



## Guam Ocean Planning Team

### Meeting

Adelup, Guam

April 16-17, 2018

#### **Meeting outcomes:**

1. Developed draft vision statement and set of draft goals
2. Articulated the GOPT's statement of purpose
3. Discussed stakeholder engagement

**Attendees:** Jason Biggs (University of Guam Marine Lab), Carl Dominguez (Bureau of Statistics and Plans (BSP)), Sarah Pautzke, Fran Castro, Manuel Cruz (BSP), Lola E. Leon Guerrero (BSP), Monica Guerrero (BSP), Millie Erguiza (BSP), Whitney Hoot (BSP), Edwin Reyes (BSP), Tino Aguon (Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources (DAWR)), Jay Gutierrez (DAWR), Dora C. Perez (Port Authority), Hilary Goodwin (Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC)), Valerie Brown (NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office (PIRO)), Karen Urelus (US Army Corps of Engineer), Felix Reyes (WPFMC's Guam Advisory Panel), Adrienne Loerzel (NOAA OCM), April Manibusan (BSP), Benjamin Pangelinan (Department of Parks and Recreation), Emily Blaz (BSP), Esther Camacho (BSP), Jeried Calaor (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Joe Quinata (Guam Historic Preservation Trust), Joseph Santos (Hagatna Restoration and Redevelopment Authority), Larla Brown (US Coast Guard), Mallory Morgan (BSP), Marvin Aguilar (Department of Land Management), Matt Sablan (Guam Department of Agriculture), Meriza Peredo (Guam Visitors Bureau), Rosaline Bersamin (Guam Police Department), Vincent Leon Guerrero (Governor's Climate Change Advisor), Chris Sablan (Guam Customs), Andres Reyes (NAVFAC MAR), Jesse Cruz (Guam EPA), Tina Mafnas (GEO), Jackie Hanson (Office of Regine Biscoe Lee), Pete Barcinas (Malesso Community), Marybelle Quinata (Guam Community Coral Reef Monitoring Coordinator), Senator Regine Biscoe-Lee (34<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature), Maria Kotermaier (UOG).

The Guam Ocean Planning Team meeting opened with a welcome by GOPT Team Lead Carl Dominguez, followed by a welcome by Dr. Jason Biggs, both of whom are the Governor's nominees to represent Guam on the Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body (PI RPB). Additionally, Dr. Biggs serves as the PI RPB's non-federal co-lead.

Ms. Sarah Pautzke, coordinator of the PI RPB, provided a brief description of what this team was created to do: develop an ocean plan for Guam and provide input into the data tools to support spatial planning that are being developed by the PI RPB's Data Team. Ms. Fran Castro served as facilitator.

#### **OCEAN PLANNING REVIEW**

The Guam Ocean Planning Team (GOPT) received a brief overview of the National Ocean Policy (NOP),

what ocean planning is, and what drivers can exist. The team members also received the update from the recent February 2018 PI RPB meeting.

PI RPB Meeting Outcome 1: The PI RPB agreed to several 2018 goals. The goals pertaining to Guam: continue ocean planning in Guam, transfer data portal prototype to a permanent site and identify data gaps, conduct CMSP training on Guam, and develop a stakeholder engagement plan for Guam. The data portal and data gaps goal also benefit the other US territories and Hawaii.

PI RPB Meeting Outcome 2: The PI RPB reviewed its Mid-Point Process Assessment and identified priority actions, including ensuring clear and tailored messaging in Guam about the goals for the effort and engaging key government leaders in Guam. Another priority action relevant to Guam is identifying and engaging local staff to help support the ocean planning effort.

Regarding **funding**, the PI RPB is applying for grants to fund its efforts. This includes federal grants as well as grants offered by private foundations. The grant money would support the Guam Ocean Planning Team meetings, stakeholder engagement, CMSP training, and PI RPB Data Team work, among other efforts. The PI RPB is looking for people skilled in grant writing to be part of the PI RPB's Finance Team.

## **TYING THE OCEAN PLANNING EFFORT TO LOCAL EFFORTS**

### *Malesso*

Mr. Peter Barcinas detailed the efforts to date in Malesso. Mr. Barcinas grew up fishing in different fisheries utilizing traditional fishing methods passed down through generations. The knowledge has not been preserved; it needs to be embedded in everyday life to be maintained. For ocean planning, we can balance growth, development, and the needs of coastal people by asking fishermen how they are being affected. Input is needed from communities to understand what the communities need to continue their culture and way of life so that resource management and grassroots conservation is balanced. Planning must be flexible and incentivize good behavior.

Ms. Valerie Brown added additional details regarding the engagement around the Malesso Community Management Plan, which was facilitated by the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council. The effort set a good example of incorporating information from the community regarding what is important to the community. There are conflicts in Cocos Lagoon and issues with PCB contamination. The challenge was getting stakeholder input from the broader village community. Ms. Brown explained that the purpose of the Habitat Blueprint in Malesso is to protect fish habitat and includes extensive and ongoing community engagement. One issue is identifying who has what mandate and what are the existing legal authorities, which is making plan implementation problematic. She also conveyed that people do not understand who to go to for permits and planning information because they are not familiar with existing laws, regulations, zones, and responsibilities, so one aim of the Guam Ocean Plan should be to capture that information. Another aim should be to include broad stakeholder input from multiple user groups and the government agencies that are expected to implement the plan.

A GOPT member with Mr. Barcinas, stating that it is important to increase local control over the planning process. Another GOPT member pointed out that this effort must be cognizant of the family being the most important value for Chamorro people, and that there are many different cultures now living on Guam that may not align with the Chamorro culture. Another comment was that we need to engage policy makers in this process, not just natural resource managers.

Ms. Brown was asked why the community wasn't more involved in the process – was it a lack of communication, apathy, or something else? Ms. Brown described the efforts to do household surveys of every house in Malessa for the Habitat Blueprint to understand the perceptions, attitudes, and knowledge about natural resources. Despite communicating with the mayor and delivering fliers, there was a very low turnout at the meetings due to the precedent of people coming to talk *at* communities.

#### *Humatak*

Mr. Joe Quinata of the Humatak Community Foundation, described the law that was just passed by the Guam Legislature to give the community the right to manage their own fishing rights and protect their fisheries from outsiders. Based on a survey done a couple months previously, few people knew about the bill. Regarding development of this effort – the process and science need to be accessible to the community. Unfortunately, the scientists are available during the day and the communities are available in the evenings. The community is responsible for the resources all the time. He stated that we need to get back to working at the community level.

#### *Tying the Efforts*

These efforts in Merizo and Humatak are locally driven from a need within the community. Likewise, the aim is for the ocean planning effort to be driven locally, but at a territory-wide scale. All efforts are not creating new legislation, but instead are holistic integrated approaches to ocean use and caring for Guam's resources. Data is integral to the ocean planning effort that extends from the shoreline to the outer extent of the EEZ.

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The GOPT members developed a statement of purpose for their effort. A statement of purpose helps articulate what we are doing and why, and should be simple and easy to understand. It is a statement that helps guide our process and provides an easy explanation to people outside the effort, such as legislators, public, and others within agencies.

Discussion regarding the statement of purpose include that an objective of the GOPT should be to develop a communication strategy to help communities understand concepts like "spatial." Also, this plan should be a place where developers come to understand laws and regulations, and people can come to find options. They should be clear simple words that speak to the community.

GOPT members split into 5 small groups to develop draft statement of purposes. After selecting the one they liked best, the large group refined the statement of purpose to read:

***Guam's Ocean Plan will provide tools to visualize existing information, and identify data and policy gaps for the collaborative planning of marine uses by local and federal governments, industry, and communities. The Ocean Plan promotes sustainable and compatible uses for the diverse communities and user groups to support a resilient and thriving Guam. Engagement of local stakeholders is crucial during the development of Guam's Ocean Plan to attain a product that is useful and relevant for current and future generations.***

### **VISION STATEMENT DEVELOPMENT**

There are already great examples to build upon. Guam's Department of Agriculture did a similar visioning exercise and thus has a vision the GOPT can look to. The Guam 2065 Plan also has a vision the GOPT can look to.

Attendees participated in a short visioning exercise in October 2017 to begin reflecting on a vision that could be advanced with a coastal and marine spatial plan. The Guam OPT developed a draft vision based on adjectives that the Guam OPT identified in the October 2017 meeting, words from vision and mission statements for several Guam agencies and federal agencies, and reviewing the vision statements developed for the PI RPB, American Samoa OPT, and CNMI OPT.

In small groups, GOPT members developed five vision statements. GOPT members reviewed all five draft statements as a large group, picked one, then refined it. The resulting draft vision for Guam's ocean planning effort is:

***A resilient, thriving Guam that adaptively manages marine resource use and access across cultures and diverse communities.***

## **GOALS**

Goals are end results of efforts – what we hope to achieve. Typically, these are an about-face from a concern. There is no one way to do this. GOPT members reviewed goals developed by the Mid Atlantic, New England, American Samoa, and CNMI. They then participated in an exercise to turn concerns to goals. The five groups developed a few goals based on concerns, then in a large group, reviewed the goals the small groups developed. After discussion and refinement, the GOPT members agreed to the following draft goals:

- 1. Healthy marine and coastal ecosystems***
- 2. Sustainable ocean uses***
- 3. Effective stakeholder engagement***

## **DATA**

The PI RPB Data Team is working to develop a mapping interface and data portal for ocean planning. The prototype portal developed by the Naval Postgraduate School has, for Guam, data layers that include coastal features and beaches, elevation, shoreline, hydrology, marine protected area boundaries, benthic habitat, military bases, shipping, anchorage areas, aids to navigation, and airports. (<http://www.oc.nps.edu/CMSP/>). Data has been preliminarily identified by the PI RPB Data Team as relevant for ocean planning in the Western Pacific.

Guam has participatory GIS capability, which could allow the GOPT to get additional use data from communities and other stakeholder groups throughout Guam that could be utilized as an informative data set.

***The GOPT recommendation to the PI RPB's Data Team (refer to last page of this summary for the list presented to the GOPT):*** include the following additional items in the list of data needed for ocean planning: Policies and regulations, landownership (e.g. upland, tidal), public access (e.g. beaches), MPAs and defacto MPAs, wastewater facilities, ocean-born marine debris, contaminant sites, anchorage and fuel pipelines, historic harbors (culturally important areas), flooding (river drainages), non-historical shipwrecks (e.g. grounded/derelict vessels), historic shipwrecks, shoreline erosion, off roading areas, point and non-point source pollution, zoned areas for recreational use, underwater cable lines, registered underwater sites, rip tides and other hazards, mooring buoys, traditional fishing sites, land use cover change, traditional cultural places, critical habitat/EFH/ESA species, zoning under governance, aquifer drainages (Tumon and northwest coast), freshwater seeps and springs, and dive spots.

## **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

Stakeholder engagement is a critical part of the ocean planning process. GOPT members discussed how best to engage stakeholders. Mr. Joe Quinata detailed engagement within the Humatak community for his non-profit work. One major take-home point: use a pull strategy, not a push strategy. In other words, do not push the issue onto them, ask for input instead and start a dialogue. He also put forth that stakeholder engagement should not be a goal, but instead should be a foundation of this effort. And, we should ensure we are sensitive to the culture.

A suggestion was to make stakeholder engagement a guiding principle. However, it was pointed out that while stakeholder engagement should be inherent in all our work, it is unfortunately not always a reality. Maintaining it as a goal emphasizes its importance and draws attention to it. It may allow us to dedicate more resources to it. GOPT members agreed that it also means that when we go to communities, we are saying that we will not do this effort without their input. GOPT members agreed to keep it as a goal instead of elevating it to a guiding principle.

A GOPT member suggested that a good place to target engagement is during pocket meetings for Guam elections which lead to high voter turnout. These usually take place in a village or community area and could be an ideal place and time to reach out the community members.

GOPT members provided important input regarding stakeholder engagement for this effort, including that we need to go to communities several times for effective engagement and ensure the right people are invited.

When asked how long the GOPT would need to solicit feedback on the vision, GOPT members replied that:

- pocket meetings are happening right now during the political season, but agencies do not have the resources to staff those
- communities need to be approached on their timelines, which could take six months with at least one person dedicated to outreach
- we should leverage meetings so that there is already an audience, and
- higher level meetings with port groups, the chamber, and mayors can happen in two weeks, but engaging communities would take much longer.

Additional stakeholder engagement insight from GOPT members:

- Talking points should include a timetable so that communities know we will come back and when
- Engagement should include the vision, goals, and prototype data portal to better demonstrate how the tool and plan is useful
- Provide different formats of the materials like written feedback opportunities or one-on-one conversations
- We should try to calendar the engagement plan so that we can leverage other meetings.

## **Moving Forward**

We are awaiting on funding to come through before we can continue the effort. Several grants have been applied for. The goal is to have ocean planning training in October 2018 for GOPT members who've not already had the training, as well as community members and targeted stakeholders.

Relevant Links:

<http://www.oc.nps.edu/CMSP/>

[Mid Atlantic Ocean Data Portal](#)

[PaclOOS](#)

[www.PacificIslandsRPB.org](http://www.PacificIslandsRPB.org)

## PI RPB Data Categories

### 1.1 Sub-Region Description

- 1.1.1 Location
- 1.1.2 Climatology
- 1.1.3 Geology/Soil/Topography
- 1.1.4 Substrate, benthic environment
- 1.1.5 Hydrology
- 1.1.6 Oceanography
- 1.1.7 Governance
- 1.1.8 Population

### 1.2 Indicator Species (with input from Fed Agency, State Agency, Public)

- 1.2.1 Marine Mammals
- 1.2.2 Marine Reptiles
- 1.2.3 Fish
- 1.2.4 Coral

### 1.3 Water Quality

- 1.3.1 Nearshore Surface Water Quality
- 1.3.2 Off-Shore Water Quality Concerns

### 1.4 Economics (what are each area's main economic drivers?)

- 1.4.1 Tourism
- 1.4.2 Military
- 1.4.3 Subsistence
- 1.4.4 Fishing/Aquaculture
- 1.4.5 Shipping
- 1.4.6 Energy

### 1.5 Uses

- 1.5.1 Boating
- 1.5.2 Shipping
- 1.5.3 Energy
- 1.5.4 Offshore offal pipes
- 1.5.5 Moorings
- 1.5.6 Commercial fishing
- 1.5.7 Beach Use
- 1.5.8 Surfing
- 1.5.9 Recreational fishing
- 1.5.10 Viewsheds
- 1.5.11 Emerging Uses (renewable energy, mining)

### 1.6 Culture

- 1.6.1 Human History
- 1.6.2 Culturally Important Areas

### 1.7 Security/Access

- 1.7.1 Harbors
- 1.7.2 Navigation Aids
- 1.7.3 Airports
- 1.7.4 Airspace
- 1.7.5 Military

### 1.8 Climate Change

- 1.8.1 Vulnerable coastlines
- 1.8.2 Ocean Changes