



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Apia Office
Office for the Pacific States



Underwater Cultural Heritage and Small Island Developing States:

3rd UN International Conference
on Small Island Developing States

(Apia, Samoa, 1-4 September 2014)

Underwater Cultural Heritage and Small Island Developing States:

3rd UN International Conference
on Small Island Developing States

(Apia, Samoa, 1–4 September 2014)

Published in 2014 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France

and

UNESCO Apia Office

© UNESCO 2014



This publication is available in Open Access under the Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO (CC-BY-SA 3.0 IGO) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/igo/>). By using the content of this publication, the users accept to be bound by the terms of use of the UNESCO Open Access Repository (<http://www.unesco.org/open-access/terms-use-ccbysa-en>).

The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNESCO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors; they are not necessarily those of UNESCO and do not commit the Organization.

Open Access is not applicable to non-UNESCO copyright photos on page vi, 30, 32 and front/back cover.

Coordinator: Akatsuki Takahashi
Copy-editing: Daneil Calderbank
Design/Layout: Sommart Duangjuntho
Front and back cover photograph: © Bill Jeffery

TH/DOC/APIA/14/036/E

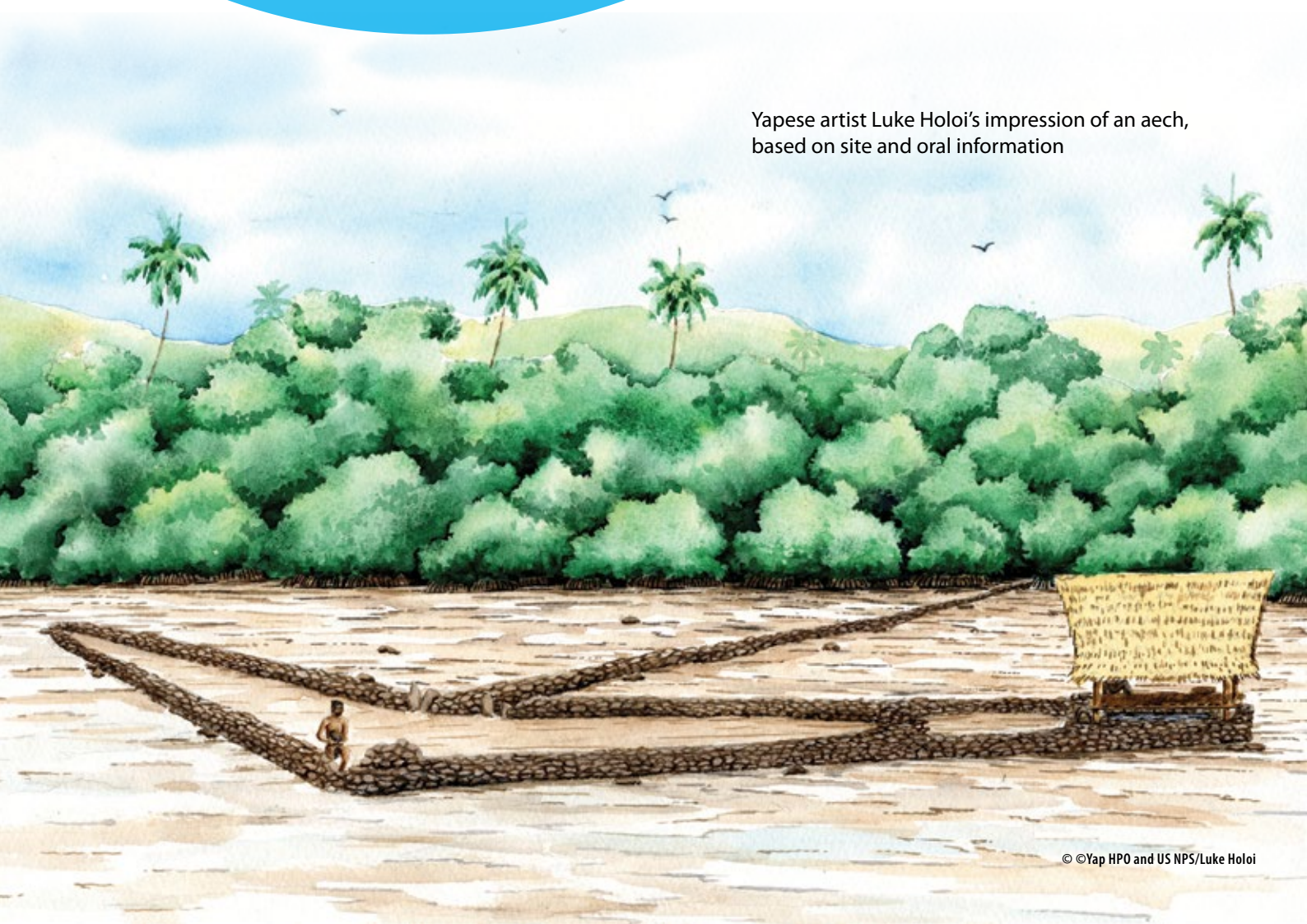
Table of Contents

Abbreviations . . . . .	. vi
Summary of Activities and Proceedings . . . . .	. 1
Opening Remarks . . . . .	. 5
Keynote Addresses . . . . .	. 7
Annex 1 : Programme of the Introductory Course. . . . .	.15
Annex 2: Participants of the Introductory Course . . . . .	.16
Annex 3: Presentation at Youth Space . . . . .	.17
Annex 4: Programme of the Parallel Event . . . . .	.20
Annex 5: Presentations by Experts at the Parallel Event. . . . .	.22
Annex 6: List of Panellists . . . . .	.49
Annex 7: Presentation at the Side Event . . . . .	.52

Abbreviations

BPOA	Barbados Plan of Action
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
FPO	Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape
ICOMOS	International Council of Monuments and Sites
MESC	Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture
MSI	Mauritius Strategy for Implementation
MUA	Museum of Underwater Archaeology
NAS	Nautical Archaeology Society
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NUS	National University of Samoa
PIROP	Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy
PHH	Pacific Heritage Hub
PIF	Pacific Island Forum
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme
UCH	Underwater Cultural Heritage
UXO	Unexploded Ordinance
USP	University of the South Pacific

Yapese artist Luke Holoï's impression of an aeoh, based on site and oral information



Summary of Activities and Proceedings

Background

By its decision, reference number 67/558, announced on the 17 May 2013, the General Assembly of the United Nations decided that the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) would be held from 1 to 4 September 2014 in Apia, Samoa. By its resolution (reference number 68/238), announced on the 27 December 2013, the Assembly proposed the organization of work for the conference and decided on the conference's overarching theme: "The sustainable development of SIDS through genuine and durable partnerships." The aim of the conference was to serve as a forum to build on existing successful partnerships as well as to launch, innovate and solidify new ones to advance the sustainable development of SIDS.

Introduction

In recent years, interest in the contribution of culture to the sustainable development of SIDS has grown significantly. This interest comes at a time when the cultural and natural heritage of SIDS is increasingly threatened by a number of daunting challenges such as resource exploration and exploitation, infrastructure development, natural disasters, climate change and globalization, to name but a few. The Third SIDS Conference therefore provided an excellent opportunity for the international community to affirm its commitment to culture in its manifold expressions – ranging from tangible and intangible heritage to creative industries – for the sustainable development of SIDS.

Over the past seven decades, UNESCO has established a comprehensive set of standard-setting instruments to underpin its mission to safeguard diverse expressions of culture and foster creativity. Following the recommendations of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation (MSI) adopted in 2005 and the 1994 Barbados Plan of Action (BPOA), many SIDS have been using these instruments as guidelines to develop their cultural policies and strategies. Some SIDS have become parties to these international legal instruments and are actively engaged in their implementation. However, wider ratification by all SIDS is needed for these conventions to become more effective.

Relevant to this advancement of advocacy for culture and the development of SIDS is the Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH) adopted by UNESCO in 2001. UCH holds great relevance and potential for SIDS. By definition, SIDS have a strong cultural connection to the sea due to their vast territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) that cover immense expanses of the world's oceans, areas that are often larger in extension than their land-territories. Additionally, sunken cities, shipwrecks, venerated sites (Note: this means underwater cemetery related to WW II), as well as prehistoric sites, provide huge potential for research, education and development, including tourism activities. These objects also serve as indicators of climate change that has occurred over the millennia, information that relevant parties can act upon to safeguard and protect these physical sites, as well as the marine environment.

The UCH Convention can assist SIDS in protecting their scientifically valuable sites that are threatened by potentially intrusive operations such as treasure hunting and industrial operations. The Convention also addresses other critical issues facing UCH. For example, UCH has long been treated as part of the tangible heritage, a categorisation that has often neglected important intangible elements such as ship building skills and technologies.

To promote the role of UCH safeguarding in sustainable development and the advantages to ratifying the UCH Convention to SIDS, UNESCO organised a series of activities in conjunction with the Third SIDS Conference in Samoa. This included an introductory course on underwater archaeology, a presentation at Youth Space, a full-day parallel event, and two side events.

Introductory course to underwater archaeology

The introductory course to foreshore and underwater archaeology was held at the Government of Samoa's Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture (MESC) on 1 September, 2014 (Annex 1). Proceedings got off to a start when Akatsuki Takahashi, Programme Specialist for Culture at the UNESCO Office in Apia, welcomed 18 students from the National University of Samoa (NUS) (Annex 2). Ulrike Guérin, Programme Specialist of the Cultural Heritage Protection Treaties Section at UNESCO headquarters, then emphasized in her opening remarks the connection SIDS have to the sea. She also highlighted the potential UCH provides for research, education and sustainable development, including tourism activities.

The introductory course was facilitated by Bill Jeffery, a UCH expert from Australia. This course aimed to advance knowledge in nautical/maritime archaeology by introducing the basics of underwater archaeology, the scope of the subject, site types, basic techniques and the importance of the resource and associated responsibilities. Moreover, it highlighted the importance of preserving UCH in SIDS and the valuable contribution young archaeologists can bring to nautical/maritime archaeology. Participants had the opportunity to apply concepts learned during the morning session through a hands-on session during the afternoon. For many of the participants, the NAS introductory course was a unique and highly worthwhile opportunity to learn about UCH first-hand from a leading global expert in the field.

The course was the first of its kind held in Samoa. It was evaluated by participants as a valuable training opportunity for future maritime archaeologists. Arana Matauaina of the NUS said: "I am thankful to have experienced experts coming to share their knowledge and their skills with us." Mohamend Sahib, also of the NUS, expressed his hope that this type of training event would continue until Samoa has its own local experts in the field of UCH.

Youth Space

On 2 September 2014, Jun Kimura of the Field Museum/Institute of Nautical Archaeology, USA, made a presentation in the Youth Space at the Conference Hall of the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development in Apia (Annex 3). The main purpose of this presentation was to introduce high school students to UCH management and its contribution to sustainable development by providing them with basic information on related disciplines. More than 30 students listened to Kimura's presentation on the sustainable use of UCH and the development of regional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific. The interactive presentation helped students visualize

the use of UCH for the well-being of communities in the Pacific region. For most of the students, this presentation was the first contact they had with the field of UCH. Therefore, it provided them with valuable information to take into consideration when they decide on their future academic studies or professional careers. UNESCO Director-General Ms Irina Bokova joined the delegates at the end of the presentation and gave a talk on UNESCO's action for youth.

Parallel Event

On 3 September 2014, a one-day Parallel Event on "Researching, Protecting and Managing UCH in SIDS" was held at the Samoa Development Bank in Apia (Annex 4). This Parallel Event aimed to: i) share the latest developments on UCH management and the potential for sustainable development in SIDS; ii) increase SIDS' legal protection of their heritage, especially through the ratification of the 2001 UCH Convention; and iii) prepare a strategy for the post-SIDS conference period.

Following opening remarks by Wendy Watson-Wright, Executive Secretary of the International Oceanographic Commission and Assistant Director-General for Science, a.i., two keynote addresses were delivered by Hans van Tilburg, US ICOMOS and Ulrike Guerin, Secretary of the UNESCO Secretariat of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage.

This was followed by presentations and discussions by leading UCH experts (Annex 5 and 6) on: i) Research and Inventory of UCH; ii) Protection and Management of UCH and the UNESCO 2001 Convention; and iii) Valorizing UCH Sites for Sustainable Development.

The event was well attended by high-level representatives of SIDS, NGOs, government officials and experts. The importance of submerged cultural heritage to SIDS sustainable development and to their cultural identities was repeatedly underlined throughout this event.

All participants and SIDS representatives stressed the critical importance of having the UNESCO 2001 UCH Convention universally ratified by SIDS. To achieve this, a new Pacific regional partnership was set up to improve UCH management as a follow-up action to the conference. This new partnership will provide a platform for cooperation in UCH management in the Pacific region in partnership with a regional university – in particular the Pacific Heritage Hub (PHH) at the University of the South Pacific (USP) – national universities, regional intergovernmental organizations, government agencies, specialised institutions, NGOs and other civil society organizations that are active in this area.

The participants underlined the need to develop regional and national capacities in SIDS, as well as to harmonize national laws in line with the 2001 Convention. Delegates also suggested the introduction or expansion of new laws, as SIDS often lack critically important national legislation that can help safeguard and protect their respective cultural heritage.

Samoa government representatives indicated they would call together a national meeting on the UNESCO 2001 Convention and the protection of Samoa's UCH. They would also push for the development of a national heritage law based on UNESCO's Model Law on the Protection of Cultural Heritage originating from the 2001 Convention.

Side Events

The issue of underwater cultural heritage was presented in two side events during the SIDS Conference. The first was on an invitation from the Pacific Island Forum (PIF) to join the Pacific Ocean Alliance, a partnership meant to re-invigorate commitment to, and implementation of, the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy endorsed by Leaders in 2002. Ulrike Guerin made a presentation on UNESCO's action related to the UCH Convention and capacity building in this area. The second event was a PHH-led event on Culture and Development and maritime heritage expert Hans Van Tilburg made a presentation on UCH management in the Pacific (Annex 7).

SAMOA Pathway Outcome Document

The SIDS Conference concluded by endorsing the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway Outcome Document. The following statement is made with regards to UCH in paragraph 54 of the document:

“Recognizing that small island developing States have large maritime areas and have shown notable leadership in the conservation and sustainable use of those areas and their resources, we support their efforts to develop and implement strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of those areas and resources. We also support their efforts to conserve their valuable underwater cultural heritage.”

Furthermore, paragraph 59 (j) strongly supports action for States that have not done so, to consider becoming parties to the 2001 UCH UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage.



Opening Remarks

Wendy Watson-Wright

Executive Secretary of the of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and Assistant Director-General, a.i., of the Sector for Sciences of UNESCO

Dear Delegates,
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very pleased to join you this morning in Apia for this meeting devoted to underwater cultural heritage. At the outset, I would like to extend my thanks to the Government of Samoa for making this Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States possible. I would also like to thank the distinguished experts who are with us today.

As you may be aware, for several decades UNESCO has been committed to ensuring the protection of the world's underwater cultural heritage. In 2001, our efforts culminated in the adoption of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. To date, 48 States, including 10 SIDS, have ratified this unique international legal instrument. Together they represent approximately only 25% of all UNESCO Member States. But to successfully achieve its objectives, this Convention must receive wider ratification.

In fact, the vast majority of countries have close links to the sea. Historically, most contacts between civilizations and nations were made by sea. It was a principal means of economic, cultural and religious exchanges. By sea came pioneers, settlers, explorers and even human traffickers. The sea was also the scene of combats took to win or regain freedom. Since the dawn of humanity, the sea has been the stage of human history. The importance of the sea to our collective history is also clearly demonstrated in world geography. More than 50% of the Earth's population now lives in coastal areas and experts agree that this figure will rise to 75% by the next ten years.

The sea beds of the world's waterways are an extraordinarily rich repository of the world's cultural heritage, submerged heritage accumulated over thousands of years in the wake of storms, sea battles and maritime accidents, fluctuations in sea level and changes in shorelines. Protecting this heritage is a collective responsibility. It is by mobilizing the entire international community can we hope to effectively document, study and safeguard our underwater heritage. I am sure that you share our concern.

However, there is insufficient interest in the future of this submerged archive of humanity. Underwater archaeology is underdeveloped, and the pillaging of underwater sites is rampant, especially around Small Island Developing States which have a particularly rich underwater cultural heritage.

The sad truth is that the remains of this submerged memory are now seriously threatened around the globe and it is not sufficiently protected. As the world's largest museum, the sea is unique in that it is exposed to all forces of nature and it has very few guardians. In most countries, insufficient resources are allocated to the protection of the underwater heritage. This is particularly problematic given that threats to the underwater heritage are increasingly numerous and diverse.

Foremost among these threats are deep sea trawling activities. Underwater heritage is further threatened by the increase of offshore industrial work, such as the exploitation of mineral resources and dredging, and souvenir hunting and looting by sport divers. Last but not least, is the threat of commercial enterprises whose pillaging and unethical exploitation activities can lead to the loss of hundreds of thousands of historical artefacts, together with their archaeological context, in a single operation.

It is therefore necessary to counter these threats more actively. We believe that the most effective weapon against this scourge is the application of strict international and national laws. Accordingly UNESCO has responded by adopting the 2001 Convention. In its capacity as Secretariat on this legal instrument, UNESCO regularly reminds governments of the need to put in place strong measures to ensure the protection of underwater cultural heritage.

We are well aware that in many countries, and especially Small Island States, the protection and research of underwater heritage is restricted by a lack of financial, technical and human resources. In the vast majority of countries, [there] exists no specialized archaeological department to identify, study and manage submerged heritage. However, experience has clearly shown that without specially trained archaeologists to provide support and expertise, the police of these countries cannot adequately engage in the fight against the looting threat to wrecks and other sunken sites. Without underwater archaeologists, these sites cannot be properly identified, inventoried, researched and presented to the public.

In the relative new field of underwater archaeology, new partnerships must be forged. And this is precisely one of the principal objectives of today's event: to bring experts and delegates together in order to form alliances that can facilitate the research and appropriate public use of submerged heritage.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Underwater heritage sites are fascinating sites with tremendous potential. If well managed, they can attract large number of visitors and generate employment opportunities for local sustainable development. Museum exhibitions, dive trails and glass bottom boat tours and other activities related to underwater heritage can enrich a country's tourism resources.

UNESCO encourages you to consult the Convention's Scientific and Technical Advisory Body consisting of 12 renowned experts, and its 11 accredited NGOs, to help countries develop their scientific research in the field of underwater cultural heritage.

UNESCO remains committed to ensure that the international community will continue to work hand and hand to protect our common underwater cultural heritage.

I thank you for your attention.

Keynote Addresses

Hans Van Tilburg, Hawaii, US ICOMOS

Underwater Cultural Heritage in Small Island States and Its Significance for Cultural Identity

To the esteemed participants of this conference and this parallel event, thank you very much for having me here today. It is an honour to be invited by the organizers to make some remarks regarding underwater cultural heritage (UCH) and cultural identity. This is an important and dynamic topic and so I'll try to draw on my own experience in Hawaii and the Pacific as much as possible. The opinions expressed here are solely my own.

For the last 12 years I have been working as a maritime archaeologist and historian for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, inventorying heritage resources in the Pacific region and engaging in efforts to enhance the conservation of cultural as well as natural marine resources. And in that role we interact with many members of the public with differing, and sometimes opposing, points of view. It has been a richly rewarding learning experience for me and it continues to be so. And the single most important lesson I've learned so far is this: underwater cultural resources and culturally-based decision-making are pervasive throughout the marine world, and throughout marine resource management. I also believe that cultural resources have not received adequate consideration or attention or protection. The socio-economic benefits from this type of cultural heritage have not been realized. Therefore, it is high time that we thought about natural and cultural resources in a more holistic and unified fashion, in a more comprehensive fashion, and in particular became more aware of the nature and potential for our underwater cultural heritage resources.

Ships are a special subset of underwater cultural heritage and are often perceived by the public as the only type of submerged properties that exist. This is not such a bad thing necessarily, for seafaring is, by necessity, bound to the evolution of ships. And the history of island states in particular is bound to seafaring and marine migration. Specialized watercraft of many sorts have been central to human existence for thousands of years. Building, sailing, and navigating seafaring vessels has been, for most of human history, as much an art and craft as a skill, one shaped closely in response to the demands of the marine environment. And so I would argue that ocean vessels, ships of many kinds, have usually been the most complex cultural artefacts ever created. The ship is a physical expression of seafaring culture, an embodiment of our technical knowledge as well as our beliefs and superstitions. And as such, the interpretation of the ship, even after it is lost and becomes a wreck site, provides unique windows into the human past, showing us the ingenuity of human adaptation to the harsh environment of the sea. And then there are all the artefacts inside the ship including the tools, the cargo [and] the personal effects of the sailors. These speak directly to the trade routes and the cultural contacts of the sailing experience. This is true of historic period "modern" vessels, and it is true of indigenous traditional craft as well.

Oceanic cultures, islanders and voyagers, have a special relationship to the sea. It is often part of their cultural identity itself. Some of the clearest examples of the importance of vessels to cultural identity come from the ancient Pacific. The Samoan double-hulled voyaging canoe *Alia* and the Hawaiian double-hulled voyaging canoe *Vaka*, are cultural icons.

In fact, the reconstruction of the Hawaiian voyaging canoe *Hokule`a* in 1972 provided the symbolic centrepiece of a cultural revival in Pacific voyaging and traditional navigation. By the way, the *Hokule`a*, along with the escort canoe *Hikianalia*, are currently engaged in a four-year circumnavigation project titled *Mālama Honua*. The vision of the *Mālama Honua* project is “*He Wa’a He Moku, He Moku He Wa’a*” (“Our Island is Our Canoe, Our Canoe is Our Island”). These vessels have a cultural or symbolic importance far beyond their function of marine transport. They carry a message of cultural and environmental sustainability. The message is ancient and modern all at once.

Maritime archaeologists are aware of this truth about ships as major cultural artefacts when they interpret the shipwreck site itself, which is its own kind of unique first-hand record of the past. The ship’s construction, the artefacts which it carried, and the precise distribution of these things on the seafloor, tell a unique story. But shipwreck sites have enduring value beyond just their archaeological or historical significance as well. Where there has been loss of life, for both commercial and military wreck sites, these locations may be memorials, sometimes war graves, deserving appropriate respect. They are tombs. (Note the example of the *USS Houston*, a US warship lost in combat during World War II, recently confirmed in Indonesian waters, with the remains of more than 700 sailors still on board). Shipwrecks also serve as [a] habitat. Fishermen know that shipwreck sites attract marine species. I’ve been diving for 42 years, and I can tell you that fish love wreck sites. Our biologist colleagues have often found that these locations often support a higher level of biodiversity than the surrounding areas. And like fish, dive shop owners know that sport divers love wreck sites as well. When these shipwrecks are at accessible depths, UCH locations represent great potential for sustainable heritage tourism, if conducted properly and in a sustainable manner. Divers spend money. Shipwrecks have multiple and enduring values.

I must admit, I often think that this is indeed an odd field, for the wrecking event which creates the submerged site is often a tragic one. When vessels suffer mishap, communities are strongly affected, island communities particularly so, whose existence is so reliant upon the sea, whose heritage is so closely tied to seafaring and fishing and marine transportation. Island residents know that the ocean is a highway, rather than a barrier. Island histories have been shaped by maritime contacts, from original settlement onwards. By their very nature, eclectic and mobile, ships feature multicultural diversity; the interpretation of shipwreck sites, then, is an ideal opportunity for intercultural dialogue and international cooperation. Ships brought the original inhabitants and ships then brought the foreign missionaries, the merchants, and the militaries. Maritime contact is interwoven throughout the histories of our host cultures. So finding the sites of these early vessels that played crucial roles in watershed moments of history, complete with their cargos and personal effects, is an undertaking of historical and cultural consequence... what unknown parts of our histories would they reveal?

Can they be found? Indeed they are. Remote sensing technology and diving technology is constantly advancing and opening the depths of the ocean to easier access. Shipwrecks comprise what has been called “the museum of the sea.” On land, archaeological sites are often limited to cave burials or found beneath concrete pavements or impacted by construction sites, for their locations have been used and reused for hundreds of years. Very often, little is left. But underwater, particularly at greater depths, archaeological sites lie untouched in the quiet stillness of the deep ocean, little changed over time. The preservation of materials: textiles, bone, shell, pottery, and even wood (given the correct conditions) can be much greater underwater than on land. This is

why the ocean holds so much potential for understanding our human past. We do not build cities or roads there.

Despite their enduring popularity, shipwrecks are only one part of the broader spectrum of underwater cultural heritage. UCH is defined as “all traces of human existence having a cultural, historical or archaeological character which have been partially or totally under water, periodically or continuously, for at least 100 years such as: (i) sites, structures, buildings, artefacts and human remains, together with their archaeological and natural context; (ii) vessels, aircraft, other vehicles or any part thereof, their cargo or other contents, together with their archaeological and natural context; and (iii) objects of prehistoric character...” This is an extremely important point to make. Like shipwrecks, the ancient remains of historic anchorages and landings and harbours are held by the ocean. The archaeological remains of stone fish traps and fishponds, called *loko i`a* in Hawaii, the traditional aqua-culture system of advanced complexity that once fed hundreds of thousands of people, are held by the ocean. Hawaii also has submerged *heiau* (temples platforms) and submerged *ko`a* (fish houses). In fact, due to the long-term changes in sea levels, many ancient archaeological sites (habitation sites, salt-making sites, fishing sites) exist in the near shore and shallow marine environments, for we as humans have always sought to live by the sea. These types of sites, and probably more, define the tangible elements of the underwater cultural heritage, the physical legacy of our past human connections to the ocean. They reveal our past in a way no other type of information can.

Now, I'd like to speak of intangible values as a way of emphasizing the pervasiveness of cultural heritage and ocean connection. In Hawaii the location of a significant event can be considered a type of “property” or marine area worthy of preservation, even if there is no man-made object there at all. For instance, ancient battlefields may fall into that category. They may be considered legendary or sacred places, known in Hawaii as *wahi pana* or *wahi kapu*. American Samoa (and I'm sure here as well) features a marine cultural landscape, “recorded” (so to speak) by the natural features along the shore or underwater. The Samoan word *tupua* refers to special rocks or formations which represent legendary beings. Specific locations such as underwater springs or passages in the reef are associated with legends of significant battles between heroes and demons. Specific coves are where, for instance, an old woman and a young girl, denied food by the villagers, jumped into the sea and changed into a turtle and a shark. People go to this cove today and chant to for them, and the turtle and shark come. Compared to all of the archaeological and historic properties that the Historic Preservation Office in American Samoa tries to protect, these locations are considered as the most significant by local residents. They represent a direct connection to a unique and valuable oral tradition which has evolved from over 3,000 years of Samoan history.

These are obviously culturally important locations and features. Like endemic watercraft, they are rooted in that community's history, and they are important in maintaining the cultural identity of the community. Therefore I would say that, at a minimum, these intangible values, and an understanding of the importance of special places as well as of special things (i.e cultural properties), informs our understanding of the underwater cultural heritage. Local traditional knowledge is helping me and helping my agency better understand the broader spectrum of cultural resource types, and the importance of thinking comprehensively about our cultural heritage and the nature of submerged sites, and not just focusing on western shipwrecks of the modern historic period.

Whether we are talking about sacred places, or the location of valuable cargos and artefacts, some sensitive information should not be shared indiscriminately without understanding the negative impacts to the resources. That is human nature. In fact, whether we are talking about sensitive cultural resource information or sensitive natural resource information, the situation can be the same. Actually, personally I am a little uneasy juxtaposing the categories of natural and cultural resources as if they were truly distinct and separate. Natural species can have extreme cultural significance. In Hawaii, sharks and octopus and eels may be *`aumakua*, family or personal gods, ancestors in animal form. Let's not make too much about defining natural versus cultural importance.

This is simply a sneaky way of returning to my original point: cultural resources and culturally-based decision-making are pervasive throughout the marine world and throughout marine resource management. For we humans are part of the marine ecosystem, not divorced from it. Our cultural footprint is within the marine ecosystem, for better or for worse, not an aberration of it. Therefore, please remember, in critical discussions of marine resources and impacts from development, from visitation, from *climate change*, that we need to comprehensively consider the underwater cultural heritage and cultural values alongside natural resources. I think this is an important point: Coastal and shallow water archaeological sites (ancient habitation sites) will be increasingly damaged by climate change, and *these are often the very sites* that reveal information about past climatic regimes. Historic shipwrecks, those windows into the past which reveal unique information about island history, will be increasingly damaged by climate change. Cultural access to marine locations and traditional cultural activities, which maintain a sense of community identity, will be impacted by climate change.

So look to your roots, particularly in island states where history is so intricately woven with marine migration and seafaring and maritime contacts, and you will find cultural connections to the ocean there. Your own heritage will define the significance of your underwater cultural resources. What sites or shipwrecks are already known? What harbours or locations have high potential for discovery but have not been investigated? Plan your visit to the "museum of the sea" with a preservation approach in mind, and remember that the resources there are unique and non-renewable. They can benefit us in many ways, revealing parts of our past unknown from any other source. But most of all, these types of places and resources, both tangible and intangible, are an inseparable element of our local heritage and our cultural identity. Understanding the role of underwater cultural heritage in the larger context of ocean resource management will make us better stewards of our marine environment.

Thank you.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed herein are solely the author's, and do not reflect the views of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, NOAA, or any of its sub-agencies, nor of the US Government.

Ulrike Guerin, UNESCO

Underwater Cultural Heritage and its Potentials for Sustainable Tourism in Small Island States

Dear Delegates,
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

We meet today to speak about submerged cultural heritage that is known to all of you for holding much potential for SIDS States, but the understanding and beneficial use also still holds many challenges for these States.

I am especially asked to speak on one aspect of this cultural heritage, that is its potential for sustainable tourism.

But before doing so, I first want to underline and bow to its importance for the cultural identity and uniqueness of SIDS States.

Many SIDS States have more water than land territory and have an incredibly unique connection to the seas. Underwater cultural heritage is immensely rich around SIDS States, including shipwrecks, plane-wrecks, fish-traps, sunken cities, prehistoric landscapes and more. So there is very evidently more to sunken heritage than its tourism value. But for now, I will speak only about the latter, as Hans Van Tilburg has already spoken about the prior.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is no secret that many SIDS economies benefit especially from service industries, particularly travel and tourism. For the latter cultural heritage is of great interest, but also of yet often unused potential.

Some examples:

Tourism and culture are linked and the latter provides an incentive for the first. Studies show that at least 37% of global tourism has a cultural motivation. Sustainable tourism development for SIDS needs thus to take into account the promotion of distinctive cultures and the protection and promotion of cultural heritage, especially through the development and increase of attractive access to heritage sites. Nature is only a part of what attracts travellers.

Studies show also that every dollar invested in heritage increases the economic activity around a site by a factor of up to 12, depending on site significance and development, and particularly in tourism (i.e hotels, food sales, transport benefit, guides).

An example of the importance of heritage for tourism is given by the research commissioned by Italy's Monza and Brianza Chamber of Commerce, which considered heritage monuments' image, branding and aesthetic qualities to determine a monetary value. The Eiffel Tower as the most visited paid for tourist attraction in the world, which last year (2013) saw 7.1 million visitors, was placed for instance at an overall value of USD\$586 billion for the surrounding industry. Other famous European landmarks on the list included the Duomo in Milan worth USD\$110 billion, Madrid's Prado worth USD\$78 billion and Britain's Stonehenge worth USD\$15 billion.

Underwater cultural heritage is especially interesting for coastal and island states to diversify coastal and maritime tourism and is present in all of them in abundance. In *annual income* for its surrounding economy the Vasa Shipwreck Museum brings for instance every year an estimate of USD\$270 million to the city of Stockholm.

Worldwide, national authorities have moreover endeavoured to create official dive trails to foster the enjoyment of sunken heritage and to increase diving tourism economies. To attractive sites can come more than 10.000 divers a year, as is the case of the Yongala Wreck in Australia.

Increasing Dive Tourism might be an especially interesting option for SIDS, as divers visiting submerged sites spend longer time in a region than tourists visiting artefacts displayed in “dry” museums or coming with cruise ships. Scuba diving is increasing in popularity with estimates of a global growth of 12–14% per annum for newly certified divers. A raise of the average age of divers over the years indicates however that new aspects have to be identified to interest also more the young population, such as for instance by strengthening the access to cultural sites.

Despite these potentials a recent UNESCO study for the Maldives shows however currently still a focus on beach tourism, with a yet mainly unused potential held by cultural heritage, especially underwater cultural heritage. Many, if not most, SIDS States share this situation. And many seek to change it.

These are blunt numbers and statistics. Apparently way apart from cultural and educational considerations that UNESCO uses to advance, but that is only seemingly so. These numbers show in clear figures the great interest that the uniqueness of SIDS Cultural Heritage triggers among other nations. They show the interest in sharing heritage, its educational value and the interest in cultural diversity. And they also show the economic development potential the attraction of these cultural treasures embodies. Culture is development.

So what are indeed the potentials of underwater cultural heritage in a real world situation for a Small Island State and how can these potentials be used?

As shown, submerged sites are an attractive option for developing cultural tourism in island states. Some examples of SIDS underwater heritage might help to illustrate the extend of these potentials.

There are for instance:

- The sunken city of Port Royal (Jamaica);
- The Spanish Fleet wrecks (Caribbean Islands);
- The Santa Maria and Maria Galante Columbus wrecks (Hispaniola);
- The Chuk Lagoon Fleet Site (Micronesia) and the Bikini Atoll Fleet (Marshall Islands);
- The sacred Fish Ponds (Hawaii and of Yap).

The potentials of such sunken sites are great:

- They are in a large number present.
- They are yet mainly unused or even undiscovered, but attractive to visitors.
- A culturally supposedly not so rich place can indeed show to be incredibly attractive – under water. China has given a development example in this sense with the immense Nanhai Museum in Hailing Island.

- Forms of tourism that can be especially developed around submerged heritage are cultural, dive and cruise tourism. Exceptional underwater heritage can, like land-based heritage, be moreover a strong factor for urban development. There are possibilities for cultural routes and possibilities to greatly enhance the image of certain locations and more.
- But also the coupling of land and underwater sites and the creation of dedicated museums holds high potentials.

But, and there is always a 'but', there are also challenges:

- Many underwater heritage sites are yet unknown – underwater archaeologists are needed to discover and research them; capacity and equipment is needed;
- Many sites do not yet benefit from any legal or operational protection, they are left to pillage and destruction and often treasure-hunters know them better than the police – international agreements and national laws as well as their implementation are needed;
- Little effort is yet made to make the sites either accessible in situ or in a museum – adding value to the sites is necessary;
- Also many sites are not, on first sight, accessible to tourists, as they lay either in deep water, under sediment or are smashed into pieces. Some also hold dangerous cargo, especially WWII wrecks, of which the present region is so rich.

So how to go forward? How to make the challenges decrease and use the potentials?

How to treat heritage right for all its potentials, its cultural potentials, its development potentials, its importance and uniqueness for the country?

I will not give you an answer now, as a whole day is before us to discuss. I hope we will be able to give you answers during this day and that I have been able to inspire your thoughts with these – introductory – remarks.

Before closing let me add one issue that is often coming to mind in speaking of underwater cultural heritage and that might also come to yours – treasure.

Is there treasure?

Yes, there is – whatever you or us might consider to be treasure. There are cultural treasures, educational treasures, but in some cases – the cases most related by the press– there might even be gold and silver-treasure. Could shipwreck-gold be a solution to poverty and allow development? (...In case you could indeed find a treasure and it would be as valuable as the treasure-hunters claim ...it's easy to place an article in the press...).

The answer is no – We speak about *sustainable* development.

Development is sustainable if a State invests in a way that the fruits of the investment come back for a long term to the country.

Sharing with adventurers and picturesque fortune hunters does not lead to sustainable development.



Peter Throckmorton, pioneer underwater archaeologist, writes already in 1990 in a well-known article about the economics of treasure hunting with real life comparisons concerning the extensive shipwreck treasure hunting in Florida:

“Florida’s policy towards its underwater antiquities has cost the State millions.[...] If Florida had [...] invested USD\$10 million in two great maritime museums back in the 1960s, instead of giving leases to salvors, the State would be nearly half a billion dollars richer each year...”

That means had the shipwreck treasures found in Florida in the last 50 years gone into a museum and would an investment have been made to show them, instead of spilling them on the numismatic market or among private collectors, it would have been a great source of sustainable tourism development. But the sharing with treasure-hunters has cost more than it brought and did not create any development.

I trust that international scientific cooperation and partnership will help SIDS States to develop their underwater archaeology and their tourism based on underwater cultural heritage in a long-term manner and with lasting success.

And I am confident we will see today inspiring discussions.

Annex 1 :

Programme of the Introductory Course



Apia Office
Office for the Pacific States



Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) International Training Program

Introductory Course

Introduction to Foreshore and Underwater Archaeology
(Apia, Samoa, 1 September, 2014)

Facilitator: Bill Jeffery

Objective 1	To educate people on nautical/maritime archaeology.
Objective 2	To explain the important contribution that young archaeologists can provide to underwater archaeology.
Objective 3	To advocate for the importance of protecting the underwater cultural heritage (UCH) in SIDS sustainable development.

Programme	
1 September 2014	
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Opening Remarks/Opening Prayer
9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Introduction to Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS)
10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	George Bass video – the beginning
10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Morning Tea
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	What is archaeology?
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Site Types
12:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Archaeological Dating Methods
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Laws pertaining to Maritime Archaeology sites and practices (SIDS examples)
2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	2D Survey-principals and techniques
2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Afternoon Tea
3:00 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.	Practical surveying session
4:20 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.	SIDS case studies in highlighting the value of and need for protecting UCH
5:10 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	What's next – Questions?
5:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	Aqua Samoa Water Sports and Diving
5:45 p.m.	Closure

Annex 2:

Participants of the Introductory Course

1	Kirk Tagaloa	NUS
2	Jeremy Ugapo	NUS
3	Mohammed Sahib	NUS
4	Matauaina Arana	NUS
5	Felila Maleifua	NUS
6	Heker Matai	NUS
7	Barah Sooalo	NUS
8	Mary Agnes Talefaoti	NUS
9	Ruby Vavae	NUS
10	Vanu Berleme	NUS
11	Eirenei Ariu	NUS
12	Selepa Arona	NUS
13	Fesui Williams	NUS
14	Saaiafiti Tolai	NUS
15	Lori Sciusco	Centre for Samoan Studies, NUS
16	Norma Urena	UNESCO Office for the Pacific States
17	Kat Thompsom	Aqua Samoa
18	Ted Thompsom	Aqua Samoa

Annex 3:

Presentation at Youth Space

Jun Kimura, Field Museum/Institute of Nautical Archaeology, USA



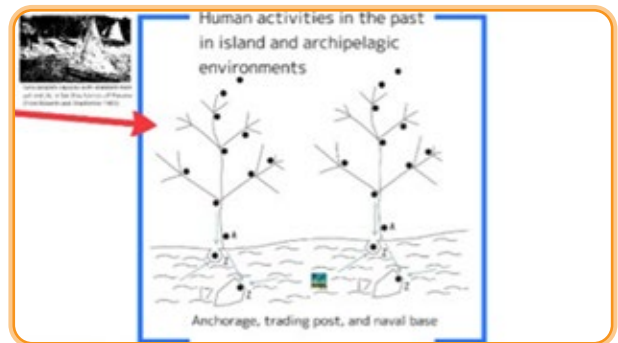
slide 1



slide 2



slide 3



slide 4



slide 5



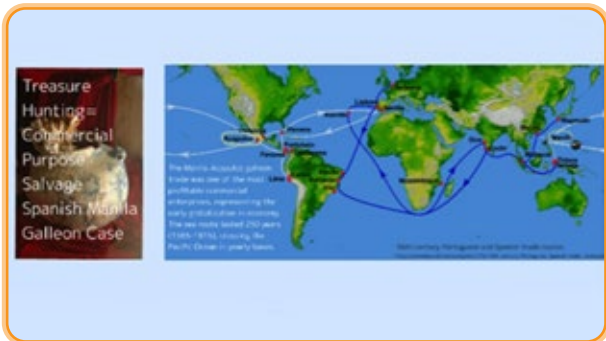
slide 6



slide 7



slide 8



slide 9



slide 10



slide 11

Salvage and pillage at WWII wreck sites: Palau Republic's approach to the UCH protection

Date	Location	Description	Status
March 30 and 31, 1944	Palau	Destroyed over 40 Japanese Navy vessels and commercial ships anchored off Palau.	Protected
...

Reference: T. 2011, 'Investigation of Wrecks and UCH Sites in Palau', in the context of Heritage Sites for the region of Palau and the Pacific Islands.

slide 12



slide 13



slide 14

The protect and promote of the War Heritage in underwater need to be addressed with considerable issues, including human remains*, oil spills, unexploded ordinary, and chemical weaponry.

*According to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, approximately 300,000 personnel were lost at sea or entombed in sunken vessels in the Asia-Pacific regions during World War II. The Japanese recovery mission to finds remains those lost in World War II started in 1951-52. However, only 1,907 remains were recovered from the 61 sunken vessels. There are 2,288 war period's sunken ships, but 79% of them are located deeper than 50m.

slide 15

2015 - 70th anniversary of the end of World War II

Preserving War Heritage in underwater as collective memory, shared by states involved on the war.

slide 16

UCH is an unique historical and archaeological assets, related to the identity of SIDs. Some of UCH, such as shipwrecks have a multinational background and an aspect of Shared Heritage.

- It is important for SIDs to pursue bilateral and regional cooperation on the study, safeguarding, and promotion of UCH.
- Ethic codes and regulation development with an consideration on an aspect of the shared cultural heritage.
- Propulsion of a Blue Tourism on the Small Islands' coastal landscape and UCH.

...toward sustainable use of UCH for the current and next generations.

slide 17

Annex 4:

Programme of the Parallel Event



Parallel Event

Underwater Cultural Heritage and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
(Development Bank of Samoa's conference room, Apia, Samoa, 3 September 2014)

Provisional Programme

Objective 1	To share the latest developments on Underwater Cultural Heritage management and potential for sustainable development in SIDS.
Objective 2	To increase SIDS legal protection of their heritage, especially through the ratification of the 2001 Underwater Cultural Heritage Convention.
Objective 3	To prepare a strategy for the post-SIDS Conference period.

3 September 2014	
8:30–9:00	Registration
9:00–10:00	<p>Prayer</p> <p>Opening by UNESCO: Wendy Watson-Wright, Executive Secretary, International Oceanographic Commission and Assistant Director-General for Science, a.i.</p> <p>Keynote Address: Underwater Cultural Heritage in Small Island States and its significance for cultural identity, <i>Hans Van Tilburg, NOAA, Hawaii, US ICOMOS</i></p> <p>Keynote Address: Underwater Cultural Heritage and its potentials for sustainable tourism in Small Island States, <i>Ulrike Guerin, UNESCO Secretariat of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage</i></p>
10:00–10:30	<i>Group Photo and Morning Tea</i>
10:30–12:30	<p>Session 1: Research and Inventory of Underwater Cultural Heritage Facilitator: Ulrike Guerin, UNESCO Secretariat of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identifying an Island's underwater cultural heritage, <i>Bill Jeffery, UCH Expert</i> 2. The potential of underwater cultural heritage for museums and recreation, <i>Elia Nakoro, the Fiji Museum</i> 3. The Pacific Ocean Alliance, <i>Cristelle Pratt, Deputy Secretary-General, Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)</i> <p>Discussion</p>

12:30–13:30	Lunch
13:30–15:00	<p>Session 2: Protection and Management of Underwater Cultural Heritage and the UNESCO 2001 Convention Facilitator: Etienne Clement, Director, UNESCO Office for the Pacific States</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, <i>Ulrike Guerin, UNESCO Secretariat of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage</i> 2. Ensuring operational site protection and responsible site management, <i>Hans Van Tilburg, NOAA, Hawaii, USA</i> 3. Pacific Heritage Hub, <i>Adi Meretui Ratunabuabua, Pacific Heritage Hub Manager, University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji</i> <p>Discussion</p>
15:00–15:30	Coffee Break
15:30–16:30	<p>Session 3: Valorizing Underwater Cultural Heritage Sites for Sustainable Development Facilitator: Akatsuki Takahashi, Programme Specialist for Culture, UNESCO Office for the Pacific States</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protecting and promoting underwater cultural heritage, <i>Jun Kimura, Field Museum/Institute of Nautical Archaeology, USA</i> 2. Indigenous Cultural Landscape including Underwater Cultural Heritage in Hawaii and the Pacific, <i>Trisha Kehaulani Watson, Honolulu, IUCN</i> 3. Activities of Aqua Samoa and Underwater Cultural Heritage, <i>Kat Thompson, Aqua Samoa</i> <p>Discussion</p>
16:30–17:30	<p>Session 4: A Way Forward – Strategy for the Post SIDS Conference Facilitator: Etienne Clement, Director, UNESCO Office for the Pacific States and Ulrike Guerin, UNESCO Secretariat of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Round Table Discussions & Wrap up</p> <p>Closing Remarks Etienne Clement, Director, UNESCO Office for the Pacific States</p>
19:00	<p>UNESCO Underwater Cultural Heritage Reception – Restaurant ‘Sails’ Sails Restaurant is located at Mulinu’u Point, close to the centre of Apia and past Parliament House. Sails is right on the waterfront with unobstructed views of Apia Harbour.</p>



Annex 5:

Presentations by Experts at the Parallel Event

(3 September 2014)

Ensuring Operational Site Protection and Responsible Site Management

Hans Van Tilburg, Hawaii, US ICOMOS

Introduction:

First of all, this is important simply because UCH is a valuable and non-renewable resource which is susceptible to impacts resulting in irreparable damage and loss. That should have been clearly established by preceding presentations. We are very deliberate about the need for site management and protection. Therefore I have summarized the presentation into three aspects:

I. Protecting The Site from the Elements:

UCH sites when left undisturbed by people tend to experience a gradual slowing of their deterioration over time. This probably never achieves 0-rate of deterioration, but the encrustation and formation of corrosion products and bio-fouling tend to limit oxidation over time. Sedimentation also provides a barrier to dissolved oxygen and deterioration, as well as protection from marine worms and mechanical damage, weathering etc.

Speaking from my own experience, we do not generally consider protecting all UCH sites from the effects of all natural forces. With hundreds of thousands of sites worldwide, this is simply impractical. When we speak of site protection, we're usually talking about preventing negative *human* impacts. Most historic properties will go away someday, but there's no reason we need to hasten their disappearance through intentional or inadvertent damage.

The exception to this is when a UCH site is assessed as highly significant, clearly threatened and deserving specific preservation efforts for protection against the forces of nature. This may mean partial or full recovery of material. The archaeological recovery of artefacts is not a violation of the Convention Annex rule #1 ("...in situ preservation shall be considered as the first option") as there are times when the first option may clearly not be the best option. In this case the "first" option simply requires all possible in situ preservation techniques be fully considered. There are specific on-site steps that can be attempted, such as galvanic protection, cofferdams, and on-site storage.

I don't mean to downplay the effects of natural forces on the UCH. We are already seeing the impacts of climate change. Storm severity and frequency will increasingly damage shallow-water sites. Ocean temperature changes can shift the population of marine species like the *Teredo navalis*, the ship worm which eats wood, threatening numerous UCH sites previously beyond its range. A reassessment of climate change ocean impacts and mitigation measures associated with the UCH is pending. There are no easy answers to this state of affairs.

II. Protecting The Aite from The Archaeologists: The Research Design (Annex Rule #9)

Regarding site survey, assessment, and possible excavation, we can at least make sure that we don't do more harm than good.

Archaeology can be a "destructive" science, for the full excavation of the site means the removal of artefacts from the environment and the elimination of the site.

Therefore, UCH projects begin with the creation of the research design, which is a way of maximizing data recovery while minimizing the negative impacts associated with survey and excavation.

Research designs consider:

- Project objectives;
- Methods;
- Funding;
- Schedule;
- Personnel qualifications;
- Conservation of materials;
- Project documentation;
- Safety and environmental policies;
- Disseminating the information;
- Long-term site protection plan.

To excavate a site without attention to these components is to risk damaging non-renewable resources and can amount, in the worst scenarios, to the unmitigated destruction of the archaeological record.

The field of archaeology has an unfortunate history of artefacts hastily recovered from their near-equilibrium condition underwater, only to quickly deteriorate due to inadequate handling, improper storage, lack of funding for necessary conservation, etc. We don't want to continue making those mistakes.

The stipulation of the research design comes as Guidance from the Annex of the UNESCO 2001 Convention, rule #9.

III. Protecting The Site from The Public: Enforcement

I think that there will always be some individuals who intentionally damage or remove artefacts from UCH sites for personal gain, and this makes it imperative to understand the possible legal protections mentioned earlier, including non-disclosure of sensitive site information, and to understand the marine enforcement options in your area.

Marine enforcement is an operational topic beyond the scope of this talk. Only those managers on site will understand the marine enforcement capacity in their own countries. In the past my programme has sponsored joint agency workshops combining maritime archaeologists with law enforcement officers, who may not have been previously exposed to the realities of UCH

trafficking. This type of training is a learning experience for both the archaeologists and the enforcement officers. UCH need to become a clear opportunity for these officers to be successful in their jobs and advance their own careers. They need to know what UCH artefacts look like, the types of tools used in site recovery operations and how people engaged in illegal recovery operations behave. Just like archaeologists, they need to know how to monitor changes at a UCH site over time. But fortunately the two groups are not that different. There is much similarity between how maritime archaeologist and crime scene specialists like forensic anthropologists operate. We are both maximizing data recovery while minimizing impacts to the actual resource, while reconstructing the past.

There has been some success with remote enforcement tools like acoustic monitoring buoys near sensitive UCH sites. Engine noises in the vicinity trigger a land-based alarm, and camera/photo response. I'm thinking of the WWII Japanese two-man submarine M-24 near Sydney Australia, 54 metres deep, accessible to tech and close-circuit rebreather divers.

Vessel monitoring systems can also give an indication of covert or illegal UCH activities, either by tracking vessel transceivers directly or by recording, for instance, heat signatures of vessels at sea. These are not inexpensive options.

The ocean is a very big place, and the methods mentioned above have not often been employed directly for UCH protection. Usually the first indication that a site has been looted is the inadvertent discovery of materials being sold through social media sites online.

There is a balancing act between the mandate for public access and the mandate for resource protection. That is a call every community needs to make for itself.

IV. Enhancing Grass Roots Community Site Protection: The Long Game

Several agencies are currently focused on increasing public awareness and "valuation" of the UCH resource as a way of creating community stewardship. This addresses both the intentional looters and in inadvertent type of damage that occurs at UCH sites from uninformed divers, boat anchors, etc.

Public outreach via diving clubs and shops and other venues is one method for raising awareness about the issue and increasing site protection. If dive shops are accessing wreck sites and have a self-interest in the long term viability of those wreck sites, would it be possible to reward them for becoming the site stewards? Would they be interested in participating in a programme of placing site markers near UCH resources, reminding recreational divers of the protected nature of these locations?

Just as there are training opportunities for learning the methods of maritime archaeology, there are also outreach seminars designed to raise awareness for dive shop owners and diving instructors about these possibilities and about learning more about the UCH resource and responsible site protocols.

The creation of clear Site Diving Protocols (i.e. “what every diver should know about UCH”) is key:

- Understanding site formation processes (don’t clean the wreck);
- The “look but don’t touch” rule...site formation processes;
- The basics of legal protections for UCH (location dependent);
- Information not just for divers but boaters as well (anchor damage);
- Site mooring programmes to mitigate anchor damage.

I like using the “Mount Vernon” (Thomas Jefferson’s historic house) analogy. Public visitors to historic buildings and palaces are there to admire the architectural features. They would not simply take a crowbar out and remove the mantelpiece, for instance, in order to take it home. Are historic structures underwater so different?

In a sense, UCH is like and should be included in the existing protective efforts for all special marine resources. Making another analogy to UCH being like any other special marine resource can be useful to the public. We protect corals and special ecosystems for their socio-economic benefits, shipwrecks can be like that. This is of course more of the long-term effort rather than short-term answer. Ultimately, resource protection must start at the local grassroots level, rather than be imposed solely from above.

We protect what we value, and being anthropocentric, we value stories about ourselves and our local history first. Usually, if it’s not about us, we’re not that interested. Therefore, resource managers need to seek the cultural connections between the UCH and the local community first. While doing this, keep in mind that UCH values are not just historical and archaeological in nature. Recognize that multiple UCH user groups (fishing, recreational diving, military etc) have differing value for the resource.

Emphasizing sustainable benefits of UCH for local communities...why else would the community want to participate in the stewardship of UCH resources? It must lead to a demonstrable socio-economic benefit.

V. Long Term Site Protection and Public Education

Educational opportunities, particularly for youth, are obvious potential benefits of UCH stewardship. The UCH field directly involves history, archaeology, and the marine sciences. Training in the UCH field raises awareness of the resource and also builds research and management capacity. Opportunities exist at various levels from public introductory courses to professional academic research. The Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) has created a standardized introductory curriculum geared towards the sport diving public. Some resource management agencies like the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), train volunteer divers in the NAS curriculum and then support diving projects within sanctuaries, promoting a “citizen-scientist” model of experiential education and research. University courses in maritime archaeology provide training at the graduate (and sometimes undergraduate) levels. Finally, the UNESCO Foundation training courses in UCH, initiated in the Asia-Pacific region, provide a solid six-week classroom and field survey programme aimed at giving resource managers the tools they need to protect the UCH resource at the international level.

VI. In Summation:

Sometimes it seems that it is the nature of the ocean to be secretive, to cloak its resources as well as our nefarious activities at sea. Therefore it seems that there are not many affordable and effective answers for immediately protecting sites in the short term, beyond passing and implementing the necessary legal protections.

I believe there is hope, though, in the long term. It is human nature to want to take something home from the bottom of the ocean, but it is also human nature to want to preserve and protect that which has meaning for us all. So raising public awareness of UCH resources, and the benefits that come from sustainable management, must be considered as a strategy for the protection of the UCH.

Thank you.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed herein are solely the author's, and do not reflect the views of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, NOAA, or any of its sub-agencies, nor of the US Government.

The Pacific Ocean Alliance

Cristelle Pratt, Deputy Secretary General, Pacific Island Forum Secretariat

Wendy Watson-Wright, Assistant Director General and Executive Secretary, UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Assistant Director-General for the Natural Sciences Sector *ad interim*

Distinguished panellists and guests

Ladies and gentleman

On behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and H.E. Tuiloma Neroni Slade, our Secretary-General and Pacific Ocean Commissioner, I am honoured to have the privilege of participating in this meeting to discuss the Pacific Ocean Alliance.

It is heartening to see so many people from all over the globe converge here this week, in my home region, to discuss the future of small island developing states, or as we in the Pacific often refer to ourselves – Large Ocean Island (developing) States. To us, this is a truer reflection of the countries that make up the Pacific Islands region – a region that is more than 98% ocean, where our countries sprawl across approximately 40 million sq-km of ocean and have jurisdiction over areas of ocean that are many times (in some cases thousands of times) larger than their land area. These require collective and collaborative action based on sustainable development, management and conservation as no single country in the Pacific can by itself protect its own slice of ocean.

We derive significant economic, social and cultural benefits from our Ocean. Pacific Island nations identify ocean resources as a major opportunity for economic development, not just through fisheries but through non-extractive practises such as tourism and transport. There is also the intangible significance of the ocean to our identity, culture and history as people of the sea.

The depths of the Pacific Ocean serve as a resting place for a vast array of underwater cultural heritage stretching as far back as the Stone Age, from the ancient city of Nan Madol in Pohnpei

and relics of sunken villages in Fiji, to the widespread wreckages from World War II. It has been reported (by SPREP) that over 3,800 vessels were lost in Asia/Pacific waters, representing over 13 million tons of sunken vessels in the Pacific alone, including over 330 tankers and oilers.

A number of these submerged World War II wrecks have become well known tourist attractions. Sites such as the Iron Bottom Sound in Solomon Islands, the Million Dollar Point in Santo, Vanuatu, the Helmet Wreck and other vessels in Palau, abandoned submarine pens in Rabaul, and the sunken Japanese fleet in the Chuuk lagoon in the Federated States of Micronesia provide significant economic benefits from tourism and are an important long term source of sustainable income.

However, as fragile sites come under threat from environmental pressures and human exploitation, questions arise over who has the responsibility (not to mention the capacity) to manage these sites, balancing the cultural and tourism value with potential threats to the marine environment and human safety, and even questions of ownership, both cultural and physical.

Many World War II wrecks, for example, still contain dangerous materials such as unexploded ordinances (UXO), toxic weaponry, and crude oil that threaten not only visiting tourists but the local community. At the 2011 Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting, leaders called on relevant international bodies and development partners to assist in addressing UXO in the region; and called for the safe removal of oil from shipwrecks.

As we can see just by looking at the agenda today, cooperation and integrated management is as vital in this field as it is for any other ocean issue. The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, and the Pacific Ocean Alliance have an important role to play in this regard.

I'll provide a brief overview of the Forum Secretariat for those of you who are not familiar with our organization.

The Pacific Islands Forum brings together the Leaders of 16 Pacific Island countries, to make decisions for the region which require collaborative action.

These decisions, along with ministerial meetings convened by the secretariat, and the Framework for Pacific Regionalism, provide the mandate for the work we undertake at the Forum Secretariat.

The Framework for Pacific Regionalism acts as a cross cutting, umbrella policy instrument which provides a robust process for regional priority setting through inclusive political dialogue. It also articulates the values and key objectives for the Pacific, and the importance of our natural resources and sustainable development is clearly reflected in these.

Most notably, the framework itself does not identify particular regional priorities, which are dealt with by the region's specific thematic and sectoral policies and frameworks.

The very nature of our sea of islands prescribes regional effort and regional unity to sustainably develop the ocean resources. We have been successful in this regard with various intergovernmental regional (and sub-regional) organization organizations being established over the last seven decades to support countries (and territories) in a wide range of ocean related issues (amongst other things). Our colleagues such as the Forum Fisheries Agency, Secretariat of the Pacific Community and Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme have specific technical and implementation mandates with regards to oceans, natural resources and environment. The Forum Secretariat has an overarching coordination, monitoring and evaluation role, and takes the lead on efforts to stimulate economic growth and enhance political governance and security for the region.

The Forum Secretariat has been carrying out this role since the first Forum Leaders meeting back in 1971, where items such as shipping, law of the sea, development of oceanic resources, and tourism featured heavily on the agenda.

The ocean continues to be an essential issue for Leaders' consideration, as reflected by the theme of this year's Pacific Islands Forum in Palau – "The Ocean: Life and Future".

The Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy (PIROP), endorsed by Leaders in 2002, and companion Our Sea of Islands, Our Livelihoods, Our Oceania – Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape (FPO), approved in 2010, are regional policy instruments, endorsed at the highest political level. The more recently approved Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape represented a major step forward for Pacific Ocean policy. Initiated by HE Anote Tong, President of Kiribati, the overriding intent of the Framework is to catalyse action and political will to ensure the sustainable development, management and conservation of the diverse ocean and island ecosystems within our region.

The resultant engagement of Pacific Island Countries and Territories under the Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape has been remarkable, particularly for conservation efforts, through the creation of marine protected areas, parks and sanctuaries. Many of you would be familiar with the national commitments that have been made – such as: Kiribati's Phoenix Islands Protected Area, one of the largest marine protected areas in the world; Tokelau, a new Associate Member of the Forum, which provides sanctuary for whales, sharks and turtles; the declaration by the Cook Islands in 2012 to establish a marine park covering over a million square kilometres; Palau's marine sanctuary comprising 80% of its exclusive economic zone, within which commercial fisheries will be banned; and New Caledonia, also an Associate Member of the Forum, establishing a protected area covering 1.3 million sq-km.

The PIROP and the FPO call for an integrated approach to ocean management, and marine protected areas are just one of many tools available. Efforts to enforce fishing limits, increase the rate of return from fishing activities, formalise maritime boundaries, reduce pollution and tackle climate change are key components of the region's efforts to manage our most precious asset.

The framework also calls for the appointment of a Pacific Ocean Commissioner to act as a champion for the region, providing the necessary high level representation and commitment that is urgently required to ensure dedicated advocacy and attention to ocean priorities, decisions and processes at national, regional and international levels. In 2011, the Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat was appointed as the first Pacific Ocean Commissioner. Technical and scientific support is also provided by the CEOs of the various Pacific regional organizations, some of which I mentioned earlier.

Support for the framework has been building, in no small part due to the leadership of Pacific Island Countries and Territories, the strong support of Pacific regional organizations and the commitment of civil society groups and international organizations.

The inclusion of these stakeholders is essential, for they contribute substantively, with their talent and passion, with resources and with a depth of understanding of the science, practice and community needs.

The Pacific Ocean Alliance, facilitated by the Pacific Ocean Commissioner, is a new partnership, called for by Leaders in the Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape. It will establish a network of key stakeholders that truly represent the diverse range of ocean interests. Many stakeholders operate in isolation of each other and the alliance will provide the only partnership in the region where all ocean stakeholders are represented.

The alliance will provide effective policy coordination and implementation, facilitate regional cooperation for the high seas, and provide support for strengthening national ocean governance and policy processes. Inter-regional cooperation will also be developed and fostered.

It is with great pleasure that I invite all of you here to join us in this important partnership.

Thank you.

From SIDS to SUNS: Lessons from Indigenous and Underwater Cultural Heritage in Hawaii and The Pacific

Trisha Kehaulani Watson, IUCN

Thank you for having me. Thank you particularly to Akatsuki Takahashi for inviting me to speak. I'm here on behalf of [a] partnership between the World Indigenous Network and the IUCN Theme on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equities and Protected Areas (or TILCEPA), and we had an extraordinary side event Monday where we heard from the WIN Pacific Caucus delegates.

And during this event I suggested that we need to stop calling these island states SIDS, Small Island Developing States, but rather start calling them SUNS, spectacularly underestimated nation states, as this name better reflects the bravery, innovation and resilience we have come to see from indigenous peoples and local communities.

People seem to like the idea of calling these nations SUNS instead... and I'm really not the type of woman you should encourage... so I'm running with the idea. And let's face it, I was being a bit cheeky when I pointed out that these nation states are "spectacularly underestimated," which they are... but no one is probably going to go with that.

So I came up with something better. SUNS: Sea-based and unified nation states, and before anyone gets too worried about the "unified" part just remember I come from the "United States" and one need look no further than our congress to see how much that means these days.

I think they last agreed to something in 2009.

But sea-based because these nation states are sea-based.

And there is a rich indigenous cultural heritage to these pacific islands that unifies all of these cultures and peoples to one another.

Sea-based and united nation states. An ocean of SUNS.

And we must begin to passionately emphasize that we are sea-based people, and that our kinship with the land is just as strong with the sea. For as the climate continues to change and as hazards continue to increase in frequency and intensity, we must be vigilant and persistent in helping non-indigenous peoples to understand what has long been understood by indigenous peoples and local communities.

That cultural heritage knowledge goes hand in hand with an intimate understanding of the natural environment. Take for example *loko i'a kuapā* from Hawai'i.



Photo 1: Kaloko – Honokōhau Fishpond (Hawaii)

Native Hawaiians, like all indigenous peoples across the Pacific, had such an intimate knowledge of their world that they engineered over 400 aquaculture ponds with which they sustainably fed over one million people for over 800 years.

There were different types of ponds, depending on the specific environment. Each pond was uniquely engineered and constructed to suit the wave energy, intertidal flow, estuary, streams, springs, ecosystem, reef system, and tides of that area.

The size of the pond was constructed to sustainably create food security for that particular community.

Once the ponds were expertly engineered and constructed, communities transmitted the knowledge of the ponds' operation and function through elaborate oral histories embedded in *mele*, songs, oli, chants, *mo'olelo*, stories, *mo'okū'auhau*, genealogies.

My husband's family is the keeper of a wonderful story about a mermaid.

Mermaid of Mapulehu (shared and written by Matthew Kawaiola Sproat)

My grandmother was born and raised on Moloka'i in the late 1920s. After graduating from high school, she married another Moloka'i native boy who did not graduate from high school, and as a matter of fact, he barely had an 8th grade education. My grandfather was required to enter the workforce at a young age to assist his single mother with the household finances. My grandfather moved his new family to O'ahu to find better job opportunities and raised his family in Kalihi. My grandmother retained her family's home lot in Mapulehu, Moloka'i where she and my grandfather spent a lot of their spare time fixing the yard and the small house that my grandfather built on the property. It wasn't much. There was no electricity, just running water. A small outhouse stood approximately 75 feet away from the house, and it was just a deep hole in the ground which my grandfather installed a flushing device on a "make-shift" toilet which would give the user the comfort of home. I spent many summers with my mother, siblings, cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents at the Mapulehu home as we took care of the yard and the many fruit trees that filled the property. Evenings, we would all head down to the ocean side to fish for mullet, blue pincher and 'ohiki crab, and *kupe'e* which came out from under the rocks at around 11 pm.

To get the shoreline, we walked a very long dark pathway in the Mapulehu mango patch that always scared us. Half way down the pathway, my grandmother told us stories of a fresh water spring that existed near that same pathway when she was growing up. This spring looked more like a small lake rather than a trickle of water spouting from the earth. In that spring, which she referred to as a well, there lived a mermaid. No one has seen this mermaid except for her grandmother who was believed to be the caretaker of this mysterious creature. She would say that her grandmother would go to the well nightly to sing songs with the mermaid and also to feed it. No one was allowed to accompany her stating that the mermaid would kill whoever shows up and drag them into the well with it. There was a story that my grandmother told me about her uncle who did not believe her grandmother and would constantly ridicule her saying that she was a crazy old lady. One night, he secretly followed her as she went to care for the mermaid at the well. She says that as he stood at the bank of the well, he shouted out, "Where is this mermaid that you always talk about?" At that moment, there was a great splash as he was pulled into the water and never seen again. The family respected this belief for the generations that followed. My grandmother always told me that Moloka'i was the most mysterious and the most spiritual island of all the Hawaiian Islands. She told many stories of *menehune*, marchers of the night, flying balls of fire, large lizard-like creatures, and an indestructible rock that stuck out in the middle of the road that would cause death to whoever tried to move it. My grandmother also shared stories of the spirits of Wailau valley that would call your name if you picked hihiwai from the Wailau river at night.

And so while no one may have witnessed this mermaid other than my husband's grandmother, we know that fresh water springs and karsts naturally occur throughout Hawaii. We know that these submerged systems have kept our islands safe; our family would say that it is the mermaid that kept these lands safe.

It is this knowledge of place that occurs across the Pacific. It is the knowledge of our submerged and underwater cultural heritage that informed our navigation of the Pacific. Expert knowledge of underwater trenches allowed us to navigate great distances and settle these Pacific Islands.

Epistemology, ontology and pedagogy – these things have existed for thousands of years in Oceania – it is through our oral histories – our intangible cultural heritage working in concert with our underwater cultural heritage that knowledge survives today.

So academics like ourselves have a critical obligation to emphasize to indigenous peoples, local communities, and all peoples who live on **sea-based and unified nation states** that an intimate understanding of your environment is critical and essential.

Events like these, the U.N. SIDS meetings, help to build much needed capacity across the region; for example, it helps to demonstrate and highlight the relationship of fishponds of Hawai'i to fish weirs in Yap. The threads that bind our Pacific heritage in Oceania weave a most extraordinary tapestry.

The *Hōkūle'a* would not be in the Apia harbour outside the window today without the boundless generosity of the navigators of Satawal who came to Hawai'i and taught them when we in Hawai'i had lost our navigating traditions.

Heritage only survives through an approach in which by building one – we build up all. This is why the work of people like my dear friends and colleagues like Hans Van Tilburg who is here today and works with the U.S. NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and Mere Ratuabuabua

who has led the Pacific Heritage Hub are so critical to this region. We all have so much to gain from the strides they are making.

And understanding how these heritage resources are being preserved and restored are critical if they are to survive thousands of years into the future. For example, on the island of *Lānaʻi*, largely owned by Oracle Technologies, Inc., CEO Larry Ellison, we are working in a private-public partnership to restore underwater cultural heritage resources like traditional Hawaiian fishponds (pictured below) and cultural landscapes through education and restoration programs with students so that Pacific island communities may learn to have the skills to restore and maintain their cultural resources.

This programme is unique in that it does so much more than just provide the resources to significantly restore these coastal and submerged resources, but it empowers communities to develop through restoration plans and identify how resources came to be degraded in the first place. The goal is to develop long term, sustained capacity in small, rural communities that will help to ensure the long-term resilience of their important resources. By best utilizing private-public partnerships, we are innovating conservation financing options that help to address one of the most critical gaps in conservation today – financing.



Photo 2: Naha Fishpond on the island of Lānaʻi

These sites, these projects, these communities are about much more than simply cultural heritage – they are about keeping coastal areas resilient, island communities food secure, children well educated in science and engineering and families and communities well bonded. Just imagine if more billionaires saw the value in investing in small island[s], rural communities and their submerged and cultural heritage resources.

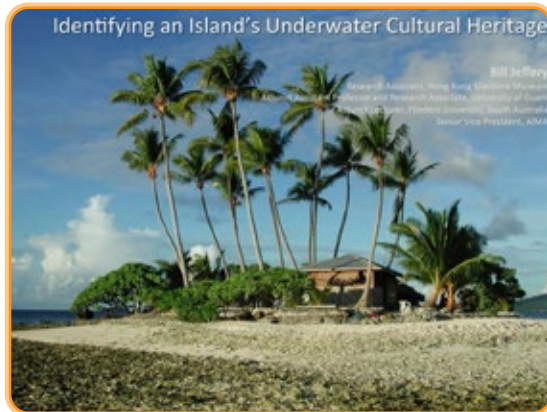
It is so exciting that technology leaders see how much knowledge is contained in Pacific heritage that they are willing to make significant investments in their preservation. It is inspiring when the knowledge of our ancestors is acknowledged as a foundation for future conservation solutions.

These are the very foundations from which our sea-based and united nation states stand. Our sea-farers. Our ocean guardians. The keepers of our indigenous and underwater cultural heritage. These are the brightest lights in our ocean of SUNS.

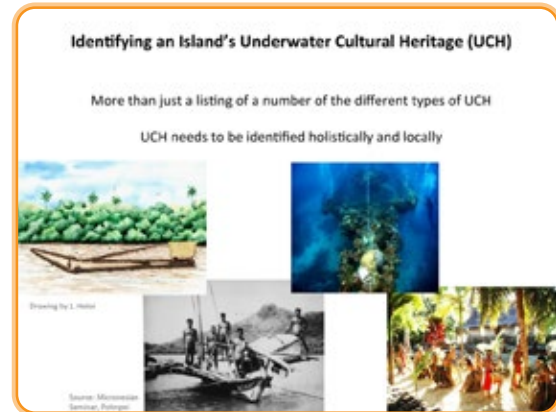
Thank you.

Presentation

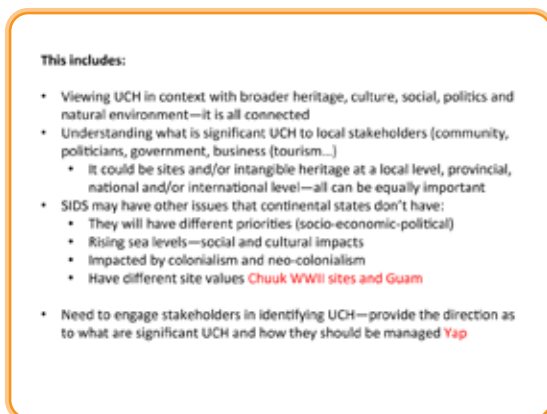
Bill Jeffery, UCH Expert



slide 1



slide 2



slide 3



slide 4



slide 5



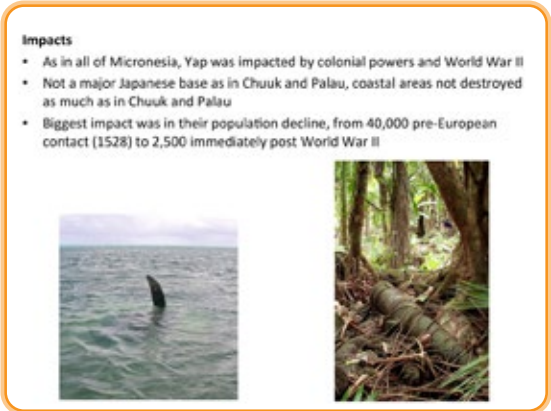
slide 6



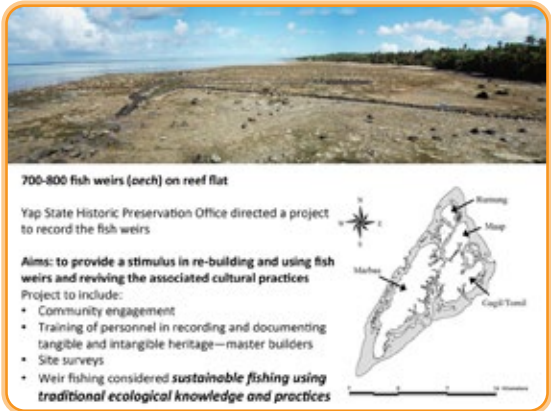
slide 7



slide 8



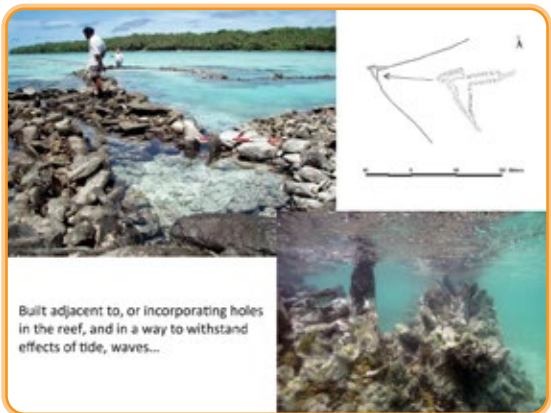
slide 9



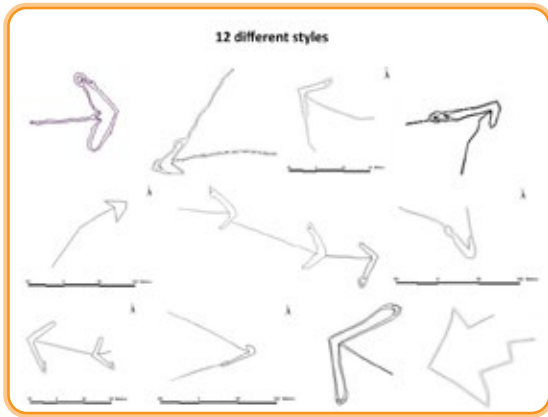
slide 10



slide 11



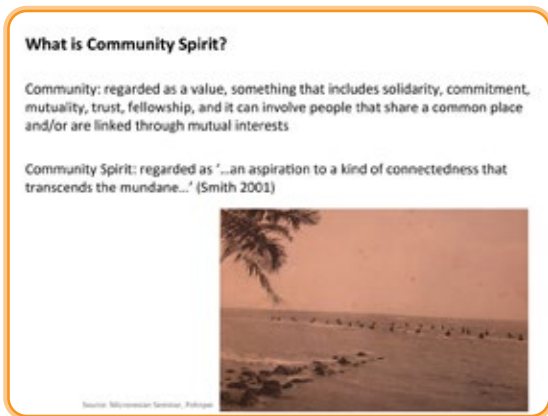
slide 12



slide 13



slide 14



slide 15



slide 16



slide 17



slide 18

Have fish weirs fulfilled their historical and economic roles?

In Yap, Pohnpei, Palau, Penghu, and South Africa, this is being revived...So, the answer is:

NO—Contemporary communities continue to place great value on these roles

Do they require a community spirit, i.e. an 'aspiration to a kind of connectedness that transcends the mundane'?

YES—This is a very important aspect that communities want to revive.

Fish weirs are also a good example of the:

- relationship of natural and cultural heritage intertwined with indigenous, tangible and intangible heritage
- and the sustainability of natural heritage

slide 19

Chuuk

Indigenous people from c. 2,000 BCE

Images are courtesy of Micronesian Seminar, Palau

slide 20

Chuuk (Truk) : Major Japanese Base during World War II

Considered dropping Atomic Bomb on the Japanese fleet in Chuuk in 1944

Image is courtesy of US National Archives

Conventional bombing from February 1944-August 1945 destroyed Chuuk

- Promoted by USA as payback for Pearl Harbor
- 5,000 Japanese and 1,000 Chuukese killed
- 6,800 tons of bombs dropped
- c.110 Japanese ships sunk, 450 aircraft lost

Image is courtesy of US National Archives

slide 21

Chuuk Lagoon

- 50+ Japanese WWII shipwrecks
- hundreds of aircraft remains

slide 22

slide 23

Conflicting values

slide 24

Souveniring

1976 2008

Images are courtesy of Colin Haddock

Number of National Historic Landmarks by Country in 2007

Country	Number of Landmarks
USA	1144
Spain	104
France	77
Italy	77
Germany	77
China	77
Japan	77
UK	77
Other	77

slide 25

For Chuukese, no sense of pride with underwater sites, as there is with the terrestrial sites

slide 26

The Chuuk Lagoon shipwrecks are 1 of 2,532 US National Historic Landmarks (4 others in Micronesia).

Chuuk has considered nominating the Chuuk Lagoon shipwrecks and an adjacent lagoon (natural heritage) for World Heritage listing

Impediments: Conflicts in values and management

Image is courtesy of D. Sailer

What is the Problem?

Chuuk: the World's Best Shipwrecks

slide 27

Earthwatch project

- Ascertain more holistically health and values of sites
- Involved local residents, and foreign tourists (who funded the project)
- Assisted Chuuk govt. in management
- Foreigners were provided with a better understanding of site values

slide 28

Earthwatch volunteer feedback

"I've gained a greater understanding of the people of Chuuk, and reasons for their indifference to the wealth of WWII shipwrecks in their lagoon. I've also gained an appreciation of how difficult it may be to preserve these wrecks, given the fact that the Chuukese in general do not regard these as a resource or as treasure, but rather as reminders of a painful time during which they were innocent bystanders in a war between superpowers."

"I have a much greater appreciation for the environmental, social and cultural issues facing Chuuk and the wrecks in Truk Lagoon. It is an extremely complicated issue that will take a multi-dimensional approach to finding a solution. This awareness will allow me to speak more intelligently to others interested in helping be a part of the solution."

slide 29

3,800 WWII shipwrecks

Chuuk Lagoon

Pacific Ocean

South East Asia

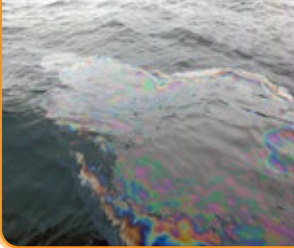

Australia

Map source: Harrell, Gilbert and Norenda

slide 30

Oil leaking from shipwrecks

- potential for large scale pollution and damage to fragile ecosystems

• In 2002, Conservation specialist predicted that some shipwrecks could start to break-up in 10-15 years time

slide 31

World War II shipwrecks

- Source of Oil pollution
- USS Mississinewa
 - Sunk with over c. 4 million gallons of oil aboard—2001, 2 million gallons pumped out and sold







Image by courtesy of Neil Scriver




slide 32

Guam

- One island, 561 km² land
- Population 168,000
- Indigenous people from c. 3,500
- Magellan, 1521 (Colony of Spain 1565-1898)
- Today it is a territory of the USA

11. Framework of an entire island built on shellfish.

slide 33




Guam has about 10 wrecks from the 16-19th century Manila galleon trade






Japanese midget submarine

slide 34

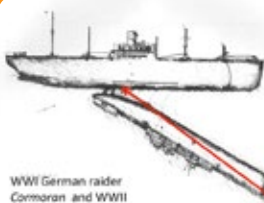
Indigenous people have been greatly impacted by foreigners: population decimated by diseases and wars; alienated from their land



Now tourist destination for many people particularly from Asia





slide 35



WWI German raider *Comoran* and WWII Japanese freighter *Tokai Maru* freighter in Apra Harbor

Possibly the only place where two ships from different world wars touch



slide 36



slide 37



slide 38



slide 39



slide 40



slide 41



slide 42

Australian Maritime Archaeology program since 1970s

Comprehensive program

- Historical research
- Regional surveys
- Wreck inspections
- Surveys and excavation
- Response to wreck reports
- Policing
- Site Research
- Determine Significance
- Develop Management Plans
- Develop museum exhibitions
- Develop comprehensive community engagement
- Community outreach and awareness programs



slide 43



HMS Pandora (1779)
 Artefacts about British and Polynesian Societies—a great topic for SIDS students!

slide 44

Australian National Shipwreck Database



A framework, even a platform that could be used by SIDS

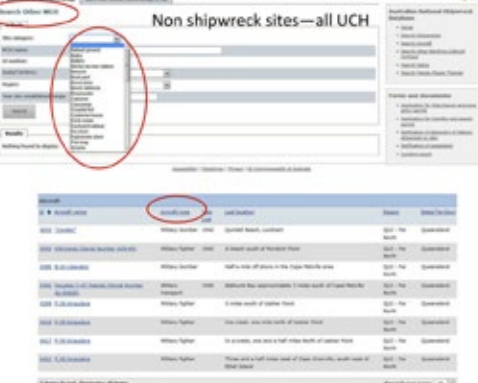
slide 45

One state, Queensland—has 1257 shipwrecks, and counting




slide 46

Non shipwreck sites—all UCH



slide 47

Archaeological Sites



All sites are part of a wider system and are linked to other sites which may be on land or underwater—important to study in this context

slide 48



slide 49

- ### Identifying an Island's Underwater Cultural Heritage
- What is it?
 - It is many things!
 - The obvious may not be that significant, or it needs to be looked at from a local perspective—i.e. its has different values **Chusok, Guam WWII**
 - How should we go about identifying it?
 - have a **holistic** and **locally relevant** view about what is UCH—the values, and how to identify them **Yap, Palau, Chusok, Guam**
 - implement a proactive **beneficial** program that is **relevant to stakeholders**; **engage stakeholders**, especially the **public**; build **relevant local capacity** (employment, business opportunities); develop databases; have a good legislative framework; have a **relevant public awareness outcomes** **Australia**

slide 50

Thank you to:

- UNESCO Apia Office
- the people of the FSM, Palau and Guam:
- staff of HPO in FSM, Palau and Guam
- staff of USA National Park Office, Oakland, particularly Paula Creech


slide 51

Presentation

Jun Kimura, Field Museum/Institute of Nautical Archaeology, USA

Sustainable Use of Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH) and Development of Regional Partnership

3rd SIDS Conference, Youth Space UNESCO Round Table—Underwater Cultural Heritage
 Jun Kimura (Field Museum/Institute of Nautical Archaeology)



slide 1

Introduction Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH)

- Part.1 Sustainable use of UCH - Asian Case Study
- What's UCH?
- Detection of UCH
- Discovery of UCH and nation development – in Brunei
- Part.2 Regional Partnership/ Cooperation Model
- Workshop, Training Opportunities, Regional Meetings, Conference

Marine Protected Area off Cu Lao Cham Island, Vietnam



slide 2


Underwater Cultural Heritage:

- shipwreck/watercraft
- seaborne items
- aircraft
- maritime infrastructure: ports, jetties, docks, shipyards and wharves
- submerged landscape

Submerged evidence site in Isomote, Okinawa

Unique (time capsule) and well preserved, but...

*Cultural resources in underwater are vulnerable, and they are non-renewable marine resources**



slide 3

Discovery 1: Archaeological exploration of underwater cultural heritage

From NAS Training

by diving search, remote sensing survey, and interviewing local people



slide 4

Discovery 2: Coastal/offshore development - French oil company detected the Sunken Treasures of Brunei Darussalam

Energy development off the coast of Timor-Leste

LNG gas in Darwin, Phillipines

The Brunei Under Development Project is an internationally joint project to mine natural gas condensate in the South Petroleum Development Area (SPDA) located between Timor-Leste (ECU member) and the north west coast of Australia.

The EHF Petroleum (Total S.A.) discovered a shipwreck, so-called Brunei Shipwreck, about 40km off the coast of the Sultanate over 60m in depth in on 24th May 1997.

The preliminary investigation, implemented in October of the same year, reported the importance of the discovery and suggested that the Brunei shipwreck must be protected and studied as soon as possible.

French Embassy



slide 5

The Bruneian and French governments led an international project that financed by the petroleum company.

The Department for Underwater Archaeological Research under the French Ministry of Culture and Communication directed underwater archaeological excavation, in cooperation with the Bruneian Government and financial support from the company.

Various experts including archaeologists, ceramic specialists, conservators, and commercial divers joined the team.

More than 35,000 artifacts was uncovered during the project. Most of these are the cargo of the ship, including many Thai and Chinese ceramics as well as northern Vietnamese wares. The shipwreck is dated to the late16th-the early 17th century.

Brunei National Maritime Museum



slide 6



slide 7



slide 8



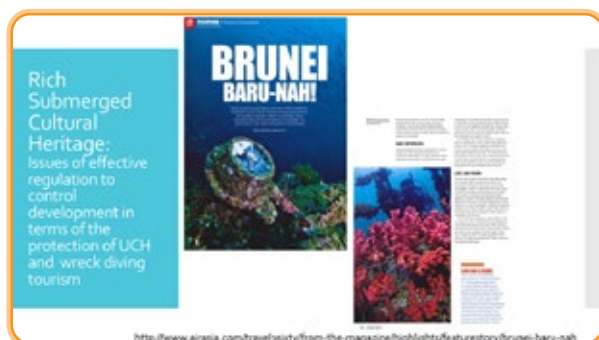
slide 9



slide 10



slide 11



slide 12

Regional Partnership and Cooperation Program Development: Southeast Asian Case Study

Workshop, Training Opportunities, Meetings, and Conferences

- To make an appropriate action on Shared Maritime Cultural Heritage
- To facilitate regional cooperation through the development of academic and governmental networks
- To address the regional scheme of management and protection strategies of underwater cultural heritage
- To provide a forum for discussion of technical issues related to underwater cultural heritage and underwater archaeology

slide 13

Mainland Southeast Asia

South China Sea

Island Southeast Asia

San Diego
Lana Shoal (13th C)
Investigator Shoal (11-12th C)

Legend: Spanish, European, East and SE Asian Origin, WWII, Unknown

slide 14

Workshop

2009 UNESCO Workshop on UCH in Hong Kong

2007 Field Training on UCH in Galle, Sri Lanka

slide 15

Training opportunities

2009 ALA Fellowship Training on UCH and Maritime Archaeology at Flinders University, South Australia

2012 Underwater Archaeology Training organized by Regional Center for Archaeology and Fine Arts of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education in Thailand

slide 16

Regional Experts' Meeting

2012 UNESCO regional experts' meeting on UCH in Koh Kong, Cambodia

2012 experts' meeting by the Regional Center for Archaeology and Fine Arts of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education in Thailand

slide 17

Academic Conference/Symposium

First Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage (APCONF) at the National Museum of the Philippines in 2011

UNESCO Office in Asia

Second APCONF in Hawaii in 2014

slide 18

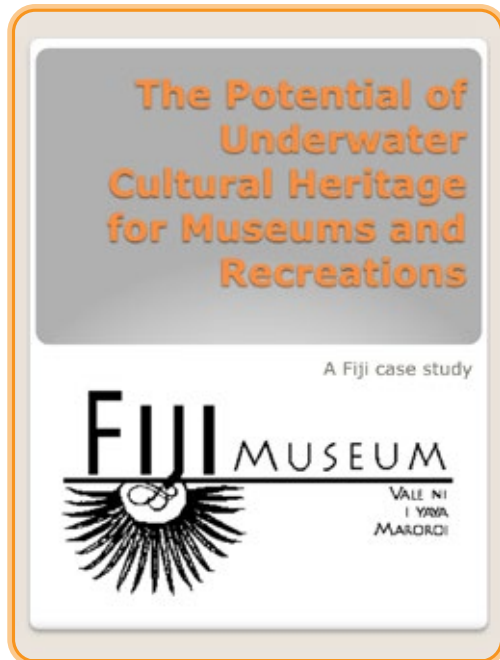
Questions?

Acknowledgement – UNESCO APiA, Field Museum, & Institute of Nautical Archaeology

slide 19

Presentation

Elia Nakoro, The Fiji Museum



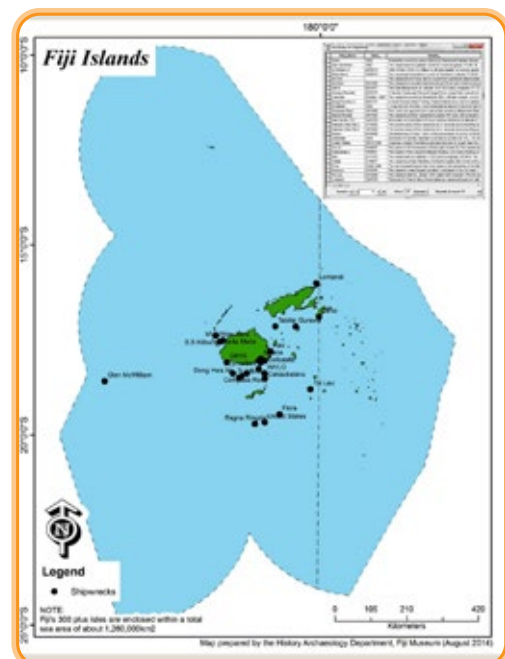
slide 1



slide 2



slide 3



slide 4

- The long term plan - constructing and revamping the Fiji Museum complexes
- Include facilities for UCH
- Amending Legislation
- Ratification of the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Preservation of UCH

Potential Area for Fiji

slide 5



Scuba Diving in Fiji

Notable Wrecks in Fiji

The *Sabandza* is a wreck that can be found off the Suva Island and it is at a depth of thirty metres. It is considered to be a safe dive for a wide range of divers, from those with little experience to those with a lot of experience. You can walk through interior parts of the ship, making it a wonderful and interesting dive that you will enjoy.

Also available to dive in the Suva area of Fiji is a glass wreck and an interesting Yacht wreck that are sure to offer divers a unique and interesting experience.

Another wreck that is an exciting dive can be found in the Lagoon and is the *Tara No. 2*. The ship was a two hundred ton fishing vessel that sank in 1974. It now sits completely upright as if continuing to sail on a bed of white sand. While there aren't any recommended entry through points, it is still an amazing wreck as the clarity of the water allows divers a good view of the marine life that now inhabits the ship.

Available Resources

slide 6



Available Resources

slide 7

- The potential of working with recreational divers/hotels
- Leave policies and legal frameworks to the experts
- Lobbying with the Fiji Government-ratification processes

Conclusion

slide 8

Presentation

Meretui Ratunabuabua, Pacific Heritage Hub Manager, University of the South Pacific, Fiji



slide 1



slide 2



slide 3



slide 4



slide 5



slide 6

Respect traditional knowledge in UCH



UN SIDs Year for Small Island Developing states

- Partnerships for training and capacity building
- Sustainability
- Reporting on UCH inventories nationally
- Included in WH Action plan 2016-2020 and the Pacific Regional Culture Strategy

slide 7



PACIFIC
HERITAGE HUB

www.pacificheritagehub.org Join us on Facebook

slide 8

Annex 6:

List of Panellists

	Name and Title	Bio
1	Hans Van Tilburg US ICOMOS (Hawaii) Maritime Heritage Coordinator, Unit Diving Supervisor, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.	Hans holds a BA in geography from the University of California, Berkeley; an MA in maritime archaeology/history from East Carolina University; and a Ph.D. in history from the University of Hawai'i where he ran the graduate programme in maritime archaeology and history. Hans has taught courses in world maritime history and published over 30 articles and book reviews, as well as several books. He has served as a consultant for UNESCO's cultural heritage programme and as an instructor for UNESCO UCH Foundation courses. He is currently the maritime heritage coordinator and unit diving supervisor for NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries in the Pacific.
2	Bill Jeffery UCH expert	Bill Jeffery has been working as a maritime archaeologist for over 30 years. Bill formulated and coordinated a maritime heritage programme for a state government agency; Heritage South Australia from 1981–2001. He went on to work with the Federated States of Micronesia National Historic Preservation Office and completed a Ph.D. in maritime archaeology at James Cook University. He is a consulting maritime archaeologist to Environmental Resource Management (ERM) Hong Kong; the CIE-Centre for International Heritage Activities; and the Hong Kong Maritime Museum and has implemented various types of archaeological and heritage management programmes in Australia, the Pacific Islands, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka and various countries in Africa. Bill has conducted maritime archaeology field schools with Flinders University, the University of Guam, and James Cook University, in addition to teaching Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) training programmes in nine different countries.
3	Elia Nakoro The Fiji Museum	Elia Nakoro is the Head of the History Archaeology Department at the Fiji Museum and is responsible for identifying, surveying, mapping, researching and providing for the protection of the maritime and historic sites of Fiji. Having worked at the Fiji Museum and on cultural heritage projects for close to a decade, Elia has vast experience in conducting desktop overviews, archaeological field assessments, archaeological monitoring programmes, and salvaging excavations for the identification and protection of terrestrial cultural heritage sites as a national pre-development process and as part of a biodiversity survey for conserving Fiji's forests. In the future, Elia hopes to be involved in the establishment of a UCH Unit for Fiji in order for this new unit to help identify and safeguard Fiji's underwater and maritime sites.
4	Cristelle Pratt Deputy Secretary General Pacific Islands Forum	Cristelle Pratt has extensive experience in both the public and private sectors in various regional roles, with the most senior being CEO of the Pacific Applied Science Geoscience Commission, now known as the Applied Geoscience and Technology Division of the SPC. Experienced in providing a mix of policy, technical and strategic advice, Cristelle has also worked for various regional and international organization organizations such as the World Bank and AusAid. Cristelle holds a master's degree in marine management from Dalhousie University, Canada; a post-graduate diploma in science; and a bachelor of science from the Australian University in Canberra. Oceans remain a deep passion for Cristelle who said they connect us as a region and offer abundant opportunities for us all and, therefore, deserve increased attention and efforts at all levels.

5	Adi Meretui Ratonabuabua Fiji Government	Adi Meretui Ratonabuabua is an indigenous Fijian chief. Her formative years were spent growing up in Asia and Europe at various British Army postings. She established the Pacific Heritage Hub as its manager for UNESCO World Heritage activities in the Pacific when she was seconded from the Fiji Government and the Ministry of Culture from 2012 to 2014. She has served on the governing boards for Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Category 2 Centre for the Asia-Pacific region for Korea and Japan; in 2012 was a consultant examiner for the ICH intergovernmental Committee for UNESCO; and is chair of the Intergovernmental Pacific Regional Culture Strategy for the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture. She was the President of the Pacific Islands Museums Association and an executive founding member of ICOMOS Pasifika. She is keen to see stronger linkages between community and national policy development and implementation regarding Small Islands Development in order for communities to attain healthier, happier and more sustainable livelihoods.
6	Jun Kimura Field Museum/Institute of Nautical Archaeology	Jun Kimura is a maritime archaeologist and research fellow at the Field Museum of Natural History and at the Institute of Nautical Archaeology. He graduated with a BA in archaeology from Tokai University, Japan. He then completed a Master of Maritime Archaeology at Flinders University in South Australia in 2006. His Ph.D. was awarded from the same university in 2011. His dissertation research focused on an archaeological study of Asian shipwrecks and shipbuilding technology in East and Southeast Asian regions. He has survey and excavation experience as a field archaeologist at several terrestrial and underwater sites, including the Takashima underwater site in Nagasaki, Japan where Kublai Khan's Mongol Empire Armada was destroyed. He is currently leading an internationally collaborated project on naval battlefield archaeology focused on Kublai Khan's 13th century Mongol invasion sites in Viet Nam. His interest and expertise is in the formation of naval power and empire hegemony in the South China Sea region during the medieval era. Apart from historical naval campaigns, maritime trade is his research theme and he is pursuing a historical trading network entitled "Maritime Ceramic Route". He is also currently engaged in an analysis of 12–13th century Southeast Asian trader's artefacts (A leading collection at the Field Museum of Natural History.) His expertise also includes underwater cultural heritage management across Asia.
7	Trisha Kehaulani Watson Honua Consulting, IUCN	J.D, Ph.D. is from Hawai'i. Trisha was born and raised on the island of O'ahu to which she has long ancestral ties. She obtained her degrees from Washington State University and the University of Hawai'i, Manoa. Her legal background is in environmental law. Her Ph.D. studies focused on indigenous epistemologies and traditional natural resource management. Trisha previously worked in administration at the University of Hawai'i on special projects related to culture and research issues. She currently runs her own consulting company, Honua Consulting, that focuses on biocultural resource planning and management in Hawai'i.
8	Kat Thompson Aqua Samoa	After over a decade working in hotel management in Sydney, Australia, Kat went back to university as a mature student and completed a double major in journalism and public relations. After graduating in 1996, she took two years out to travel around Australia before settling in Broome where she worked as an event coordinator for the famous Shinju Matsuri Festival. She later gained employment with the GWN Network as a TV journalist/stringer for the Kimberley region. After four years in this role, Kat moved to Perth and found employment as a media secretary for federal politician Judi Moylan. Kat then moved to Samoa in 2004 where she took up diving, first as a hobby, and then later professionally when AquaSamoa opened on the 1st of July 2005, which coincided with the opening of the Aggie Greys Resort.

	UNESCO	Bio
1	Wendy Watson-Wright Executive Secretary International Oceanographic Commission Assistant Director-General for Science, a.i.	Wendy Watson-Wright holds a Ph.D. in physiology from Dalhousie University, Halifax in Canada. She has occupied senior executive positions in Canada from 1992–1997; she was previously Director of the St Andrews Biological Station responsible for overseeing programmes in oceanography, aquaculture, fisheries population dynamics, marine chemistry, and habitat ecological research. She has also served in the positions of Associate Assistant, Deputy Minister for Population and Public Health; and Director-General for Strategic Policy in Health. She joined UNESCO from her senior position of Assistant Deputy Minister of Science in the Department of Fisheries and Ocean, a position she had held since December 2001. She has held the position of Executive Secretary of the International Oceanographic Commission since October 2009.
2	Ulrike Guerin Secretary, UNESCO Secretariat of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage	Ulrike Guerin is responsible for the underwater cultural heritage programme and the Secretariat of the 2001 Convention at UNESCO in Paris. As such, she arranges meetings of States Parties and intergovernmental meetings worldwide. She also oversees UNESCO's operational projects concerning underwater cultural heritage, ranging from training events, education programmes and exhibitions. to assistance missions to Member States. She has been heavily involved in working with SIDS States, most prominently by elaborating with the Caribbean SIDS a model law for the protection of their cultural heritage, as well as organizing training programmes for Caribbean Member States in underwater archaeology. Recently she took a leading role in providing assistance to Haiti in the country's evaluation of the potential Santa Maria shipwreck site and prevention of site pillage. She also oversaw the elaboration of the book <i>Underwater Cultural Heritage in Oceania</i> . Ulrike is a lawyer by training.
3	Etienne Clement Director UNESCO Office for the Pacific States	Etienne Clement is a Belgian lawyer (Juris Doctor) who has specialized heavily in international law. He has been employed at UNESCO Secretariat as a staff member since in 1984; first in Dakar, Senegal, then at headquarters in Paris where he helped to develop international standards for the protection of cultural heritage regarding armed conflicts, illicit trafficking, and underwater cultural heritage. Etienne has been responsible for providing support to countries for the formulation or adaptation of their respective national legislation. From 1988 to 2005, Etienne was the Head of UNESCO in Cambodia, representing UNESCO in the International Coordinating Committee for Angkor. In 2005, he became Deputy Director of the Bureau of Field Coordination, and in 2009 the Deputy Director of the UNESCO Regional Bureau in Bangkok, Thailand. Since 2013, he has been the Director of the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States, based in Apia, Samoa, a position he currently holds.
4	Akatsuki Takahashi Programme Specialist for Culture UNESCO Office for the Pacific States	Akatsuki Takahashi is an expert in cultural heritage risk management. She holds a Ph.D. from Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan. She has been working for UNESCO since 1989; first at headquarters in Paris where she worked at the Secretariat for the UN World Decade for Cultural Development; at the UNESCO Office in Venice, managing the culture programme for South-East Europe and the UNESCO-Private Committees' Programme for the Safeguarding of Venice; and at headquarters at the Executive Office of the Sector in charge of the coordination of the Sector's extra-budgetary programme. Since 2010, she has been employed at the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States in Samoa as the Programme Specialist for Culture, a position she currently holds.

Annex 7:

Presentation by Experts at the Side Event

(3 September 2014)

Underwater Cultural Heritage and Small Island Developing States

Hans Van Tilburg, Hawaii, US ICOMOS

1. Underwater Cultural Heritage

The definition of underwater cultural heritage is “all traces of human existence having a cultural, historical or archaeological character which have been partially or totally under water, periodically or continuously, for at least 100 years...” This includes a broad range of historic and prehistoric habitation sites, tools, harbours, anchorages, shipwrecks, and now even aircraft. In many ways, the UCH resource comprises what has been called “the unseen museum of the sea.” It is a unique and non-renewable resource, capable of revealing information about the human past inaccessible in any other format, but susceptible to damage and loss if not treated appropriately. The history of island states in particular is intricately bound to seafaring and marine migration, for the ocean is more of a highway connecting islands than a barrier. All goods and cultural contacts occurred by vessel or ship. Shipwreck sites are therefore central to UCH, yet they are only one type of resource; other types include things like submerged habitation sites and coastal fish traps which often play an important role for traditional and indigenous cultures, groups who may maintain strong cultural connections to ocean resources that extend hundreds if not thousands of years into the past.

2. Maritime Archaeology

In order to maximize information from the UCH site and minimize negative impacts, the techniques of land archaeology have been successfully adapted to the underwater environment. Maritime archaeology is a tool that gives us a way to carefully interpret the archaeological value of these sites to their fullest potential. In many ways, the archaeological information from UCH sites is unique. For instance, historic shipwrecks represent complex cultural structures, the physical legacy of past seafaring and shipwright populations. And yet for most of human history, those who built vessels and those who sailed them did not write. Furthermore, the seafaring vessel was often considered an animate living object, a vehicle unlike any other. UCH therefore reveals special kinds of technical and cultural information inaccessible in any other format. Site surveys require professional expertise in the maritime archaeology and cultural preservation fields.

3. Policy and Programmes of the US in the Pacific

Resource agencies in the US operate under specific preservation mandates included within the federal archaeological programme. These mandate the inventory of cultural resources within their jurisdiction and, when federal undertakings are proposed, the consideration and mitigation of impacts to affected historic properties. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Park Service (NPS), and the Bureau of Ocean Energy and Management (BOEM) have been active in assessing and protecting the maritime heritage resource. Though the

US has not signed the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries supports the rules of the Convention's Annex as a Best Management Practices guideline.

4. Results of The 2nd Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage

Regional collaboration in this specialized field is a necessity. The first scholarly Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage was held in Manila in 2011. The Second Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on UCH (www.apconf.org) was held from 12–16 May 2014 in Honolulu, Hawai'i. In 2014, more than 139 participants from 27 countries around the world joined together to discuss common goals in underwater cultural heritage research and preservation: 1) enhance management and protection strategies of underwater cultural heritage in Asia and the countries of the Indian and Pacific Oceans; 2) facilitate regional cooperation through the development of academic and governmental networks in the Asia-Pacific region; 3) provided a forum for discussion of technical and ethical issues related to underwater cultural heritage and underwater archaeology; and 4) freely distributed information across the region and worldwide. Papers were published in the conference proceedings, and are available along with video interviews online at the Museum of Underwater Archaeology (MUA) site: <http://www.themua.org>. The third Asia-Pacific UCH conference is being planned for 2017 (East Asia, possibly at the Hong Kong Maritime Museum).

5. Contribution of UCH to Scientific Knowledge

UCH offers unique potential. On land, archaeological sites are often buried beneath concrete pavements or construction sites, for their locations have been reused for hundreds and thousands of years. Little is left. But underwater, particularly at greater depths, archaeological sites lie untouched in the stillness of the deep ocean, little changed over time. The preservation of materials in specific underwater environments: textiles, bone, shell, pottery, and even wood can be much greater than on land. This is why the ocean holds so much potential for revealing our human past, so much potential for making major contributions to the fields of history and anthropology.

6. Sustainable Community Development

The historical and archaeological value of UCH resources has demonstrable socio-economic benefits for local communities. Properly conserved artefacts from UCH sites, along with historical and archaeological interpretation, provide engaging and popular materials for museums. UCH lends itself to educational opportunities, particularly for youth interested in history, archaeology, marine sciences, and technology. Submerged structures and wrecks function as artificial reefs, of importance to fishermen. Finally, ship and aircraft wreck sites provide the recreational diving industry with a sustainable livelihood through heritage tourism. When properly conducted, under a long-term site management and preservation plan, these multiple activities can provide sustainable benefits to the local community.

Thank you.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed herein are solely the author's, and do not reflect the views of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, NOAA, or any of its sub-agencies, nor of the US Government.



UNESCO Office for the Pacific States
P.O. Box 615
Apia, Samoa
Email: apia@unesco.org
Website: www.unesco.org/apia
Tel: +685-24276 Fax: +685-26593