



Gaps in the traditional and legal ownership of marine resources in the Marshall Islands

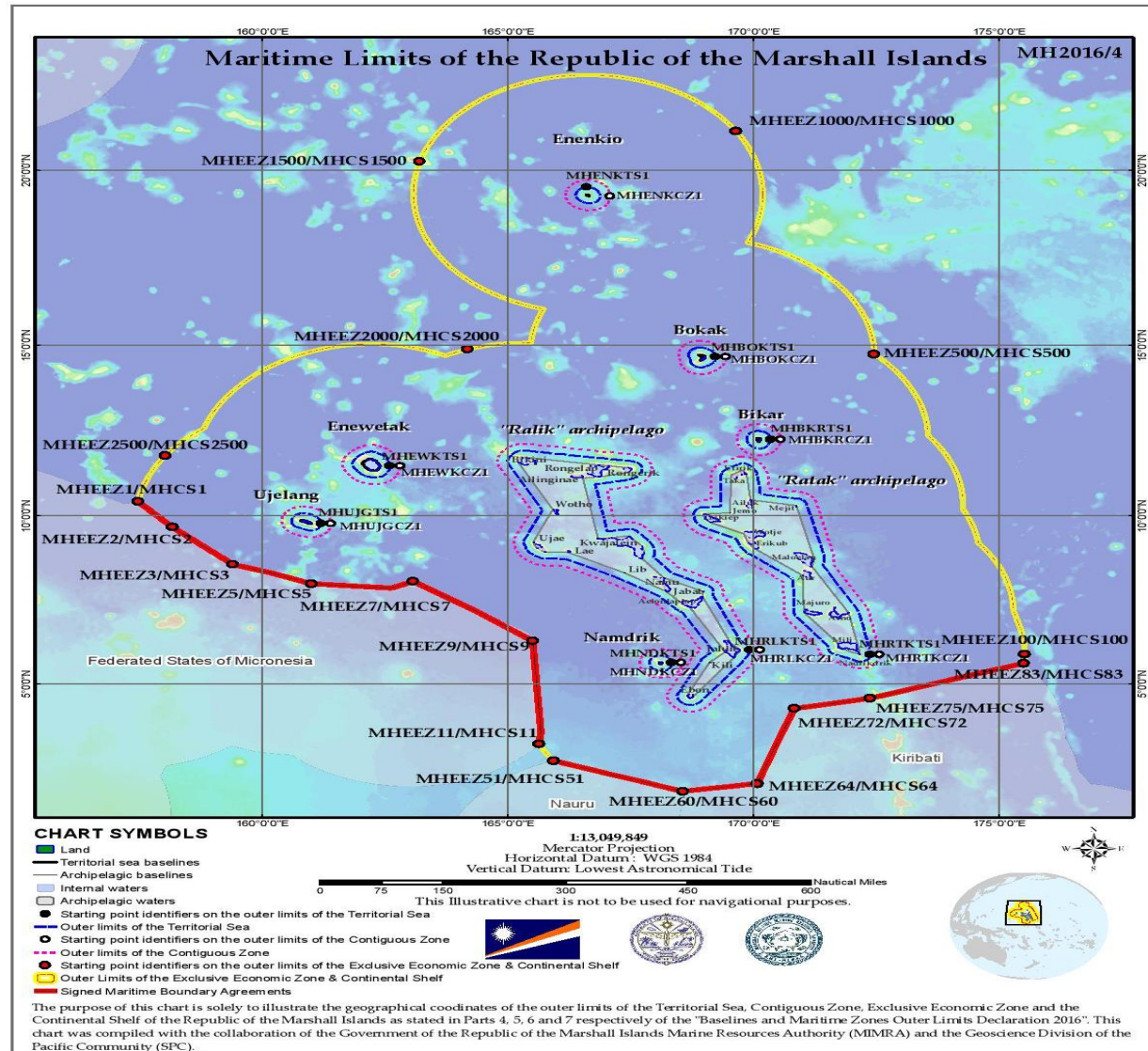
Maria Sahib



Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Management of fishery and rights based approach
- Contribution of the rights-based approach to achieve sustainability
- Main Challenges and way forward


Marshall Islands Maritime Boundary



- 2 major fishery – oceanic (offshore) and coastal
- Coastal – case study
 - Subsistence (70%)
 - Commercial (30%)

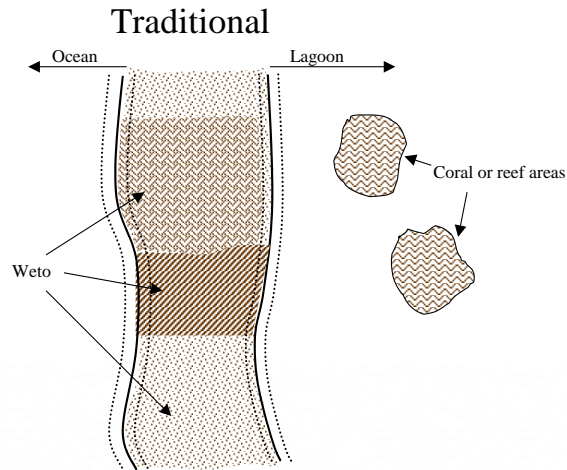



Economic Contribution and Social Implications of fishing activity

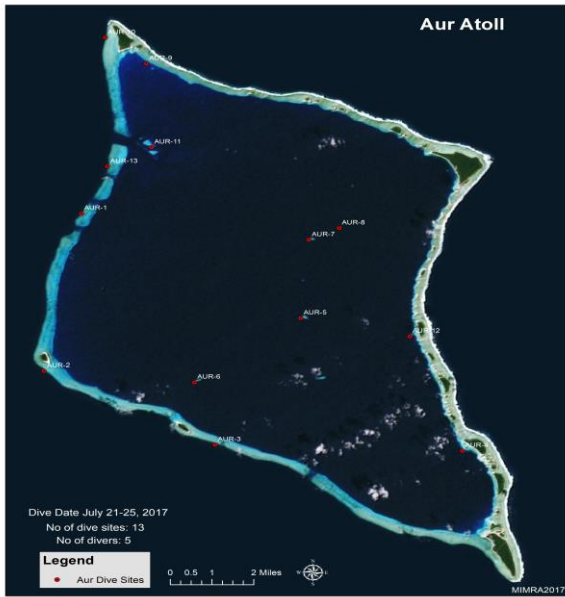
- Commercial - brings in revenue, contribution to economy, improved data collection
 - Full time job
 - Post-harvest process
 - Alternative livelihoods
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Management of fishery and rights based approach

Customary rights

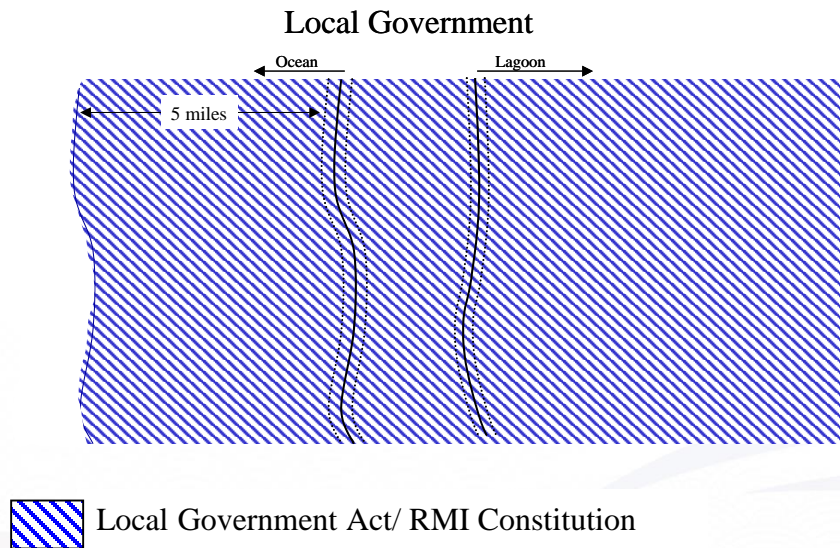


 Different Landowners



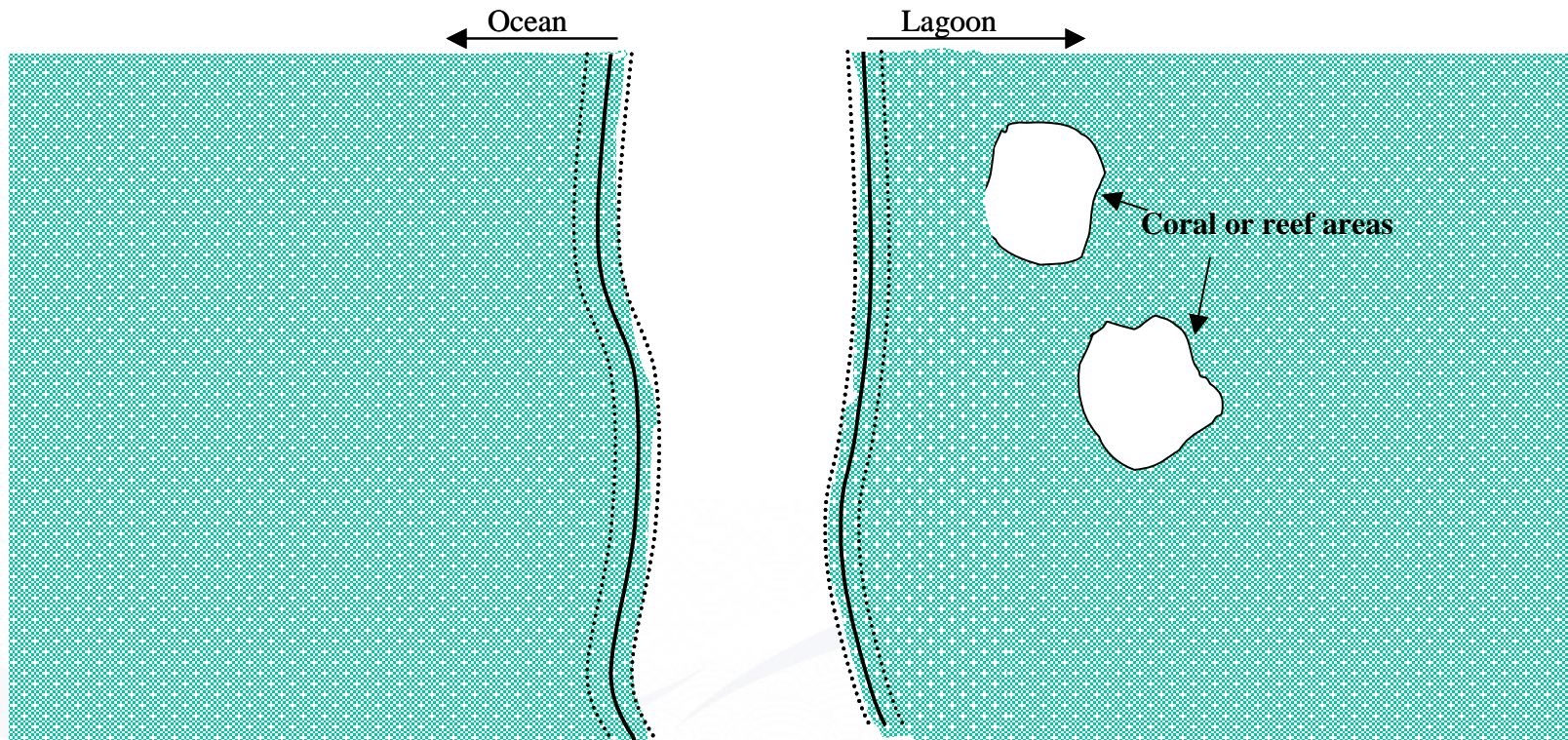
Local Jurisdiction

Local Government Act/Constitution

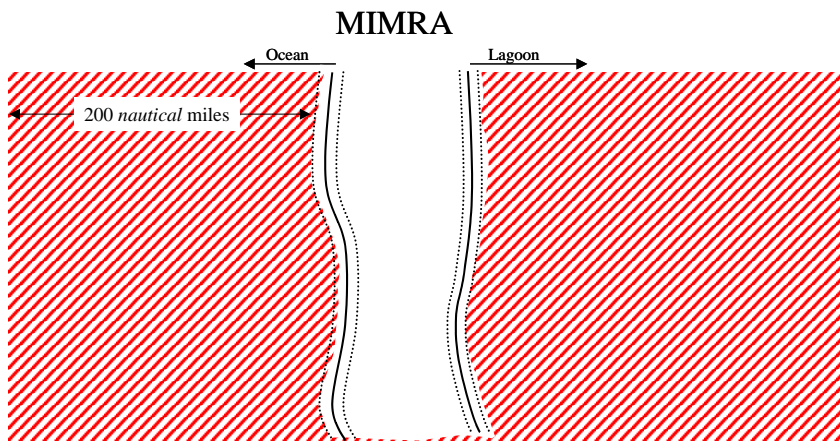


National Jurisdiction

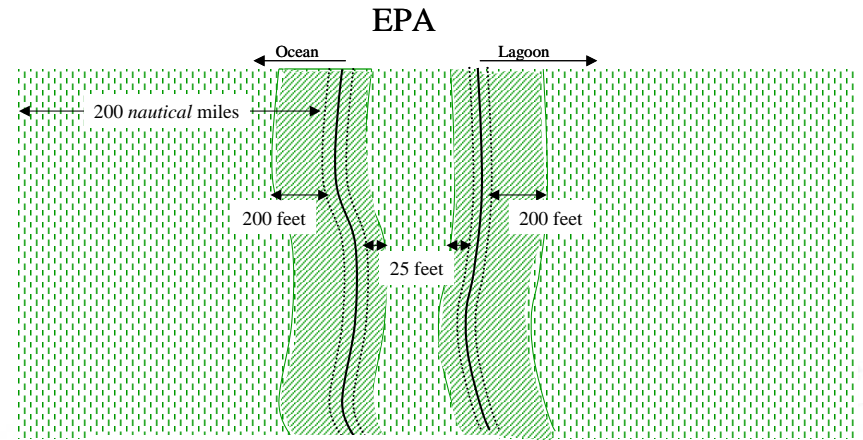
National Government Ownership




National Jurisdiction



 Marine Resources Authority Act



 Environment Protection Act

 Coast Conservation Act

Contribution of rights-based approach to achieving sustainability

- Sustainable use - Reimaanlok
- Economic viability

Annual Fisheries and Aquaculture Harvest in the Marshall Islands, 2014

Harvest Sector	Volume (mt, pcs where indicated)	Value (US\$)
Coastal Commercial	1,500	4,350,000
Coastal Subsistence	3,000	6,000,000
Aquaculture	10,000pcs	50,000
Total	4,500 mt and 10,000pcs	10,400,000

Gillet, 2016

- Social equality

Main Challenges and way forward

- Challenges – lack of technical and financial capacity to conduct assessments
 - lack of clear legal definition of customary rights in cases of conflicts
- Improving fishery sustainability
 - need to have a legal review of the definitions of customary rights and ownership
 - SDG14

- Kommol tata – Thank you very much.

