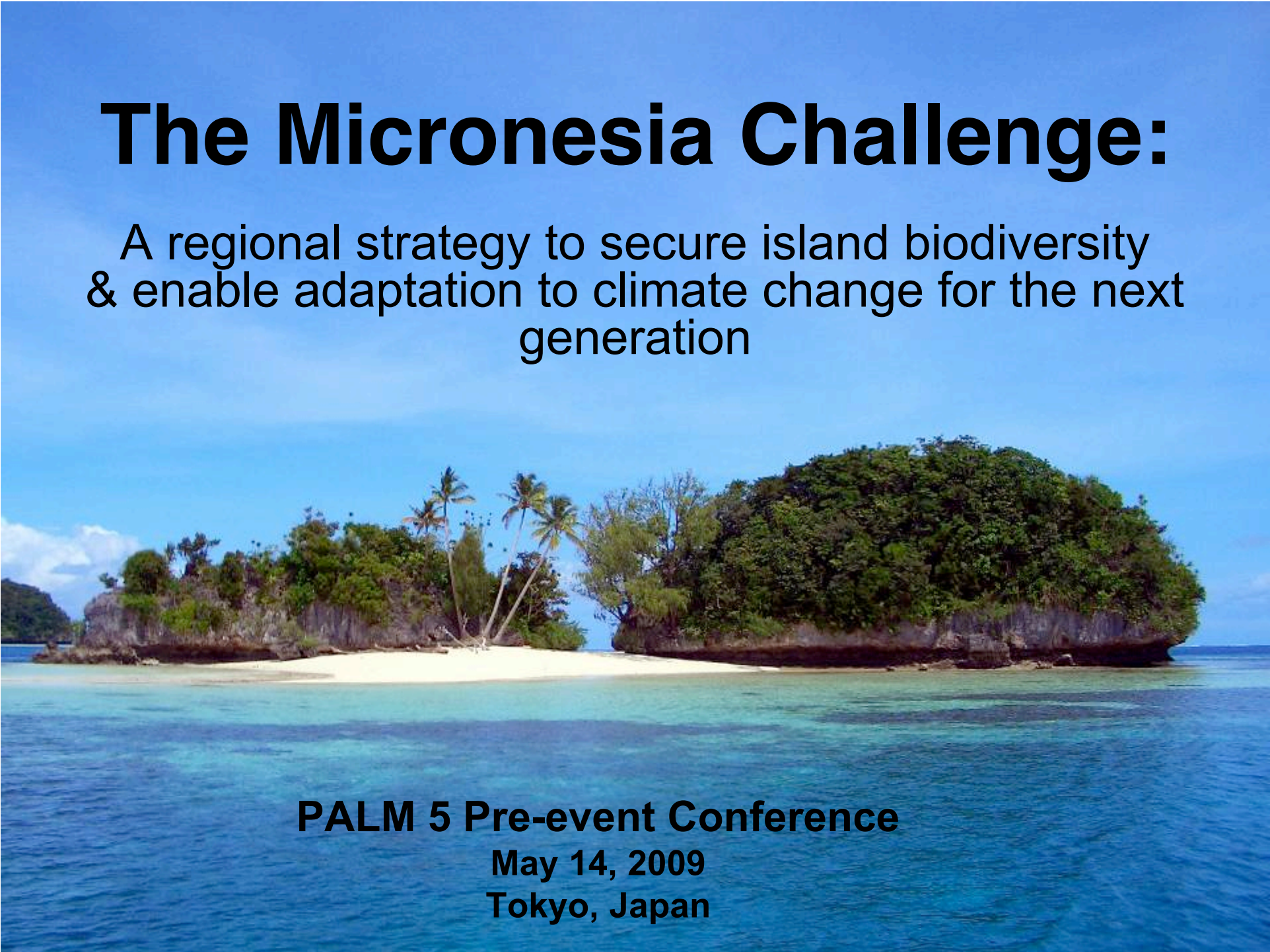# The Micronesia Challenge:

A regional strategy to secure island biodiversity & enable adaptation to climate change for the next generation

PALM 5 Pre-event Conference

May 14, 2009
Tokyo, Japan

Overview of MC

- What is the MC?

- MC's role in climate change adaptation in Micronesia

- Identified strategy

- Top four issues (4th IPPC Report)

- Recommendations

Overview

> ➢ The governments of Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated State of Micronesia, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

> ➢ Agree to effectively conserve 30% of the near shore marine resources and 20% of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2020

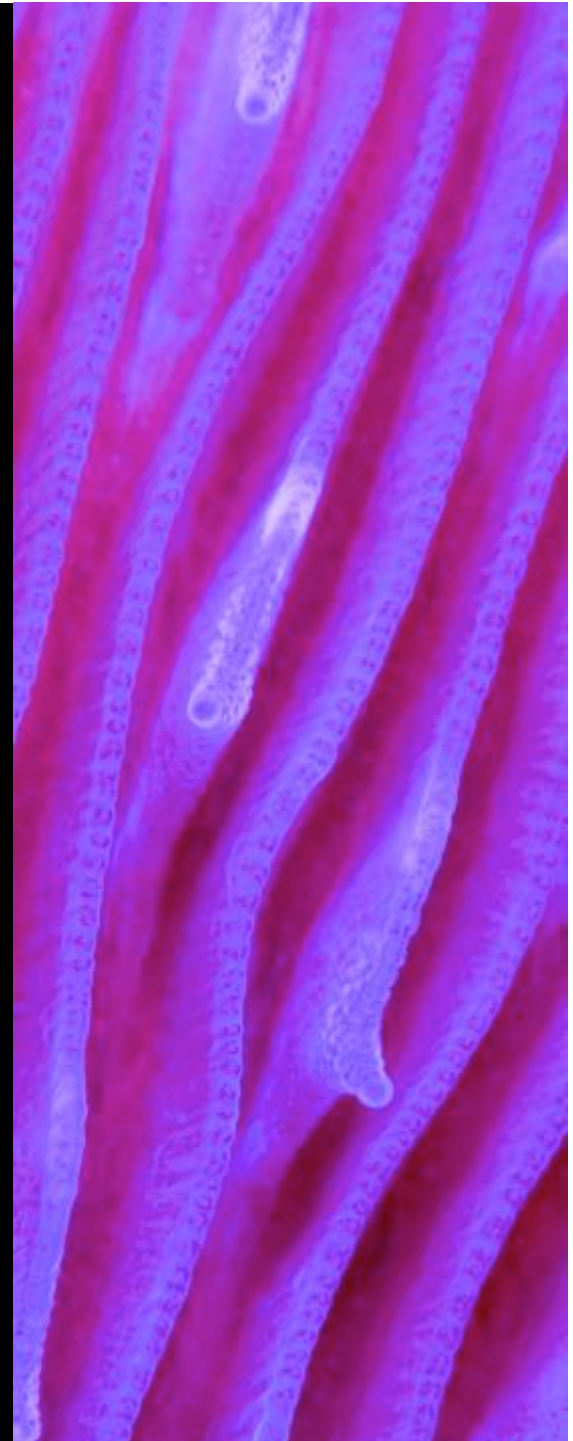Opportunity

MC's Role in CC Adaptation

- Seek and gain international support

- Increase understanding of CC impacts

- Identify risk reductions

- Collaborate on productive adaptation work w/in the Micronesia Challenge region

**Climate Change & the Micronesia Challenge:
Ways Forward in Collaboration & Adaptation**
April 14-17, 2009
Majuro, RMI

4th IPPC Report w/ Top 4 Issues

1. Sea level rise

2. Deterioration in coastal conditions

3. Reduced water resources

4. Increasing threat of invasive species

Marshall Islands Example:
State of emergency declared in Nov '08

1. 700 people displaced in Majuro and Arno Atolls

2. Loss of food crops due to salt water intrusion

3. 7 homes destroyed (many more damaged)

4. $1.5m estimated cost of damage

5. Lack of fresh water due to little or no rain.

MC Strategy to address the Top Four Threats

❖ Through empowering and enabling the Micronesians to be able to take care of themselves as much as possible

- Establish regular source of funds (MC Endowment)

- To increase awareness & capacity

- Enable standardized assessment & predictive modelling – connecting sites and actors

- To develop policies that support resilience of ecosystems & livelihoods

Recommendations

- Begin a regular dialogue

- Identify assistance to MC that can be provided
    - right away
    - 3 years from now
    - > 3 years from now

- Identify a collaborative strategy to achieve the immediate, medium-term and long-term goals

Thank you!