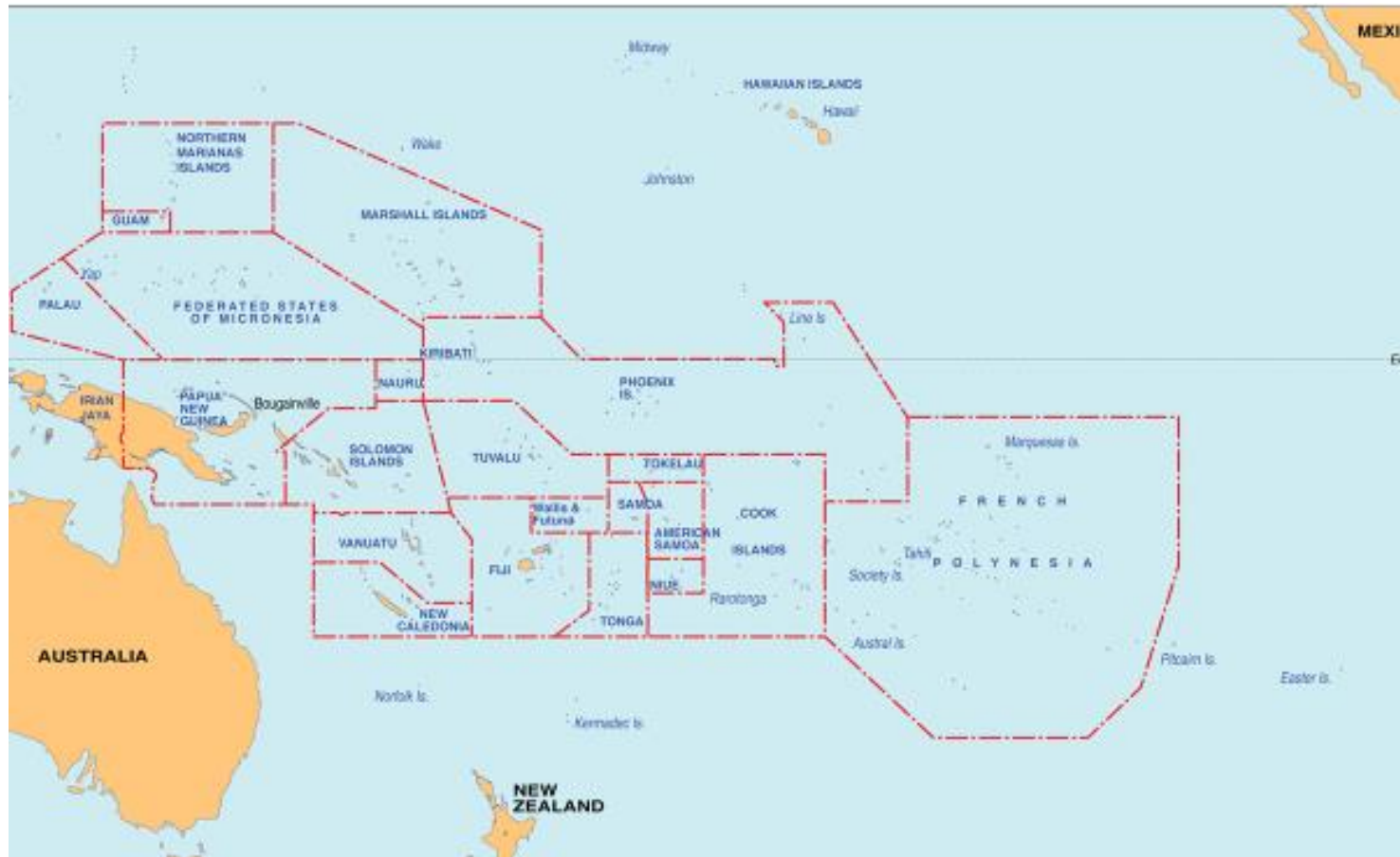


Climate and Migration in Oceania



John Campbell



Climate change migration

Induced migration

- ★ Declining resource base. Some members of a community might migrate in search of employment to reduce the pressure on the declining resource base and offset reductions in livelihoods of those who remain.

Forced Relocation

- ★ Whole communities no longer able to live in their current locations because of the loss of life support systems renders their homelands uninhabitable

Reasons for environmentally forced migration from PICs

✱ Loss of habitability

- ✱ Loss of land security
- ✱ Loss of livelihood security
- ✱ Loss of habitat security

} or any combination thereof

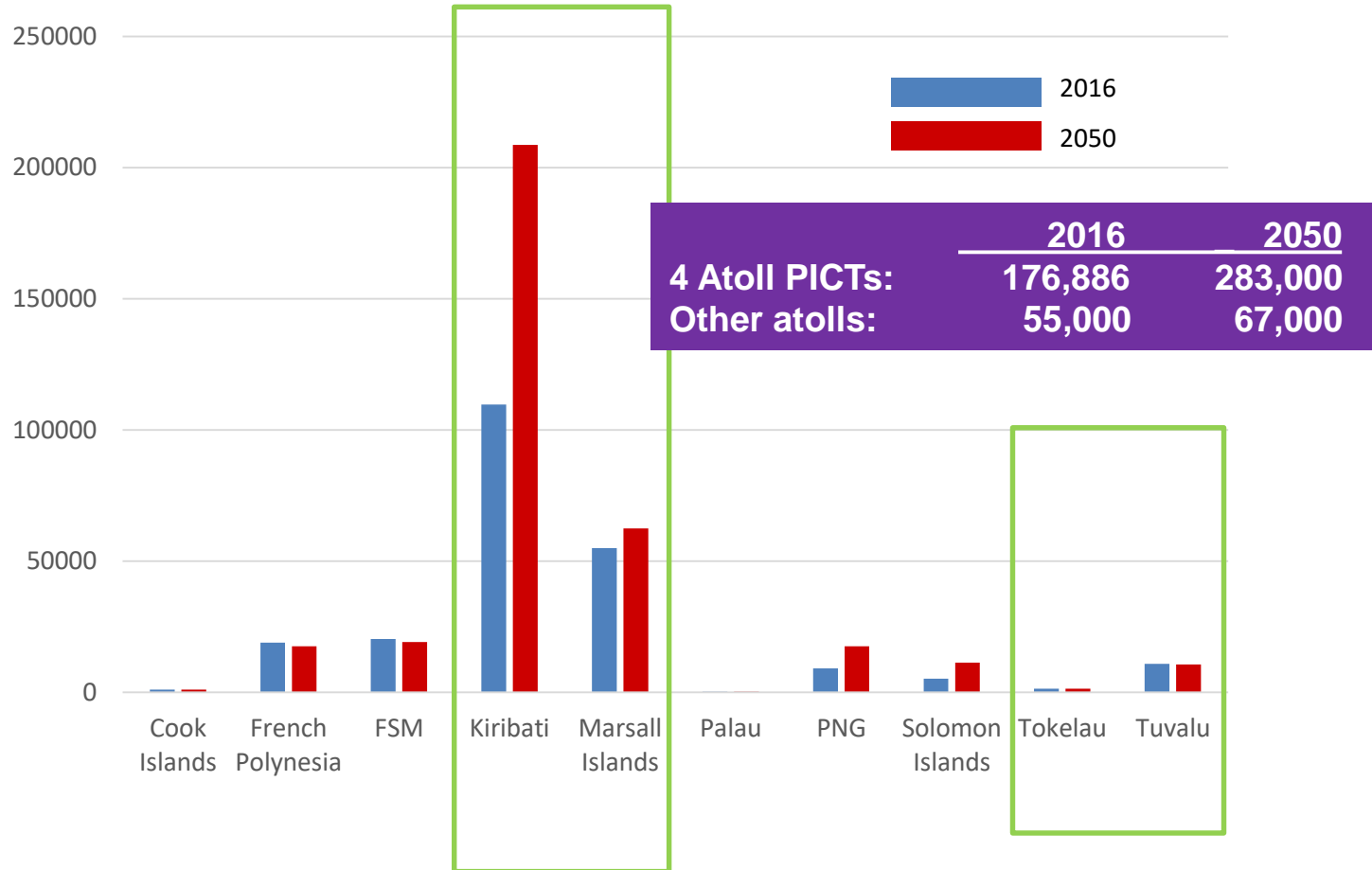
✱ Possible scenarios

- ✱ Atolls become uninhabitable (erosion, water shortages, food shortages)
- ✱ Coastal locations become uninhabitable (erosion, increased freq/magnitude of inundations)
- ✱ Riverine locations (especially deltas, but also flood plains) become uninhabitable (increased frequency / magnitude of floods)
- ✱ Areas subjected to successive droughts of high magnitude





Estimates of Pacific Atoll Populations



Coastal communities

Scenario	Potential Displaced Population	
	2016	2050
1% of total population	112,089	194,000
5 % of total population, but 1% of PNG population	234,391	365,000
10 % of total population, but 1% of PNG population	387,269	580,000
Based on SPC (2016) data		



River (and stream) flood plains and deltas

- ★ **Densely populated**

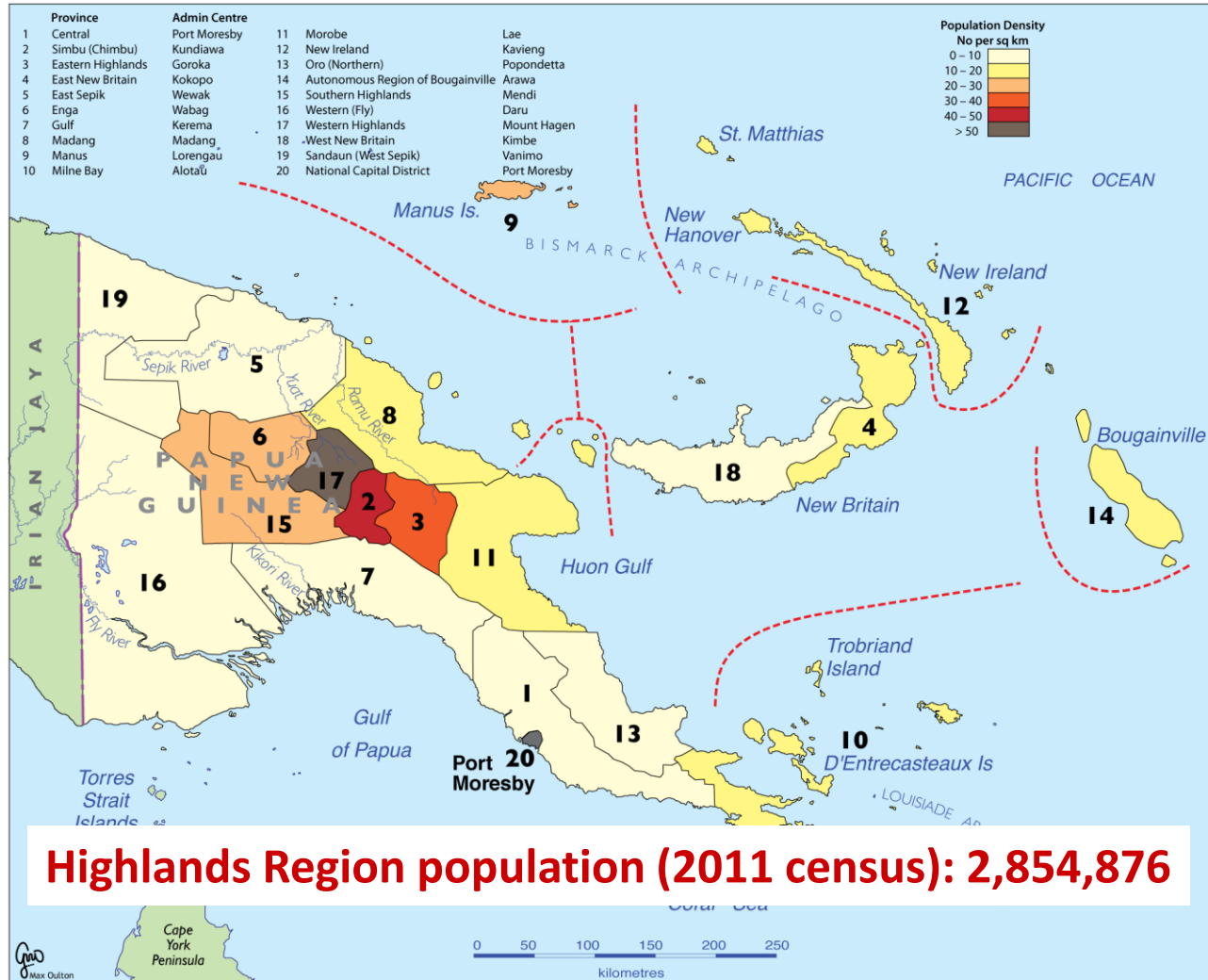
- ★ Fertile soils
- ★ Fresh water
- ★ Aquatic and marine resources (deltas)

- ★ **Scenarios:**

- ★ Inter-plate islands only: 1 and 5 per cent of total populations
- ★ 2016 populations: 100,000 to 500,000
- ★ 2050 populations: 180,000 to 900,000



Drought





Possible numbers significantly affected by 2050?

★ Scenarios:

	based on 2016 estimates		based on 2050 projections	
	low	high	low	high
Atolls	230,000	240,000	350,000	350,000
Coasts	95,000	350,000	195,000	580,000
Rivers	100,000	500,000	180,000	900,000
Totals	425,000	1,090,000	725,000	1,830,000

Note: this excludes people affected by droughts



The importance of land

★ Land and people are seen as being mutually inclusive

- ✱ Cannot have one without the other
- ✱ Land is part of kinship relations
- ✱ Land is central to culture
- ✱ Land cannot be bought or sold
- ✱ 95 per cent of Pacific Island land is in customary ownership





A Polynesian perspective

- ✱ ‘... in Cook Islands Maori, “enua” means “land, country, territory, afterbirth”: in Futuna (Wallace) “fanua” means “country, land , the people of a place”; in Tonga, “fonua” means “island, territory, estate, the people of the estate, placenta” and “fonualoto”, “grave”. We can see that in some Polynesian languages, proto-fanua is both the people and the territory that nourishes them, as a placenta nourishes a baby’. (Pond, 1997: 32)



The *vanua* in Fiji

Ravuvu (1988) – regarding Nakorosule, a village in central Viti Levu:

- ✳ The people ... cannot live without their physical embodiment in terms of their land, upon which survival of individuals and groups depends. It provides nourishment, shelter and protection, as well as a source of security and the material basis for identity and belonging. Land in this sense is thus an extension of the self; and conversely the people are an extension of the land. (p. 7)

Where to?

POSSIBLE DESTINATIONS

ORIGIN

Loss of:
Land
Habitability

A. Elsewhere within customary lands

B. Rural area: Someone else's land

C. Urban area: Someone else's land

Same
Country

D. Other PIC: Someone else's land

E. Beyond PICs: Fee simple? Rental?

Other
Country

Where to?



✿ Domestically

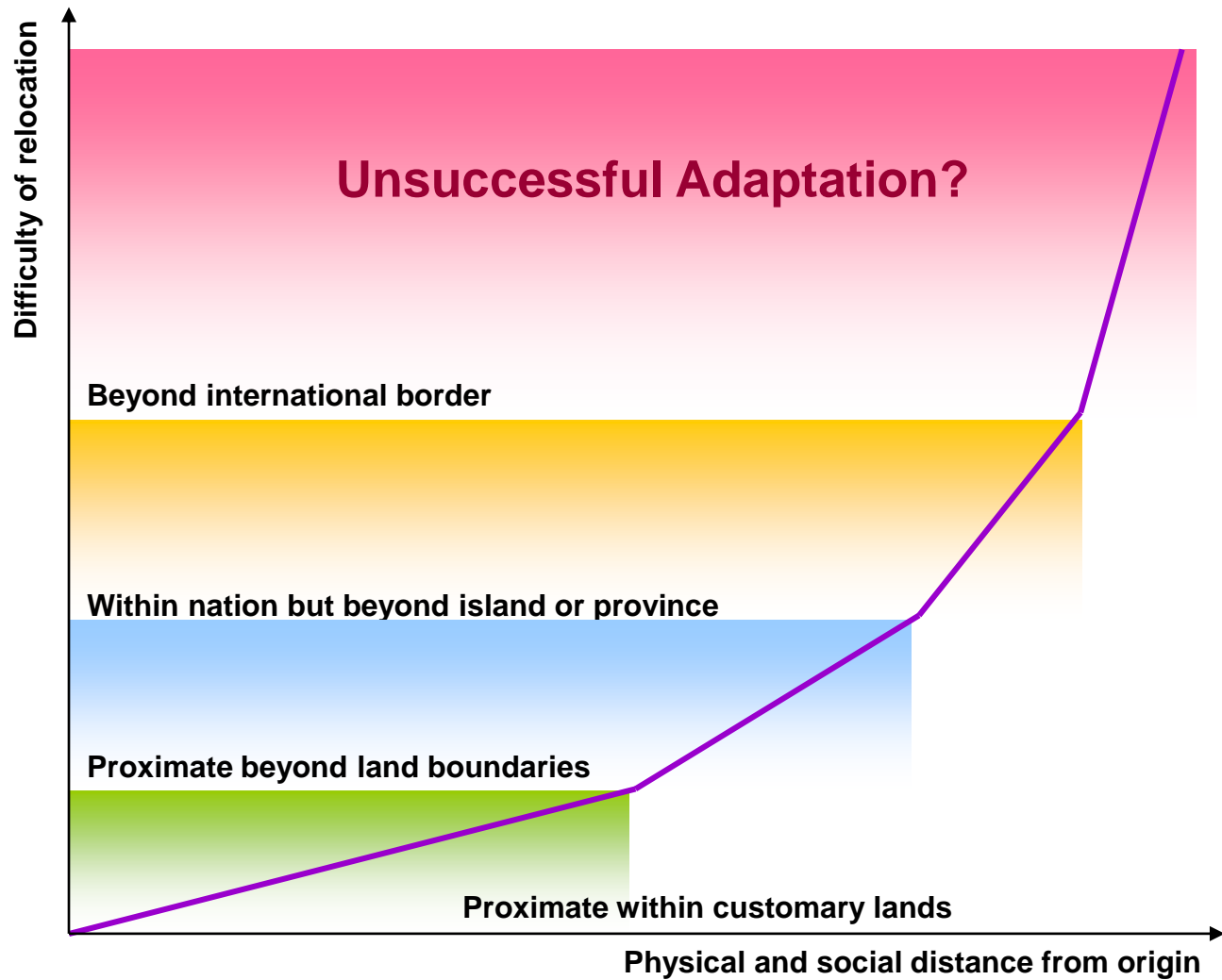
- * Atolls → Towns or high islands (if there are any)
- * Coasts → Inland and up or to town
- * River flood plains → Up or to town

✿ International (considering atoll PICTs only)

- * Atoll countries → Pacific high island countries (3 precedents)
- * Atoll countries and territory → (previous) Colonial countries and freely associated ones*
 - ▣ Australia, France, NZ*, UK, USA*
- * Atoll countries → Pacific rim countries
 - ▣ New Zealand, Australia, USA, others?
- * Atoll countries → Any other takers



Costs of Community Relocation





General Conclusions

- **Community relocation is:**

- **extremely difficult**
- **extremely costly**

Increase with distance

- ★ **There are long term costs**
 - ✱ **Tensions over land do not recede**
 - ✱ **Getting water up hill ... forever**
 - ✱ **Sense of loss**
- ★ **International relocation will be extremely difficult if not impossible**
 - ✱ **Community disintegration**
 - ✱ **Loss of culture**

Long term dialogue needed

Origin and destination

◆ **Countries**

◆ **Communities**

Who pays for the costs of:

◆ **Adaptive migrants**

◆ **Forced relocatees**



ありがとうございます