





## Where is Palau?





- Located in Western Pacific
- Part of "Micronesia"
- 13,000 Palauans
- 7,000 foreigners
- Over 500 islands

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- Main island group stretches for about 150 km
- 700 km from northern-most atoll to southern-most atoll

## Environmental challenges facing a young & progressive nation



#### Leading Community Concerns

- Economic Development
- Eroding Traditional Values and Leadership
- Rapid increases of foreign laborers
- Health Care
- Education
- Good Governance
- Environment
- Crime and Substance Abuse

#### **1998 coral bleaching event....**

## ...a wake-up call

Need to look internationally to address these global threats

#### Leading Community Concerns

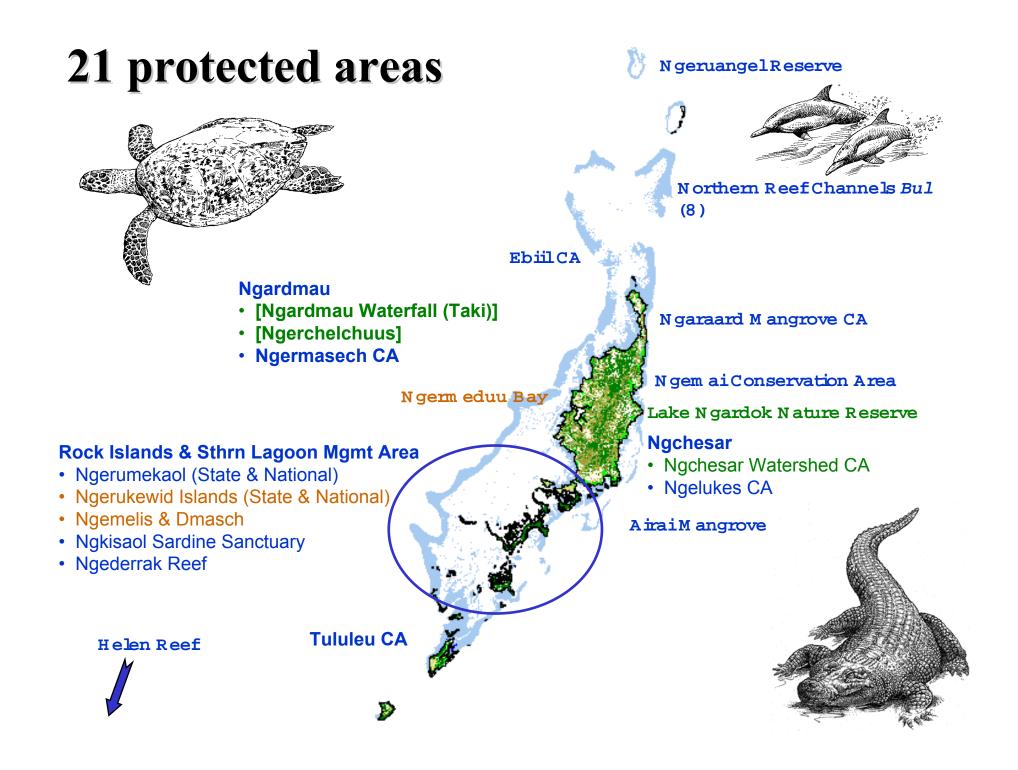
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#### Extensive cultural & historical basis for management & conservation











#### Communities at Their Best







#### "Ngdingemelel a Ititong e mult a dechel"

Great results have small beginnings.

# "Mesulang"

Merci

#### Thank You