

# **MPAs and Eco-tourism**

## **The TDA Experience**

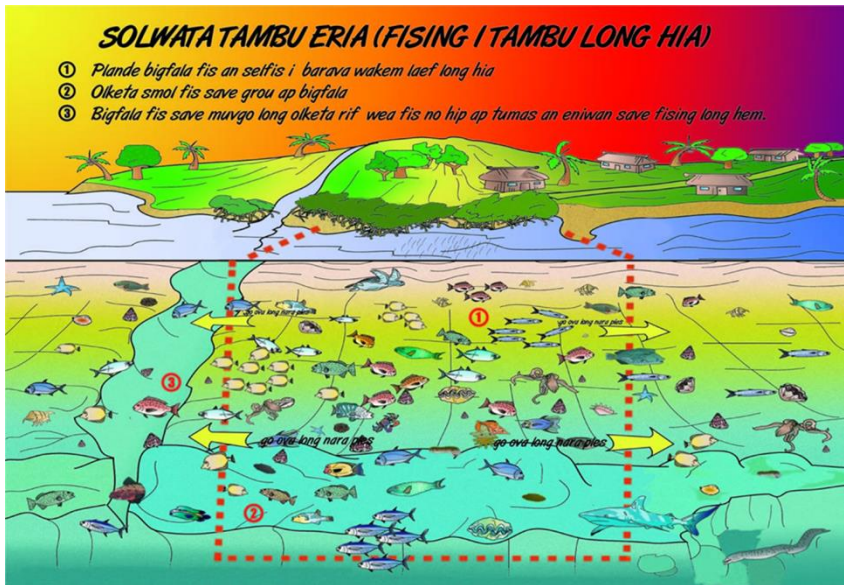
# **Presentation Outline**

- 1. Practical definition of an MPA and Eco-tourism**
- 2. The TDA approach in establishing PA/MPA**
- 3. Challenges**
- 4. Conclusion**

# MPAs and Eco-tourism

## MPA

- A Resource Management tool



- Managing the resources

## Eco-tourism

- A non-destructive Industry



- Paying to see the resources

# Establishing MPAs and integrating Eco-tourism

The TDA Approach

# Problem: Threat to log Tetepare Island - 1995

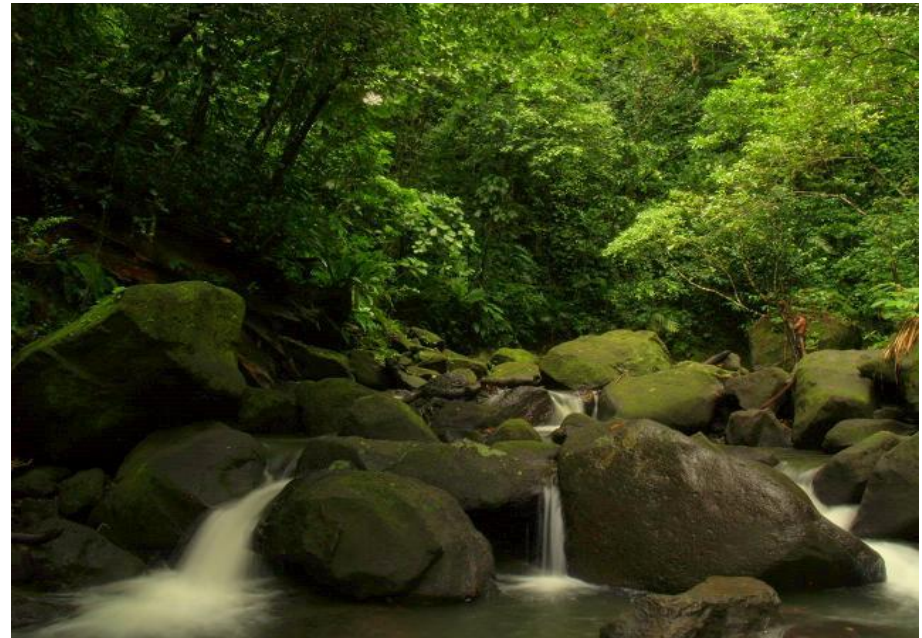


# Solomon Islands



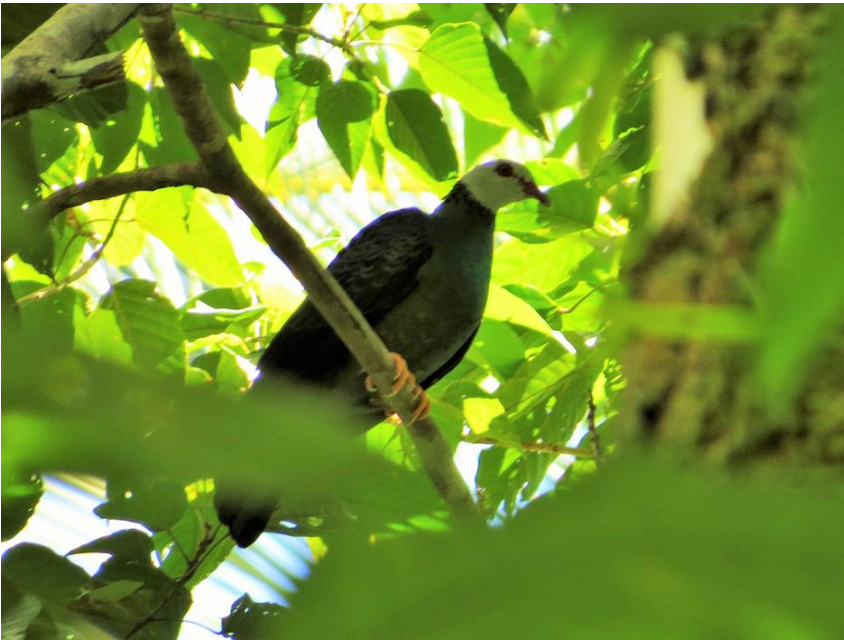
# If Tetepare is logged

- Threaten forest ecosystem
- Freshwater ecosystem



# If Tetepare is logged

**Threatens wildlife**



**Threatens marine ecosystem**





# If logging happens

Threatens the island's Natural Supermarket



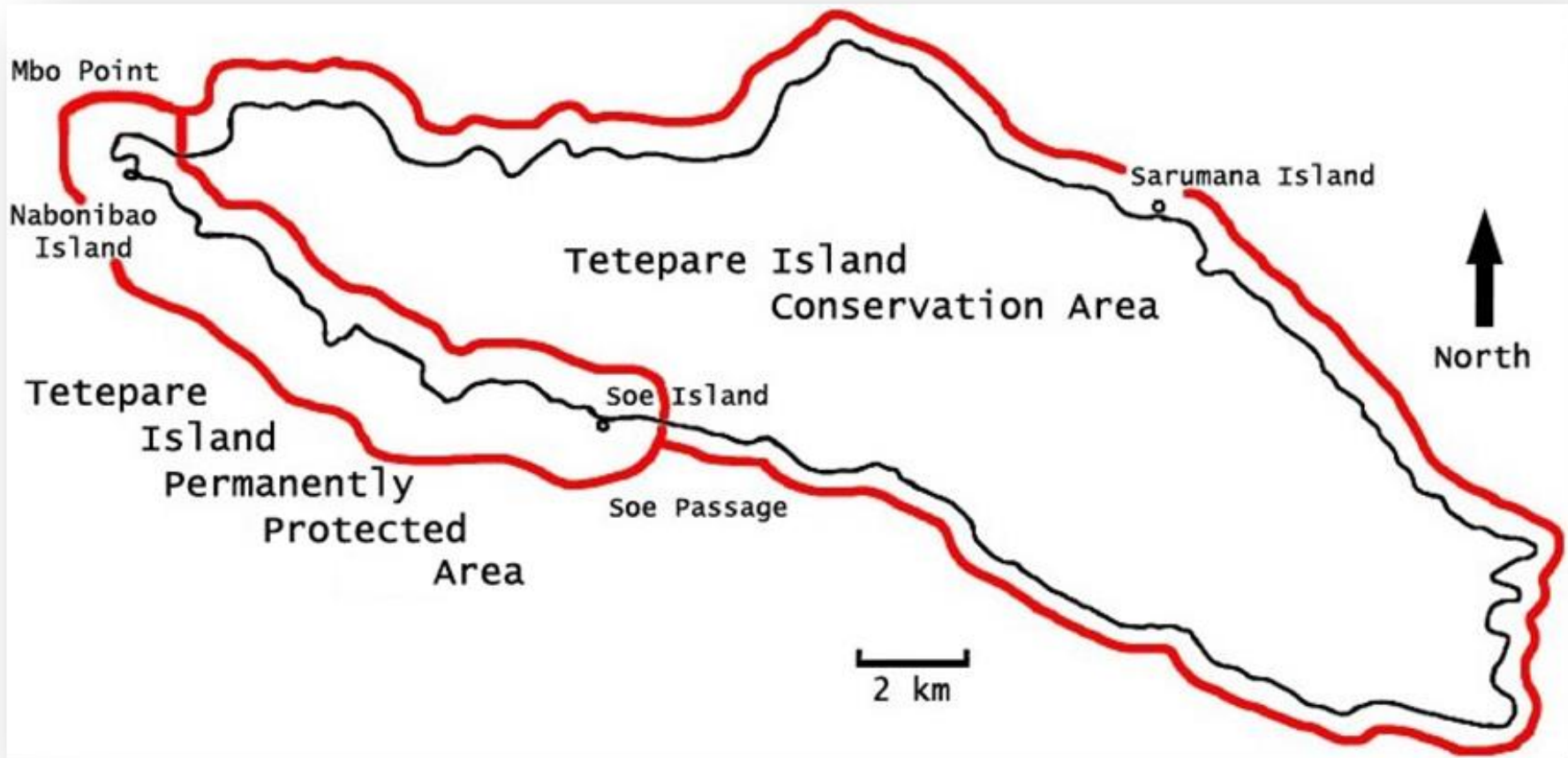
# If logging happens

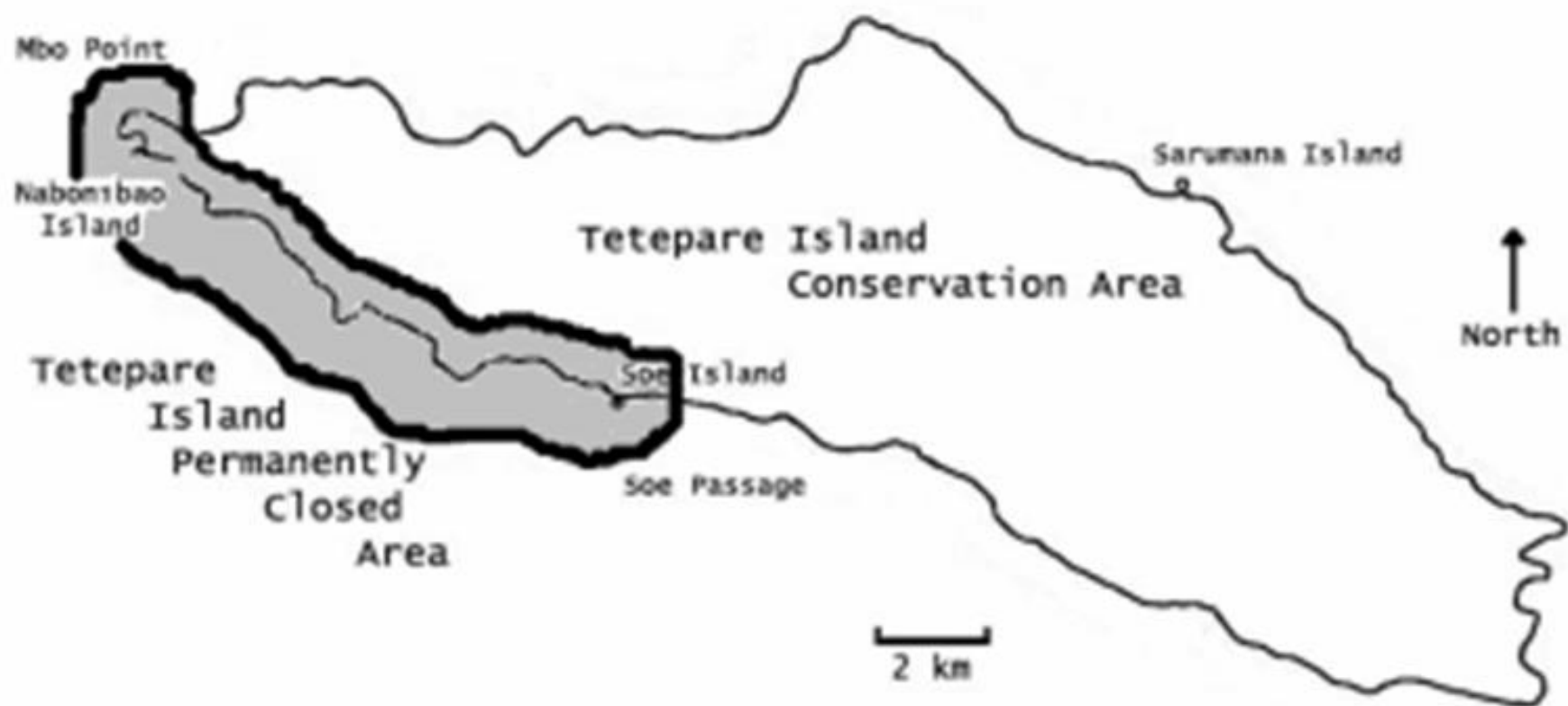
- **Vulnerable to natural disasters**



# Formation of Tetepare Descendants' Association (TDA)







# Partnership

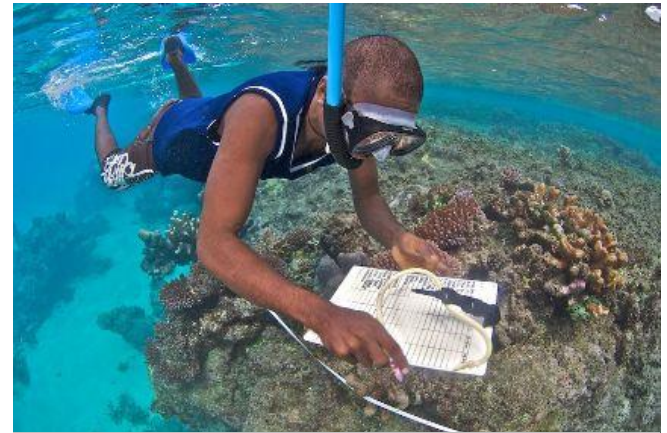
- **WWF: 2002 – 2008**
- **Provided funding and Technical assistant**
- **Under a 2 Year Management Plan**
- **Conduct biological and observatory monitoring inside Tetepare CA and MPA**
- **Policing of the CA and MPA**
- **EU: 2002 – 2004**
- **Funded the establishment of a Field base on Tetepare Island**
- **SICCP: 2008 – 2017**
- **Funding Core Operations**
- **Line Ministries (MEC&DM + MFNR)**

# Biological surveys

TDA Rangers monitor the status of the resources on Tetepare and the surrounding waters



Trochus surveys



Reef check

- Tailored recommended methodologies used

# Biological surveys



**Seagrass  
Monitoring**



**Coconut crab survey**



# Biological Monitoring



## Green Turtle Tagging + DNA Sampling





## Leatherback Turtle nest Monitoring



# Policing and collecting resource harvest data

- National Fisheries laws and TDA rules are enforced around Tetepare's conservation area to ensure the sustainable utilization of island's resources.



# Rendova Island: Baniata Leatherback Turtle Nest Conservation and Incentive Programme



# Collaboration with Scientists and Institutions



# Eco-tourism



# Yatch and Cruise Boats



# Snorkel in the lagoons or in the open with dolphins





# See dugongs and saltwater crocodiles



# See Coconut crabs



# Tag a green or leatherback turtle



# Challenges

- **Scare funding for core operations and turtle conservation**
- **Lack of Communication**
- **Weak governance**

# Awards

## TDA Achievements & Awards

- WWF's 2006 Leaders for a Living Planet award. This award was in recognition of TDA for leadership and as custodians, in willingly setting aside areas, including coastal areas and waters within Tetepare and Rendova Islands for nesting and nurturing of the critically endangered western pacific leatherback turtles.



## TDA Awards

- UNDP's 2012 Equator Prize
- An effort to recognize outstanding local initiatives that advance sustainable development solutions for people, nature, and resilient communities
- From over 800 entries from around the world, TDA joins 24 other winners who were presented with a certificate at the Equator Prize award ceremony in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012.
- Awarded to recognize outstanding community efforts to reduce poverty through the conservation of biodiversity.



# Conclusion

- **TDA yet to apply and register its PA**

## **2 Thoughts:**

- 1. If any communities or Resource Owners wish to establish their MPAs, they should start, Organise themselves and register as a charitable organisation first.**
- 2. The survival of most species today depends on Human beings. Gone are the days when Mother Nature use to nurturing them.**

**The End**

**Thank you**