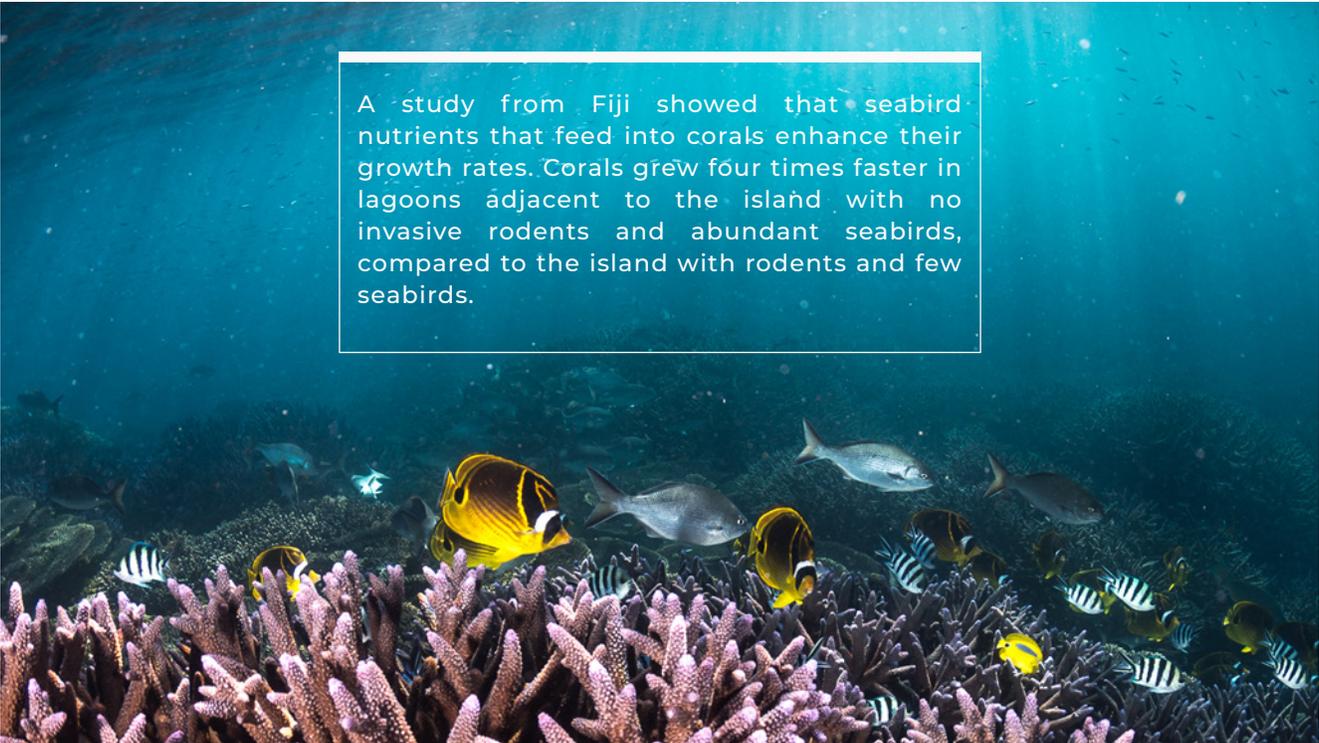


HOW DOES THE ISLAND-OCEAN CONNECTION CHALLENGE ADDRESS **THE THREATS TO OUR OCEANS?**

RESTORED AND REWILDED ISLANDS CAN DRAMATICALLY BENEFIT THE SURROUNDING OCEANS

Island and marine ecosystems flow into one another, with islands sharing nutrients vital to the ocean's plants and animals. Fish from those oceans feed birds that then travel great distances to deposit the rich nutrients on remote islands. And the entire process begins again.

THE ISLAND-OCEAN CONNECTION CHALLENGE FOCUSES ON MAXIMIZING THE BENEFITS TO THESE INTERCONNECTED ECOSYSTEMS.



A study from Fiji showed that seabird nutrients that feed into corals enhance their growth rates. Corals grew four times faster in lagoons adjacent to the island with no invasive rodents and abundant seabirds, compared to the island with rodents and few seabirds.

Island-to-ocean restorations benefit coral reefs, seagrass meadows, mangroves, and countless other elements of marine ecosystems.



40X30? ENHANCING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (MPAS)

There is strong and growing global commitment to protect at least 30 percent of the ocean by 2030 (30x30). The Challenge partners have set a goal of 40 islands and their interconnected oceans being restored, equitably protected, and effectively managed for future generations to bolster the 30x30 effort and enhance its benefits.

Improving the conservation status of marine protected areas (MPAs) is critical to securing the long-term health of our planet and ensuring sustainability. Because island-marine ecosystems anchor many MPAs, the Challenge prioritizes interventions on globally important islands for biodiversity that either lie within already-established MPAs, combine the restoration of islands with MPA expansions, or include the establishment of new MPAs.

BUILDING KEY PARTNERSHIPS

Indigenous Peoples have long understood and managed their natural resources in the context of island-to-sea connections. For example, Indigenous Hawaiians ensured sustainable natural resources and protection from storms, flooding, and high winds using ancient *ahupua'a* (watershed) systems, integrating farming zones, forested areas and fishponds. The Challenge prioritizes key local partnerships for an integrated, unified approach. The projects are tailored to each island's unique ecology and the needs of the local communities.



E ho'omaluo: mai ke kuahiwi i ke awawa, mai ke kahakai i ke kai hohonu. ("Conserve: From the mountain peak to the valley so deep, from the seashore to the ocean depths.")

JOIN US TODAY IN THIS CAMPAIGN OF HOPE AND RESILIENCE!

We're calling on funders, Indigenous Peoples, community champions, scientists, nongovernmental organizations, and governmental leaders to maximize the benefits to these interconnected ecosystems.

Support the Island-Ocean Connection Challenge at jointheiocc.org

For inquiries, fact sheets or interview requests, please email iocc@islandconservation.org