

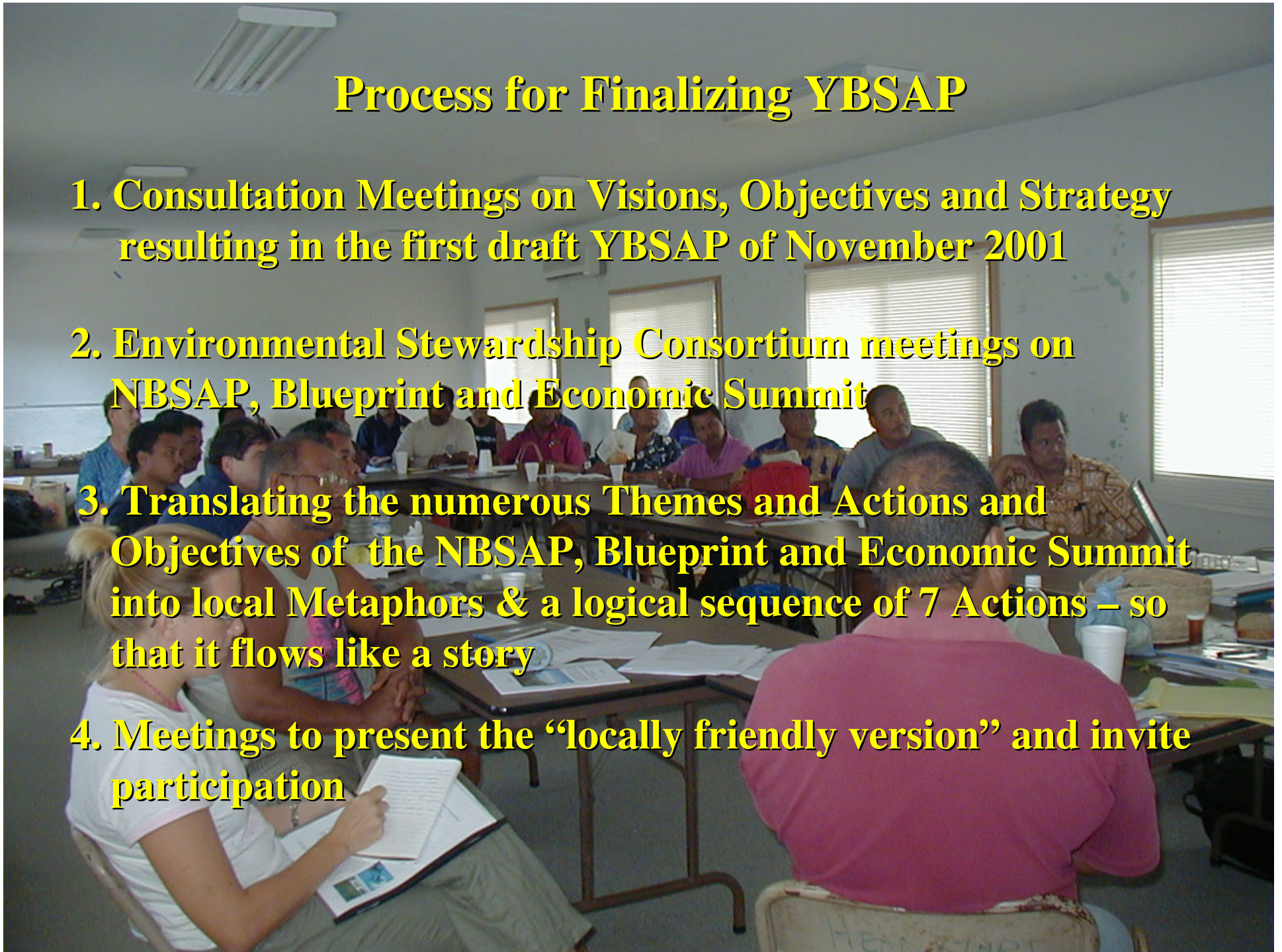
The Yap

Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

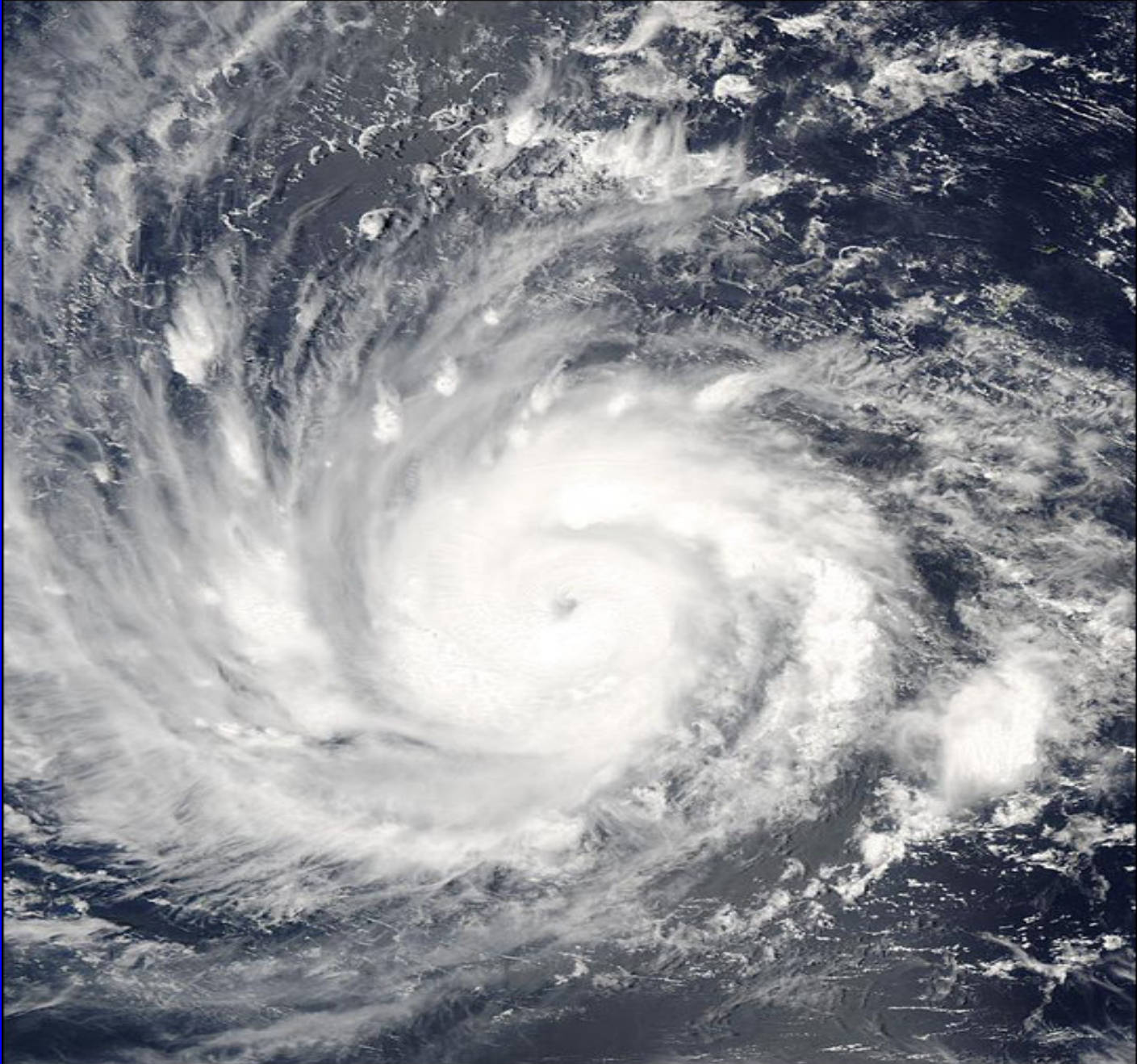
Chothowliyu Waab

Process for Finalizing YBSAP

1. Consultation Meetings on Visions, Objectives and Strategy resulting in the first draft YBSAP of November 2001
2. Environmental Stewardship Consortium meetings on NBSAP, Blueprint and Economic Summit
3. Translating the numerous Themes and Actions and Objectives of the NBSAP, Blueprint and Economic Summit into local Metaphors & a logical sequence of 7 Actions – so that it flows like a story
4. Meetings to present the “locally friendly version” and invite participation



5.



5. In the wake of Typhoon Sudal we substituted consultations via questionnaires for workshops

6. Meeting to Invite Submissions of Priority Actions and Timeline

7. Individual Consultations on Projects

8. Compiling Table of Actions & Timetable

9. Completion of YBSAP



Outcome of Process

Our YBSAP





Yap State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

Contents

Executive Summary

Introduction

Background

Strategy

Actions

Projects & timetable

Financing

Monitoring & Evaluation

Introduction

Yap's voyage into the future

**The Convention on Biological
Diversity**

**The FSM National Biodiversity Strategy & Action
Plan**

**The Blueprint for Conserving the Biodiversity of the
FSM**

**The Environmental Matrix for the Economic
Summit**

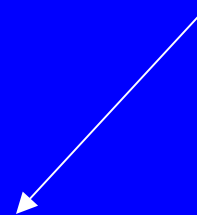
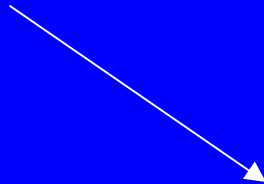


**The FSM
NBSAP**

**The TNC
Blueprint**

**The
Environment
Matrix**

Our YBSAP



BACKGROUND

Geography

Biodiversity

Culture and environment

Economy

Government

Threats, Constraints and
opportunities

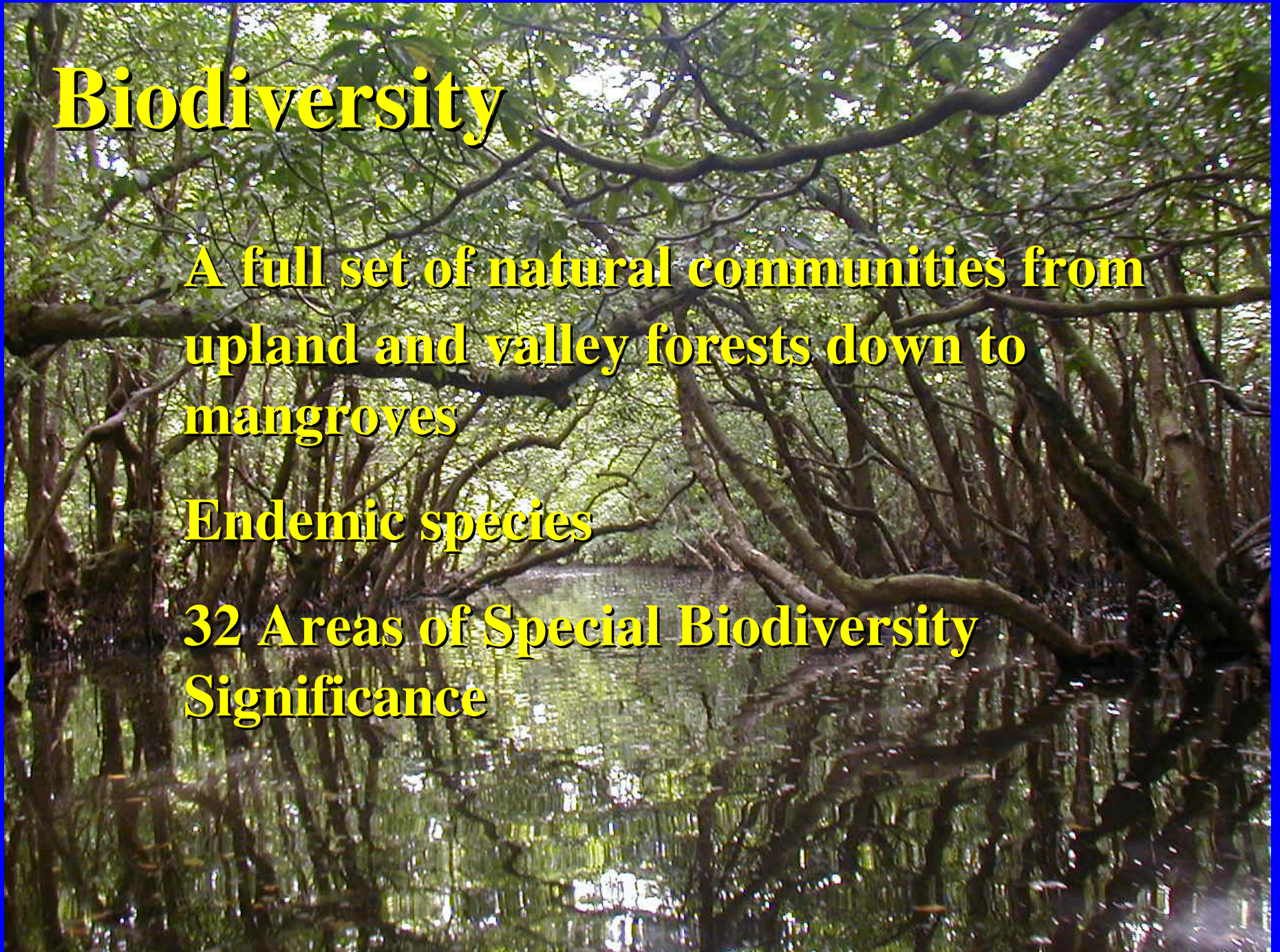


Biodiversity

**A full set of natural communities from
upland and valley forests down to
mangroves**

Endemic species

**32 Areas of Special Biodiversity
Significance**



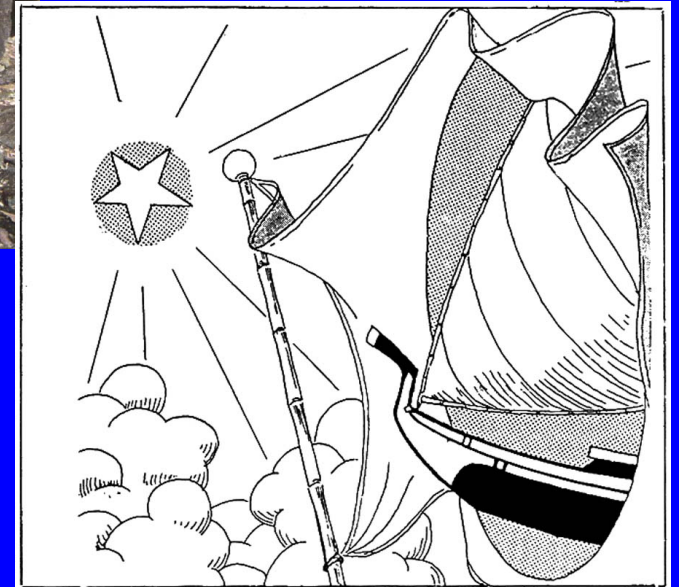


A nature-integrated Culture

An old and new
economy side-
by-side



And a 4-parted Government System



Threats, Constraints and Opportunities

Threats

Conversion and degradation of habitat and ecosystems

Unsustainable exploitation

Poor waste management

Invasive species

Wildfires

Climate change

Constraints

Rapidly increasing population, more consumptive lifestyles

Inadequate scientific data

Insufficient conservation areas

Insufficient Legislation & enforcement

Insufficient training

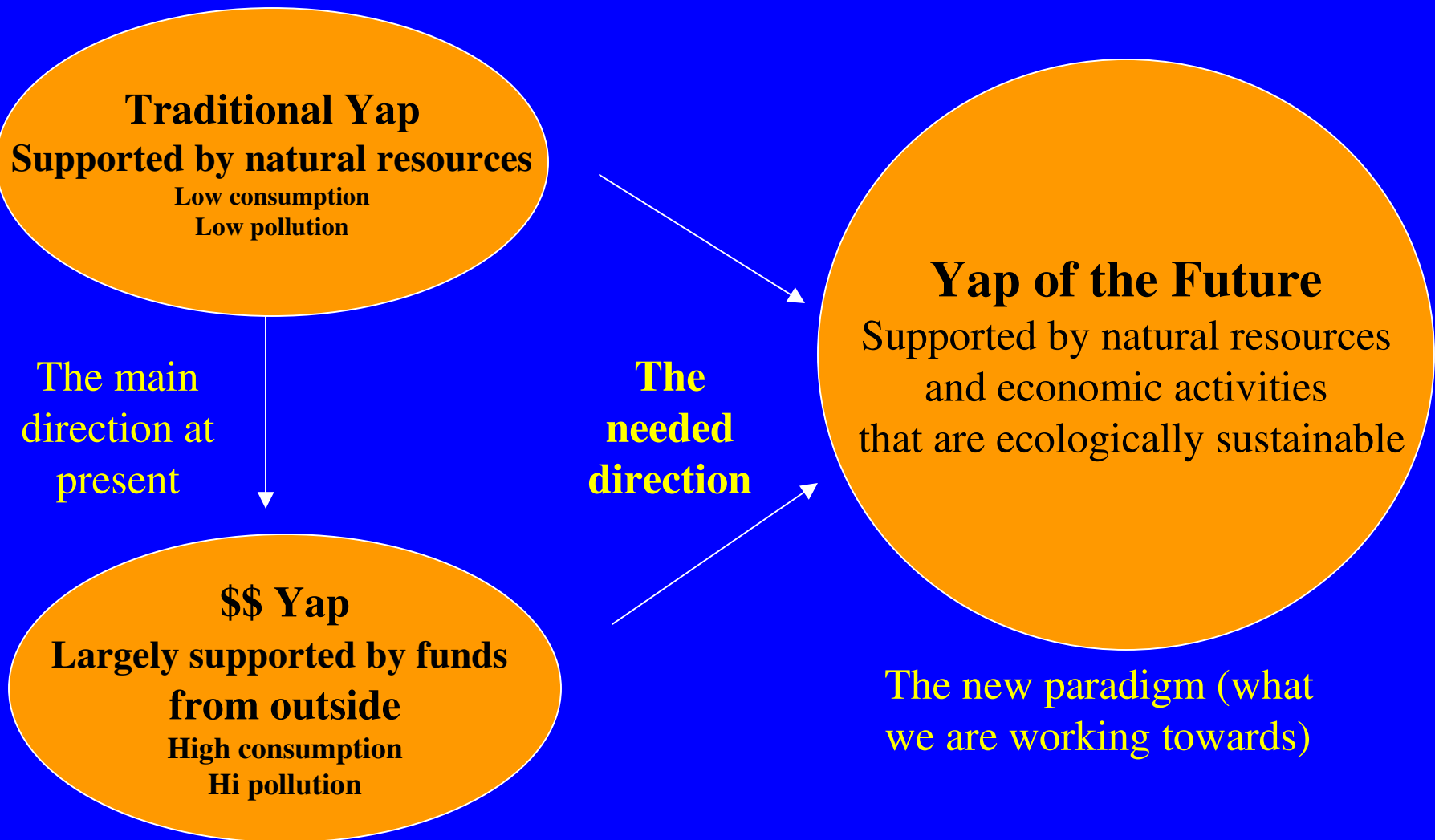
Insufficient coastal planning & zoning

Inadequate awareness

Insufficient funding for conservation



Towards A New Paradigm for a Self-reliant Yap and Micronesia



The background of the slide is a photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is a bright yellow-orange orb partially obscured by clouds, positioned in the center of the horizon. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, with scattered white and grey clouds. The foreground shows the dark blue, choppy water of the ocean, with white foam from a boat's wake visible in the lower right corner.

Vision

To retain the wisdom and enhance the skills of our island culture heritage, to live with respect for one another, and with a reverence for life on our islands, with clean flowing waters and a healthy land and marine system; and thereby contribute to the health of the world environment

Objectives

- a) Integration of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development,**
- b) Securing traditional empirical knowledge and technologies and enhancing it with modern science into a neo-traditional system of natural resource management suitable for today's context, and**
- c) Development of local capacity to manage natural resources on a sustainable basis.**
- d) Community-based approaches**
- e) Taking a precautionary approach**

Wisdom in the Basket



Before undertaking a major action, it is wise to pause, have a chew and think it over. This is what the “Precautionary approach” is all about.

Before we undertake major actions that affect the environment, we need to pause and think about the consequences on our natural environment, ourselves and on the next generation.

Action plan

- 1. Institutional Arrangements (“Getting our act together”)**
- 2. Secure & enhance traditional knowledge**
- 3. Inventory & monitoring (“Counting our blessings”)**
- 4. Biosecurity (Addressing Invasives, Wildfire, Climate change)**
- 5. Addressing Earthmoving Activities, Solid Waste & hazardous materials**
- 6. Environmental awareness, research & capacity building**
- 7. Stewardship programs & ecologically sustainable industries (“Making a living without killing Yap”)**



1. Getting our act together

Support the ESC

Establish Natural Resources Advisory Council

Establish Coordinated Project Review Process

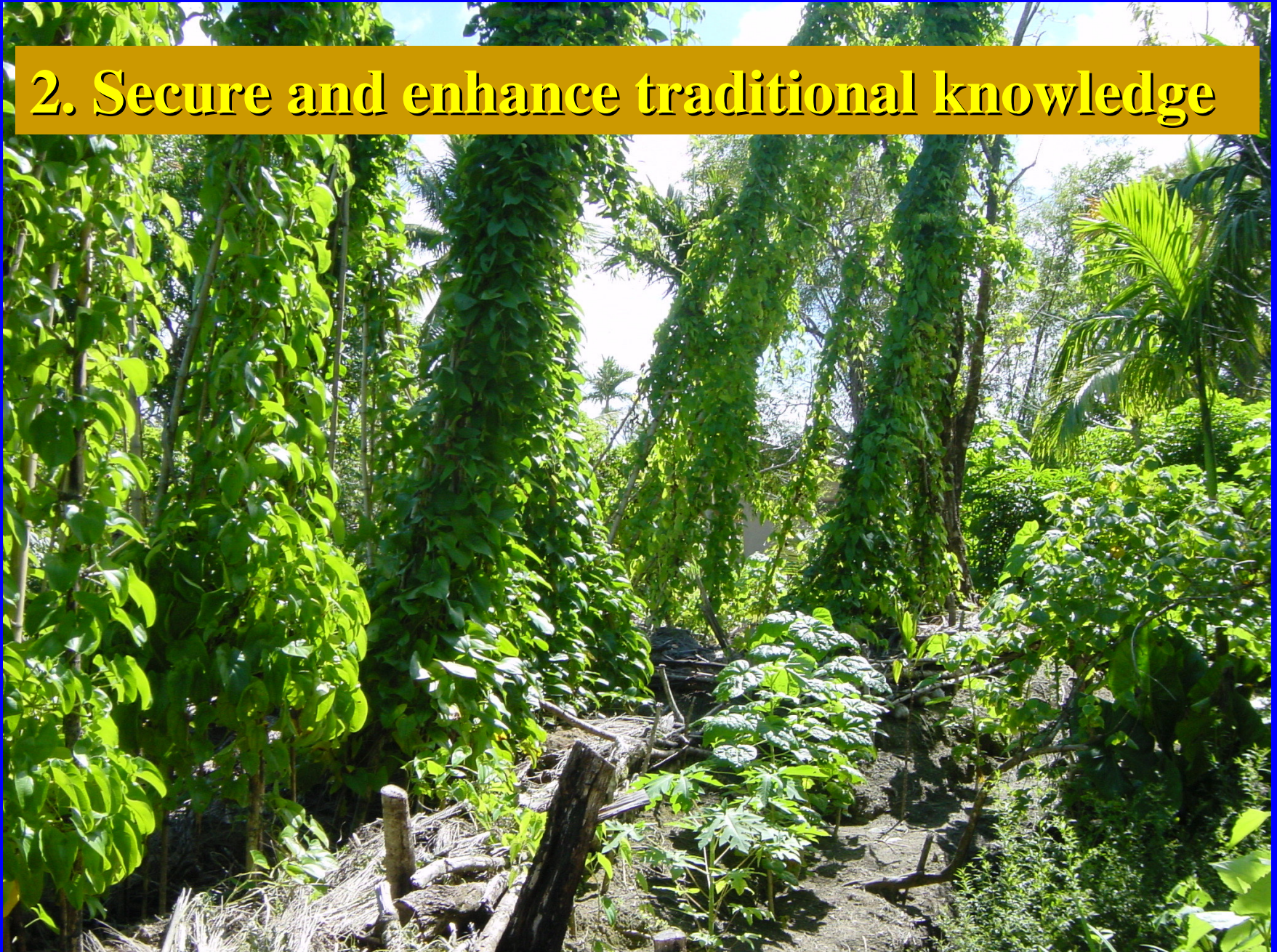
Establish & manage a GIS system

Coordinate efforts under Convention on Climate change, etc.

Develop & monitor indicators of sustainable development

Coordinate a program of ecologically sustainable development

2. Secure and enhance traditional knowledge



3. Inventory and monitoring: “Counting our Blessings and Identifying Problems



Before Typhoon Sudal



After oil spill and Typhoon

Biosecurity: addressing invasives, wildfires and climate change

Invasive species

Wildfires

Climate change

Invasive Plants

The background image shows a vast field of tall, dry, yellowish-brown grass, likely an invasive species, stretching towards a line of green trees in the distance. The sky is blue with some white clouds. The text is overlaid on this image.

Islands are vulnerable to introduced species and Yap has incipient populations of invasive species that threaten the islands ecology, economy, beauty and the livelihood of people.



WILDFIRE PROBLEMS:

-**Chronic** wildfires in grass / savannalands

-**Acute** wildfires during severe droughts

Contributing factors: Typhoons contribute to fuel load, Roads open access to wildlands, Shifting agriculture, Invasive species help to spread fire

During droughts, fires burn not only savanna grasslands, but they make major incursions into native forests.

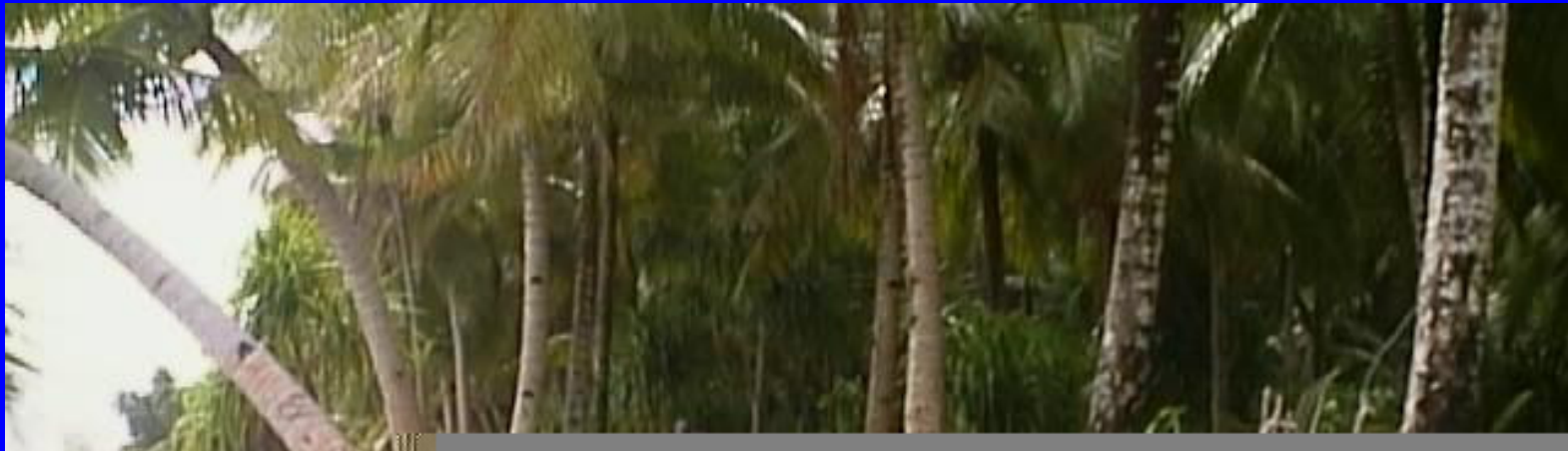
While it is important to maintain an ongoing fire program to deal with chronic wildfires, it is especially important to prepare to protect native forests during the years of extreme drought when fires can inflict especially serious, long-term damage for a limited but critical period of time.



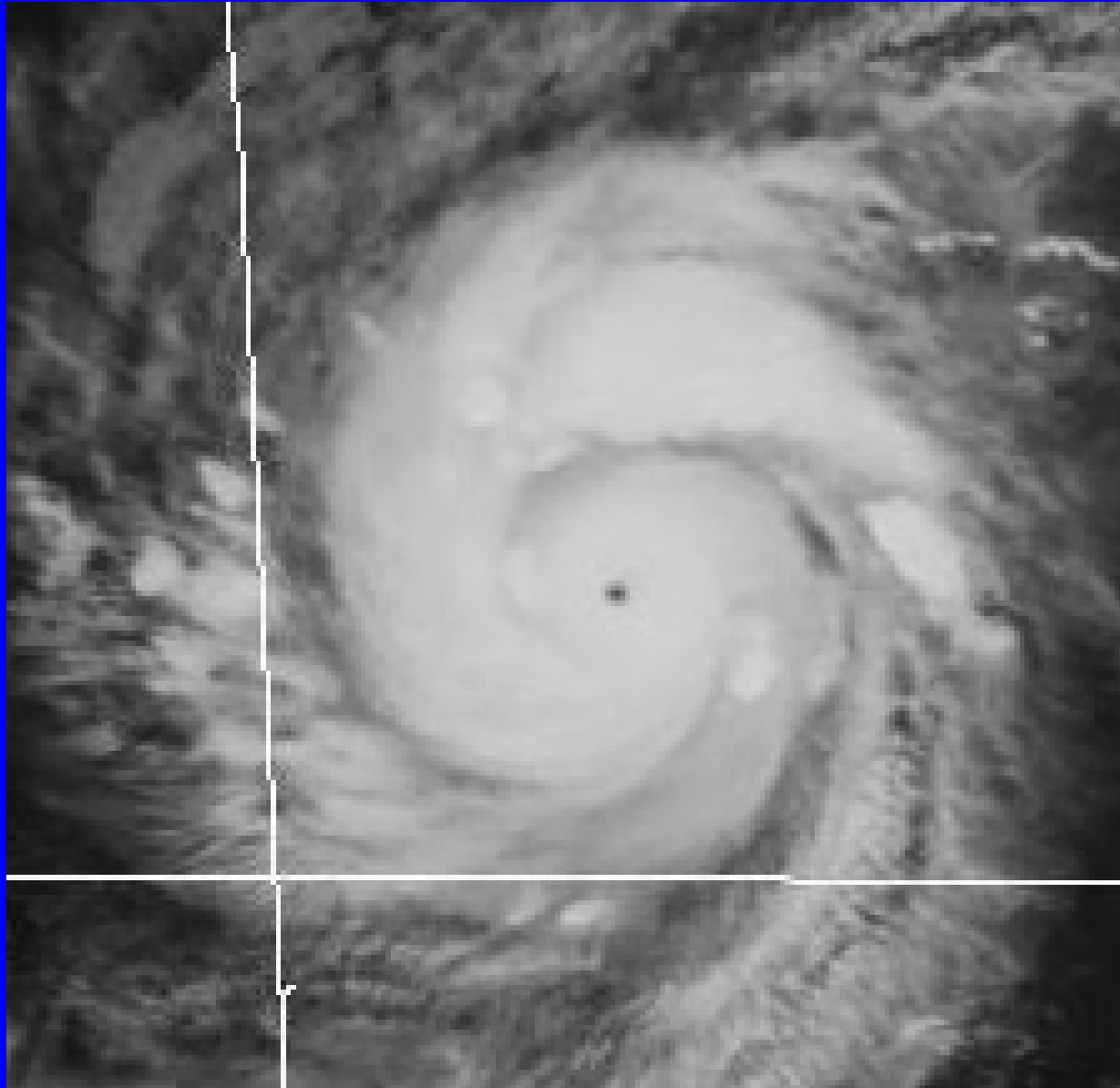
Climate change: rising seas



Rising seas: coastal erosion



Typhoons



Litter trap: a way to take the pulse of the Mangrove







JUL 12 2004

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Toward a Mangrove Stewardship Program



Earthmoving activities, solid waste and hazardous chemicals



Siltation from dredging

Solid waste management



Hazardous materials



Oil Spill of Dec. 26, 2003

Hazardous materials: Oil spill of December 26, 2003



Oiled Stone Money



Oiled Mangroves

Public awareness, Research and Capacity Building

Informing the Public

Formal education

Community awareness

Learning from research

Developing local capacity



Research



Stewardship programs, projects and ecologically sustainable industries

Marine stewardship: the MRCMP

Land Stewardship

Guidelines

Support sustainable, not unsustainable projects

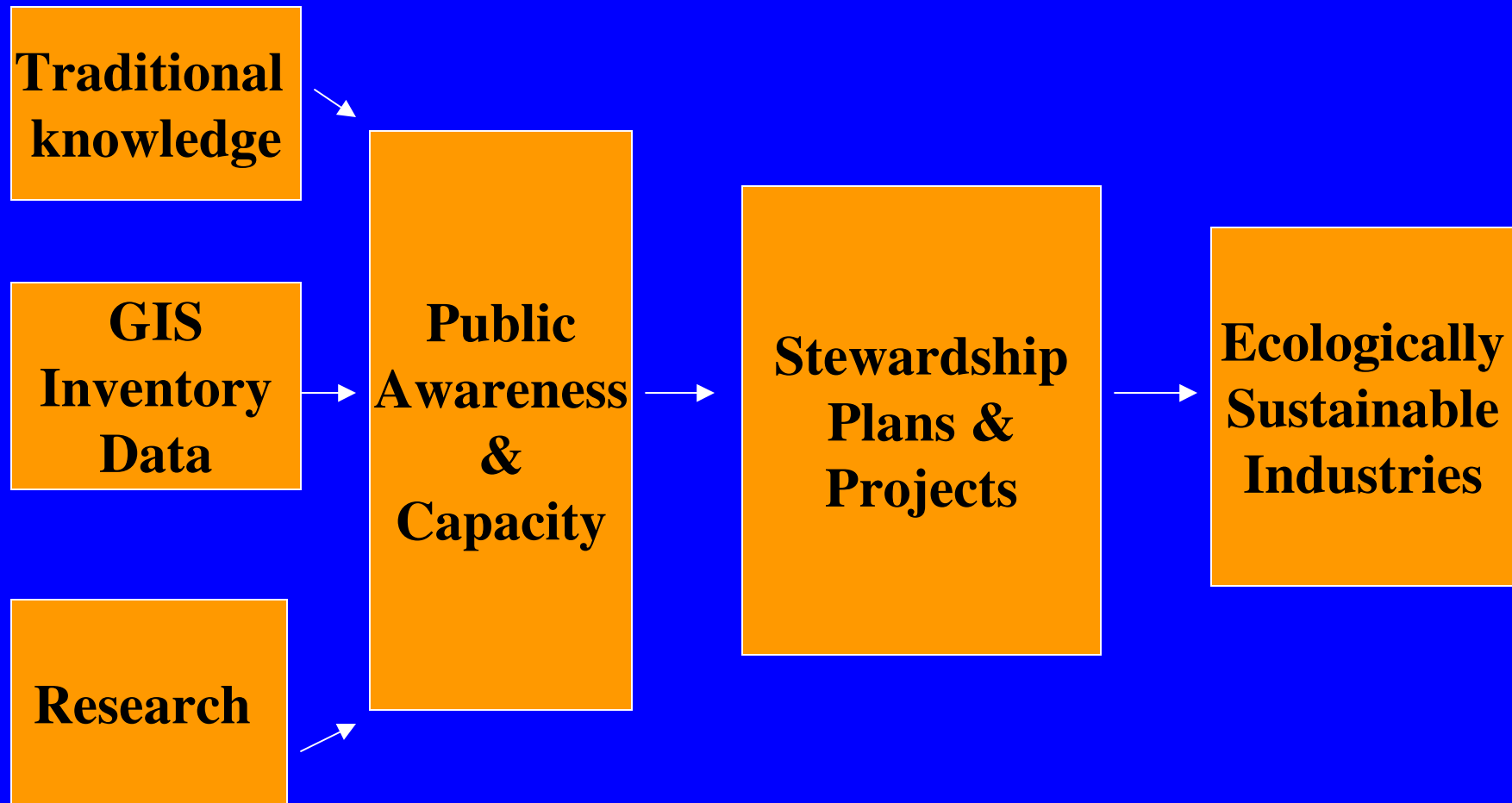
Individual, Community and Municipal plans

Protected areas

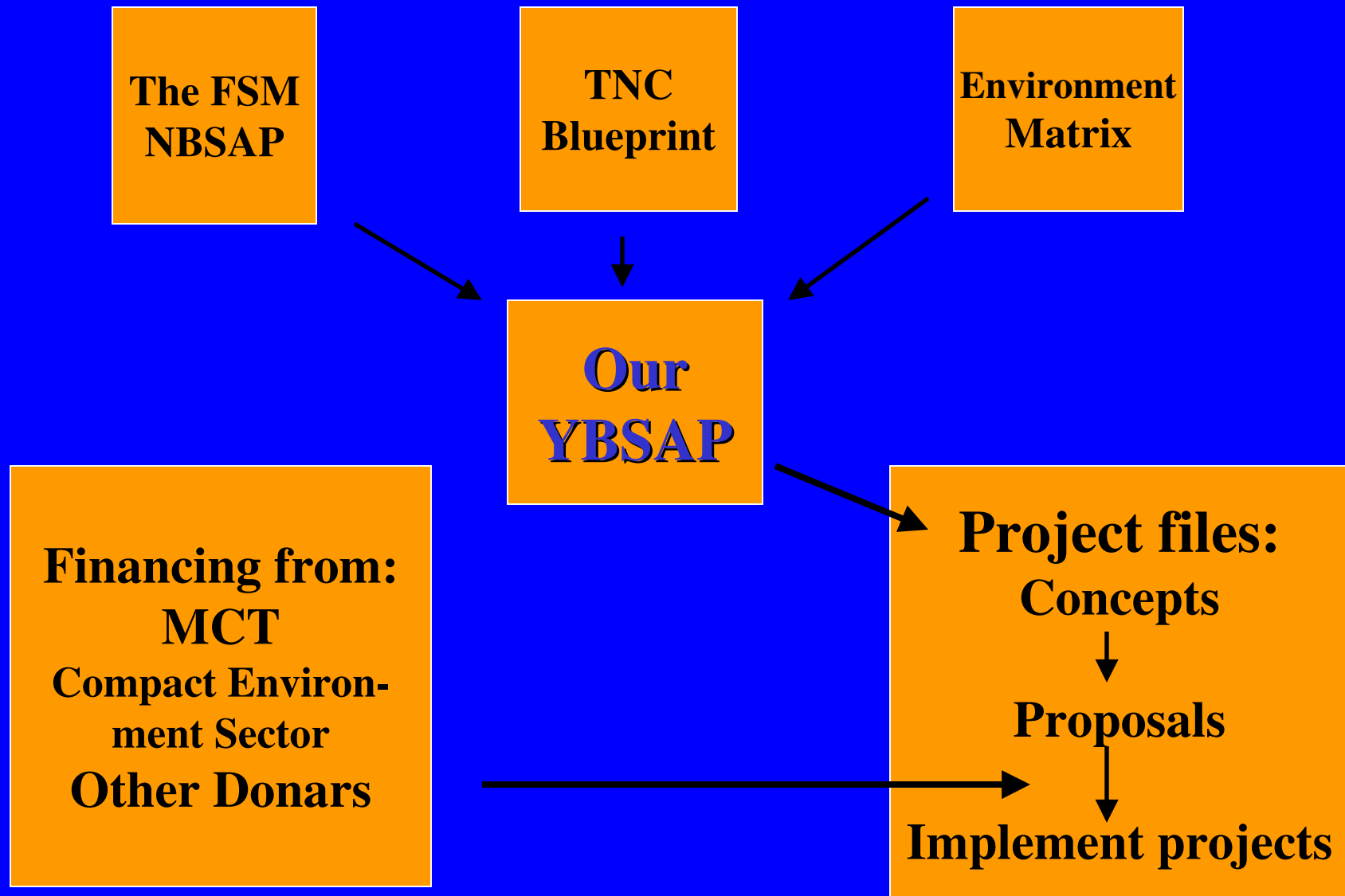
Marine: 4 MPAs in IWP

Land: DB School Forest Reserve

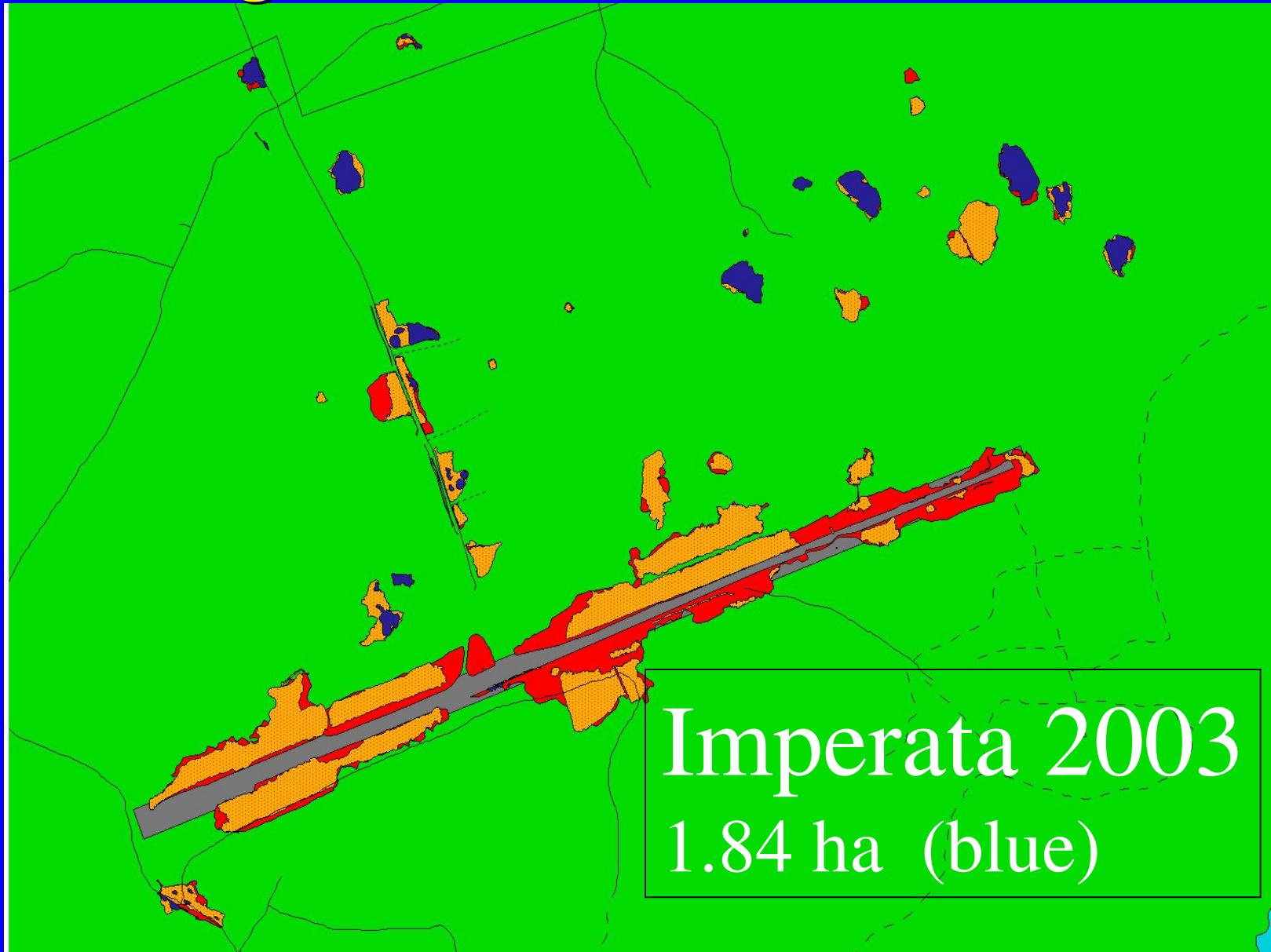
Integration and flow of efforts



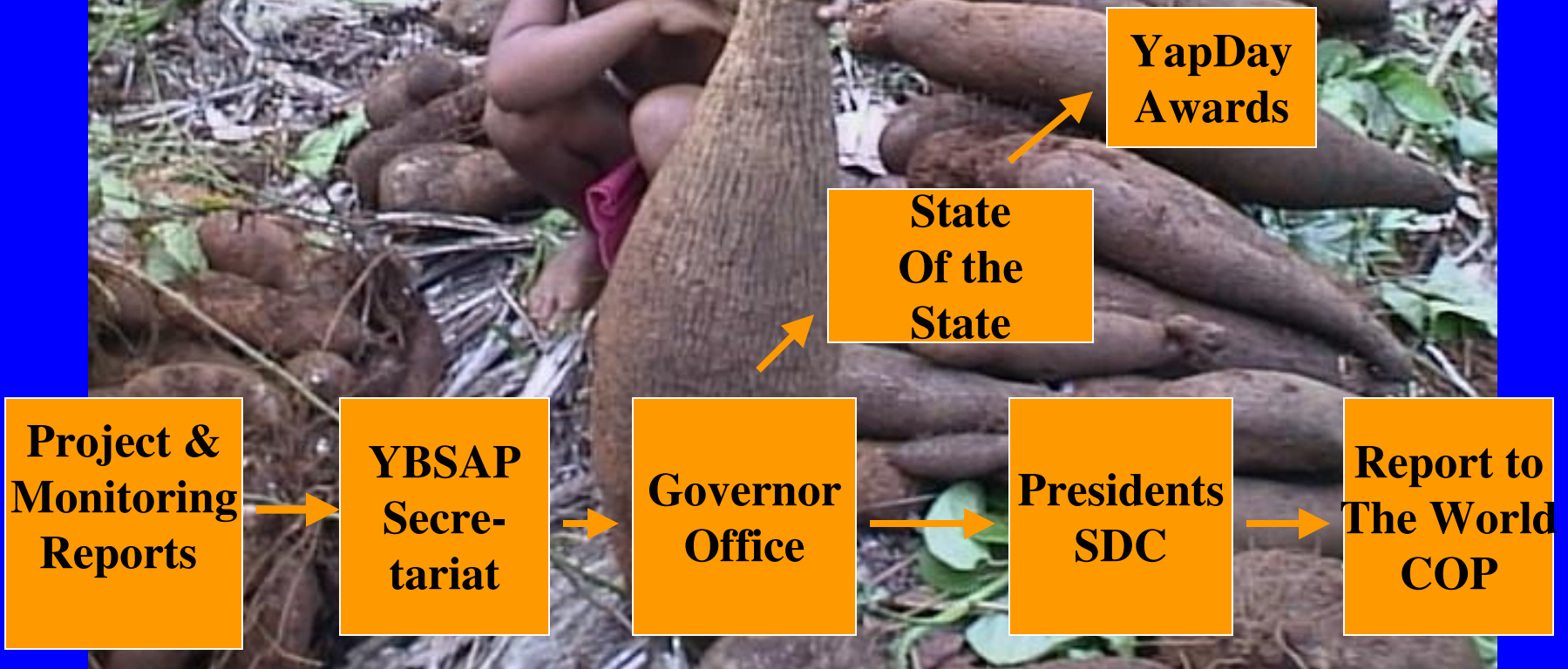
Financing



Monitoring



Reporting



Our YBSAP

A rolling plan with a long term vision

An integrated action program

Specific projects and a monitoring plan

**As projects completed, rolling plan
updated through process of adaptive
planning**

**To further address long term objectives
& vision**

Our YBSAP

A rolling plan with a long term vision

An integrated action program

Specific projects and a monitoring plan

**As projects completed, rolling plan
updated through process of adaptive
planning to further address long term
objectives & vision**



Next Steps

Work with communities to further develop concepts, proposals and to implement projects

Take action on pending environmental legislation on:

- Creation of the Natural Resources Stewardship Council**
- Establish a Project Review Process**
- Define roles of Government agencies whose work relates to natural resources**
- Modify Fisheries Act**

Align criteria for performance-based budgeting of line agencies funded under the environment sector with YBSAP objectives



Support projects and industries that are ecologically sustainable and do not support projects and industries that are not ecologically sustainable

It is envisioned that projects will be pulled together into a “Pacific Solutions” program that will enable us to share our experience with the world and repay the investment of developed countries in our YBSAP through the fulfillment of our role in the world community of being in the vanguard of sustainable development.