronesia Challenge to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in March 2006 in Curitiba, Brazil.

The PAN is the implementing mechanism for Palau's promise to the Micronesia Challenge. Under the PAN, Palau will achieve its commitment to the Micronesia Challenge by effectively conserving at least 30 percent of its near-shore and 20 percent of its terrestrial resources by the year 2020.

2008 PAN Funds – Sustainable Finance

§ 3421. Purpose and scope.

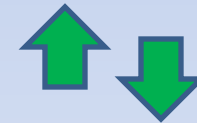
The Olbiil Era Kelulau **recognizes the need for outside financing to fund the Protected Areas Network**. It is therefore the intent...to establish a nonprofit corporation which shall **administer, manage, invest and disburse funding from all sources**, including the Micronesia Conservation Trust, to operate the PAN and the PAN office's related responsibilities. This nonprofit corporation **shall be independent and free from government influence and perpetual in existence**. The nonprofit corporation **shall be known as the Protected Areas Network Fund ("PANF")** and shall act as the financial trustee corporation for all money received for the PAN. ...**PANF shall serve as financial trustees of the PAN, with all legal responsibilities, liabilities, and duties of a fiduciary.** (Source RPPL 7-42 § 2[3421], modified)



Community Benefits



State Manages



PANF



National Support

Section 7. Amendment. Section 3413 of Title 40 of the Palau National Code, as amended by RPPL No. 7-42 and RPPL No. 7-57, is hereby amended as follows:

“§ 3413. Environmental Protection Fee (“Green Fee”).

(a) Effective November 1, 2009, every visitor departing from the Republic shall be assessed, and shall pay, an environmental protection departure fee (the “Green Fee”) of fifteen dollars (\$15.00). The money generated from collection of the Green Fee shall be deposited into an account within the National Treasury that shall be separate and distinct from all other accounts. Nothing in this Act shall preclude the states from collecting tourist and visitor fees for visiting or using state resources and sites, including Protected Areas Network (“PAN”) sites.

2009, Green fee enacted

PAN Sites & Status Update

State	Membership Date	Mgmt Plan
1. Melekeok	May 2007	Yes
2. Ngarchelong	June 2008	Yes
3. Ngiwal	September 2008	Yes
4. Ngchesar	October 2008	Yes
5. Hatohobei	January 2010	Yes
6. Ngardmau	June 2010	Yes
7. Aimeliik	August 2011	Yes
8. Ngaraard	September 2011	Yes
9. Kayangel	November 2011	Yes
10. Airai	February 2013	On-going development
11. Koror	February 2013	Yes
12. Ngaremlengui	May 2013	Yes
13. Peleliu	May 2013	Yes

Implementation Updates

- Challenges
 - Implementation capacity is limited at the state level
 - Staff salary lower than desired by qualified individuals
 - Limited number of qualified individuals
- Lessons learned
 - Hired consultants to train managers & staff
 - Network and cohorts allow for peer learning exchange and manageable engagements to build capacity
- Next Steps
 - Develop funding mechanisms for each site

THE FUTURE POLICY AWARD CELEBRATES VISIONARY POLICIES WHICH SUPPORT A JUST AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD AND FUTURE GENERATIONS. IN 2012, THE AWARD IS DEDICATED TO EXEMPLARY MARINE AND COASTAL POLICIES

THE 2012 FUTURE POLICY AWARD

BEST POLICY TO SAVE THE WORLD

SILVER
Chile's Marine Resources
has introduced a rights-based approach to management and has reduced bycatch, contributed to an ecologically and economically vibrant fishery, created jobs and fostered for

Palau's Marine Network
initiative



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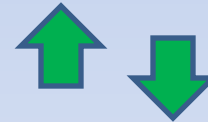


Invest today
to insure
perpetuity!

Community Benefits



State Manages



PANF



National Support

*Kom Kmal Mesulang!
Arigatoo Gozaimasu!
Thank You!*

