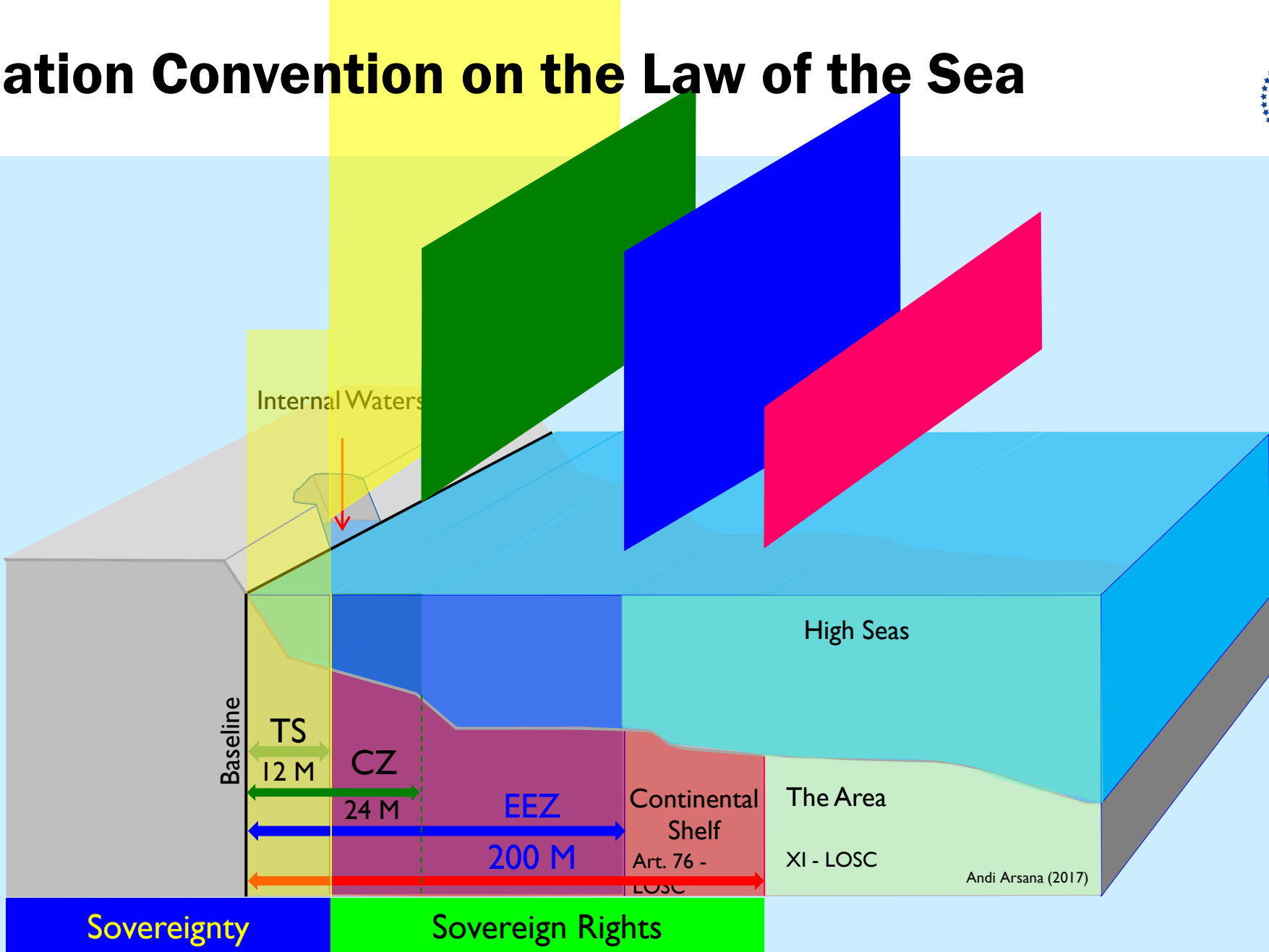


PACIFIC MARITIME BOUNDARIES

Malakai Vakautawale
Oceans and Maritime Programme
Geoscience Energy Maritime Division

Sub-regional Workshop on United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories
Theme: Identifying Problems, Finding Solutions
Suva, Fiji Islands

United Nation Convention on the Law of the Sea



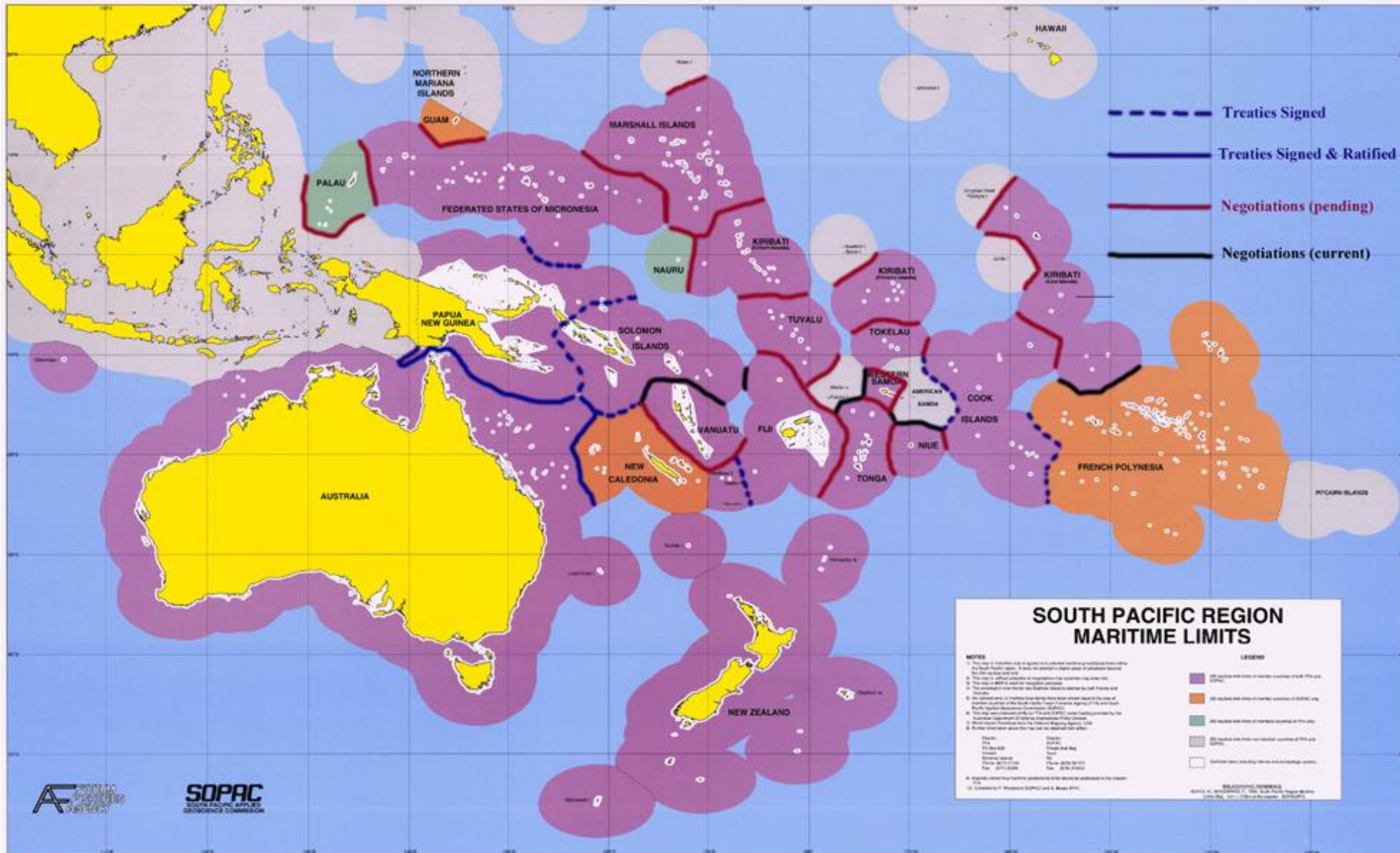
Apia Commonwealth Ocean Declaration



8. We **emphasise** the universal and unified character of the 1982 *UN Convention on the Law of the Sea* (UNCLOS) and **reaffirm** that UNCLOS sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the ocean and seas must be carried out. We **affirm** the freedoms, rights and duties of all states, including the rights and duties of coastal states in their maritime zones, as set out in UNCLOS. We **reaffirm** our commitment to sustainable ocean governance under UNCLOS,

13. In view of the urgent threat of climate change-related sea-level rise, and the fundamental need to secure the rights, entitlements, and interests of all states and peoples of the Commonwealth, **affirm** that members can maintain their maritime zones, as established and notified to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in accordance with UNCLOS, and the rights and entitlements

WHERE WE WERE - 2001



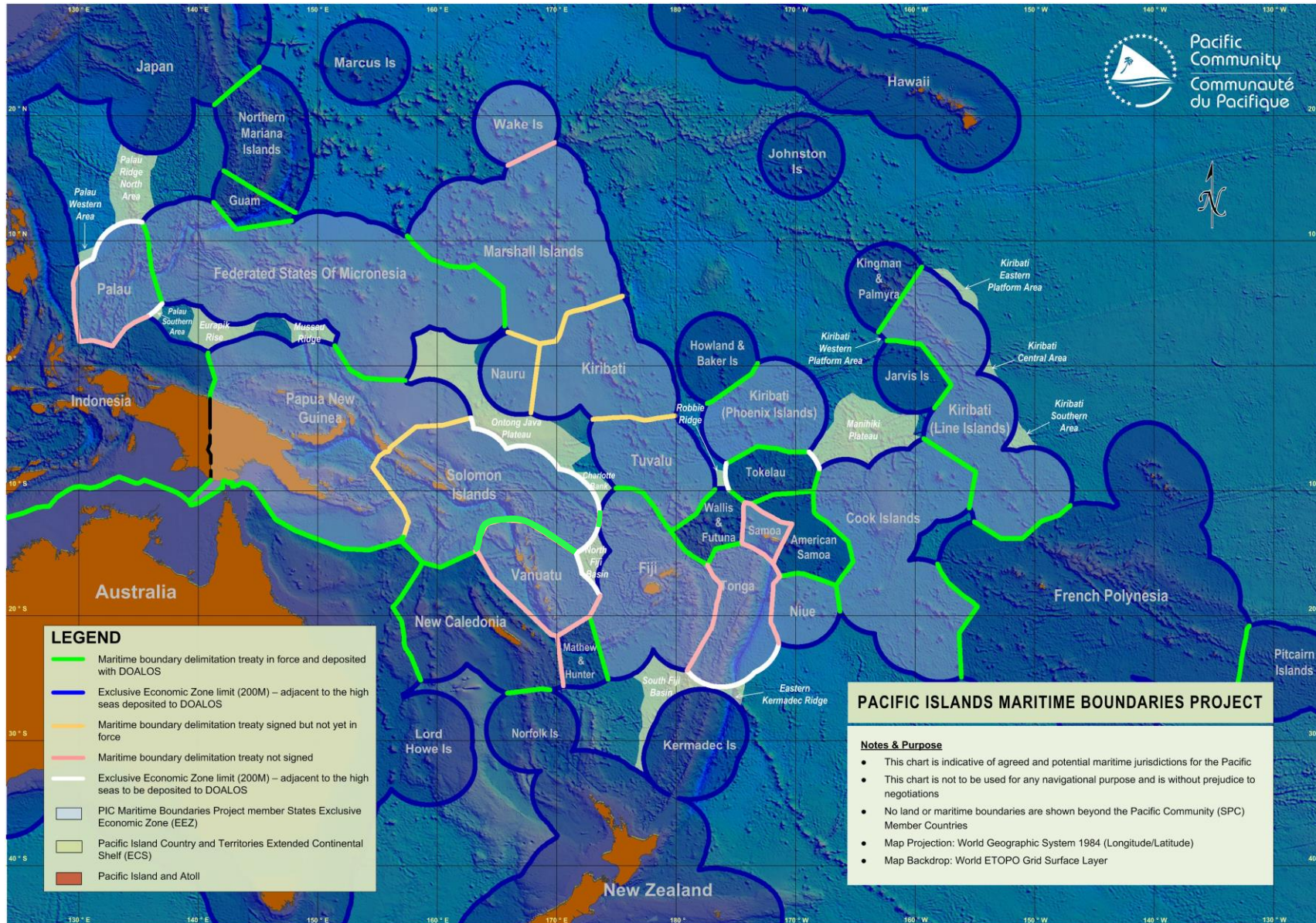
9 out of 48 shared boundaries under treaty

(dashed blue lines)

3 out the 9 formally ratified

(blue lines)

Pacific Maritime Boundaries; Current



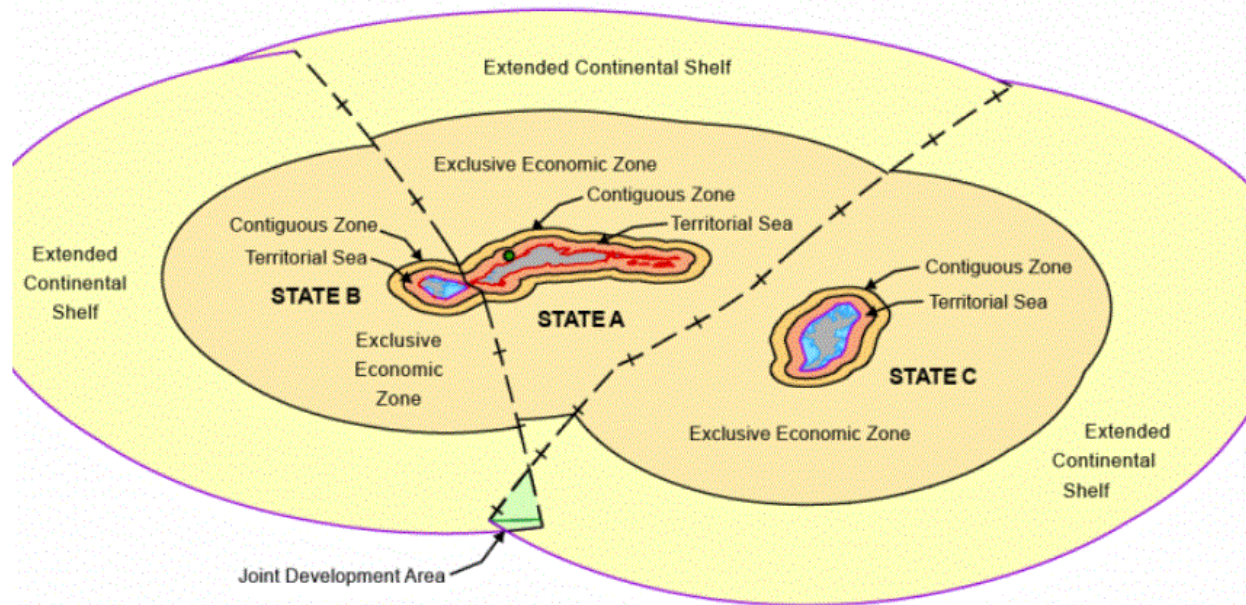
- **36 out of 48 shared boundaries are under treaty**
- **7 treaties** remain to be brought into force (**yellow**)
- **12 shared boundaries** remain to be signed (**pink**)
- **5 countries high seas limits** have yet to be declared (**white**)

Extended Continental Shelf:

- 3 out of 11 of ECS submissions have been reviewed. 2 have received recommendations.
- Another are preliminary info notes, requiring more data.

IHO S-121 Digital Data Deposit with UN DOALOS

S-121 EXAMPLE DATASET

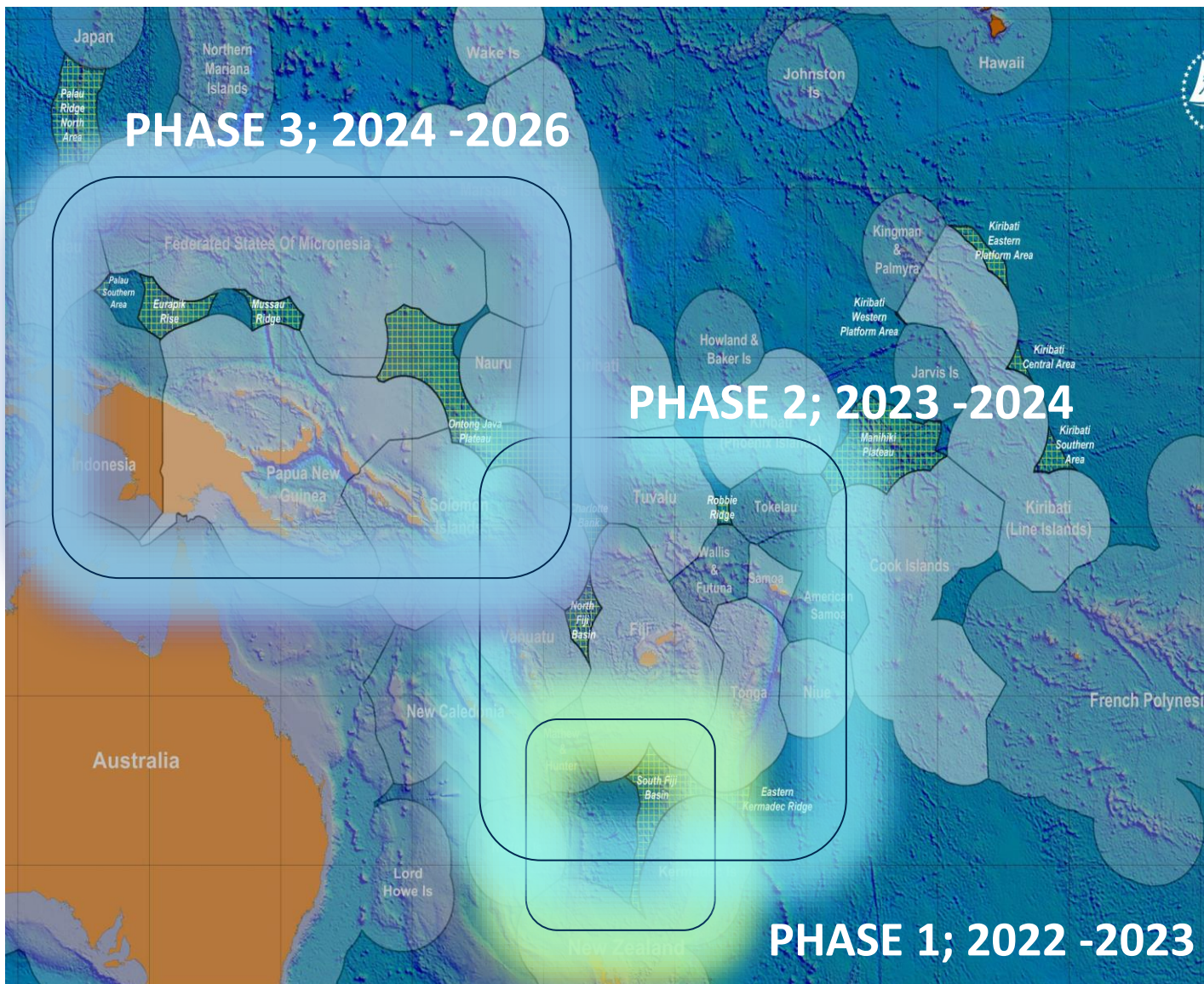


Prime Use Case – state discharge of “depository obligations” under UNCLOS or a new open access method for providing and exchanging digital representations of MLBs

Comprehensive features for representing legal source documentation for UNCLOS features

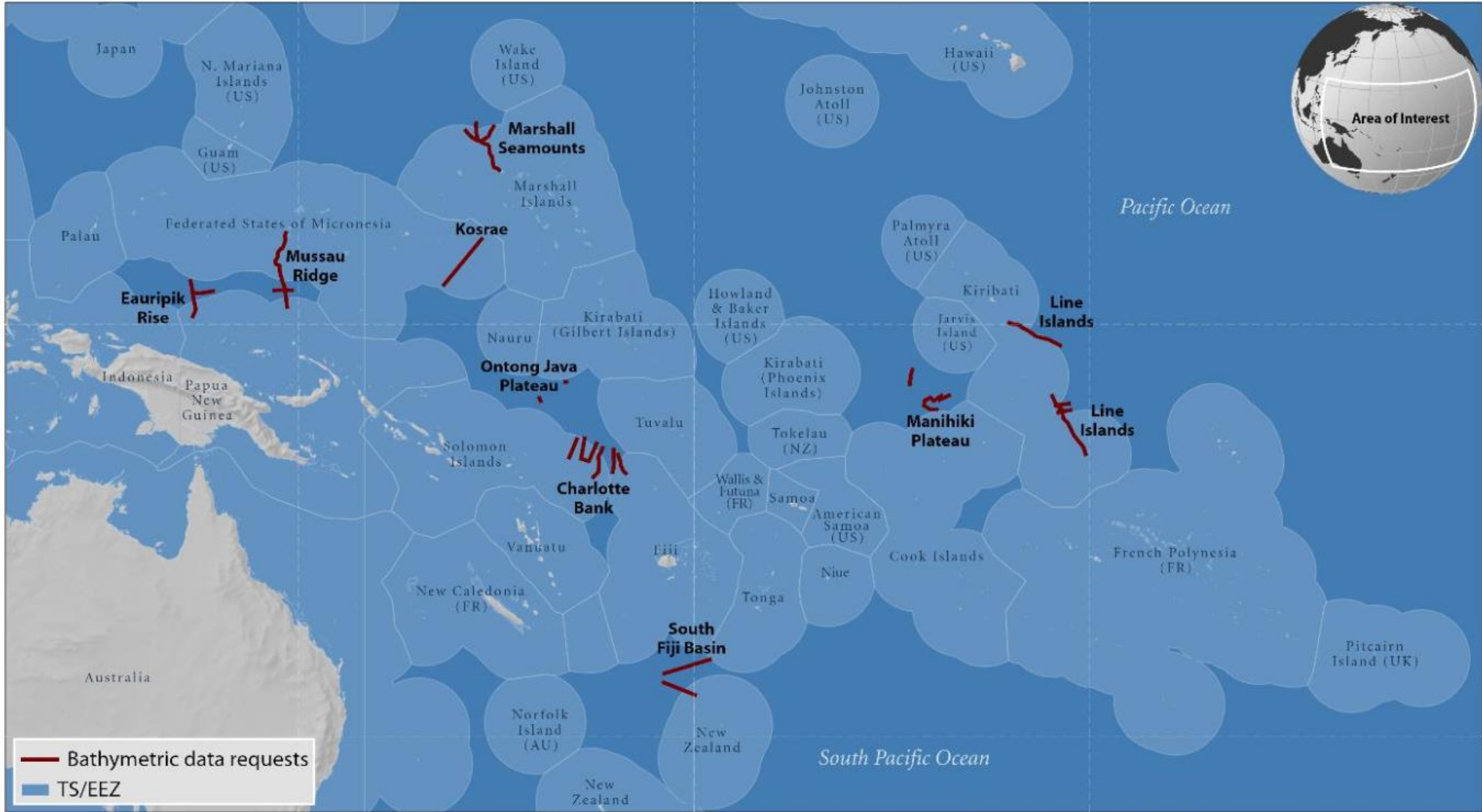
MLB is a foundation layer for **Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI)** and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP).

Pacific Extended Continental Shelf Project



ECS Area	Countries	Status
South Fiji Basin	FJ	Cabinet Approval To submit to UNDOALOS
ECS Area	Countries	Status
North Fiji Basin	FJ/VU/SB	Awaiting Cabinet approval
Melanesian Borderland Plateau	FJ & SB	Cabinet approval complete. To submit to UNDOALOS
ECS Area	Countries	Status
Ontong Java Plateau	FM/PG/SB	Under review
Eauripik Rise	PG	In Progress
Mussau Ridge	PG	In Progress
SB Enclave	SB	In Progress
Manihiki Plateau	CK	In final stages of CLCS

Extended Continental Shelf Data gap



Marine Geospatial Information Publication

2ND OCTOBER 2024

PRESS RELEASE

Meetings Coverage and Press Releases



Home Secretary-General ▼ General Assembly ▼ Security Council ▼ Economic and Social Council ▼ International Court of Justice

Press Release

SEA/2200
2 October 2024

Publication on Marine Geospatial Information Management Now Available

NEW YORK, 2 October (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea) — A General Assembly-mandated publication on marine geospatial information management has been released by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs.

This publication – available on the website of the Division at https://www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos_publications/doalos_publications.htm#MarineGeospatialInformationManagement – has been prepared by the Division on the basis of contributions by a Group of Experts nominated by Member States and intergovernmental organizations. Responding to a request contained in General Assembly resolution 77/248 of 30 December 2022 on oceans and the law of the sea, the publication raises awareness and promotes a better understanding of the role that well-structured infrastructure and systems for

ANNEX III: MARINE
GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT –
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS

PACIFIC
COMMUNITY

ANNEX III

55

SPC - Marine Geospatial Data



- The Pacific Community Centre for Ocean Science website: <https://pccos.spc.int/>
- Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac): - <https://gem.spc.int/projects/cosppac>
- Digital Earth Pacific website - <https://digitalearthpacific.org/>
- Maritime boundaries dashboard website - <https://pacificdata.org/dashboard/>
- Pacific Geospatial and Survey Council website - <http://pgsc.gem.spc.int/>
- Pacific regional navigational initiative website – <https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/pacific-regional-navigation-initiative>

...Finding Solutions

- Continuous capacity building – processing & analysis, software etc.
- Connecting the right dots...
- Partnership & Dedicated resources - in-country & PGSC
- Communication plan
- Co-draft research/science paper with experts/SPC – publish them in-country
- Individual country action items

THANK YOU!