

Oceans and the Blue Economy

**Opportunities &
practical
approaches**

Gerald Miles

Regional Director, External
Affairs & Policy

The Nature Conservancy

The Nature
Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

What is a Blue Economy?

Investment in sustainable practices that support the services provided by oceans and coasts to the health, prosperity and well-being of coastal societies and economies

What Progress?

- The state of the oceans has continuously and seriously worsened since 1992, despite some local or sectoral successes which remain scattered
- International policy frameworks unable to deal with the scale of the problems

What's needed

The same solutions remain relevant:

1. MPAs for “development” and in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
2. International regulation of offshore oil exploitation
3. **Regional action**
4. Reduction of land-based pollution
5. Tools to fight IUU fishing



What's different?

- Climate change/resilience
- New leadership
- Weak multilateralism
- Community mobilisation
- **Politically-enabled building blocks**

Reemergence of the regional approach

“Because “not every international environmental problem needs to be dealt with on a global level”, such regional arrangements have often given States the opportunity to go “closer, further and faster” than at the global level”

IDDRI Policy Brief, p.4-5

Alhéritière, D, (1982), “Marine pollution regulation. Regional approaches”, *Marine Policy*, July, pp. 162-174.

Rochette J., Chabason L., (2011), “A regional approach to marine environment: the regional seas experiences”, in

Jacquet P., Pachauri R., Tubiana L., *A Planet for life 2011, Oceans: the new frontier*, pp.111-121.



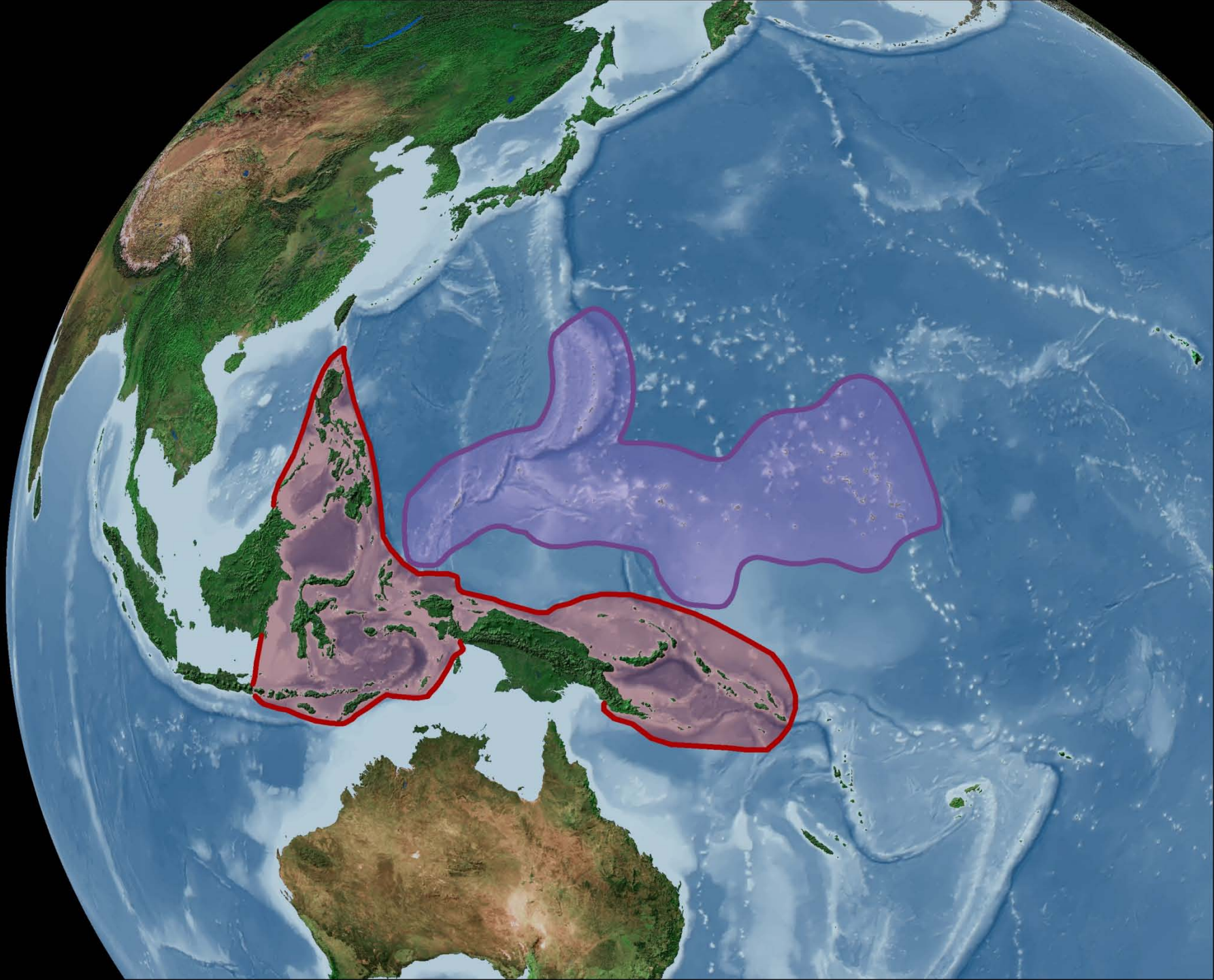


Asia Pacific *Economic (blue) Powerhouse*

“As the world's fastest-growing region - and home to more than half the global economy - Asia is critical to achieving my highest priority: creating jobs and opportunity...”

“..., this region will largely define whether the century ahead will be marked by conflict or co-operation, needless suffering or human progress”

President Obama addressing Australian Parliament
17th November 2011



Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI): coral reefs fisheries and food security



Connecting community action to a blue economy

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ClimateAndCommunity#p/u/8/LOL2CdCfRts>



Thank you