

# Echoes of the unprotected sea

Pacific nations hold marine treasures and the responsibility to preserve it.

Only 23.47% of Pacific marine areas are currently protected, offering a delicate barrier around some of the planet's richest and most vulnerable ocean habitats. These waters support exceptional biodiversity and are essential not just for the health of the planet, but for the daily lives of island communities whose traditions and economies are tied to the sea. Just as conch shells were once used by ancestral cultures to send messages across the waves, this visualization adopts that form: a shell that carries a message of urgency, calling for action to protect what remains of the ocean's living richness.

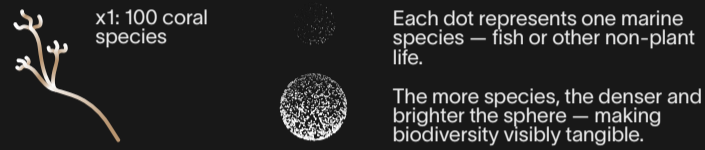
## How to read:

Each segment unfolds clockwise, from the largest to the smallest marine territories. Within each country, three nested layers reveal the extent of protected waters, the abundance of marine species, and the level of ecological risk. The more circles, the more urgent the call. This is the ocean speaking.

### Sea area (ZEE):

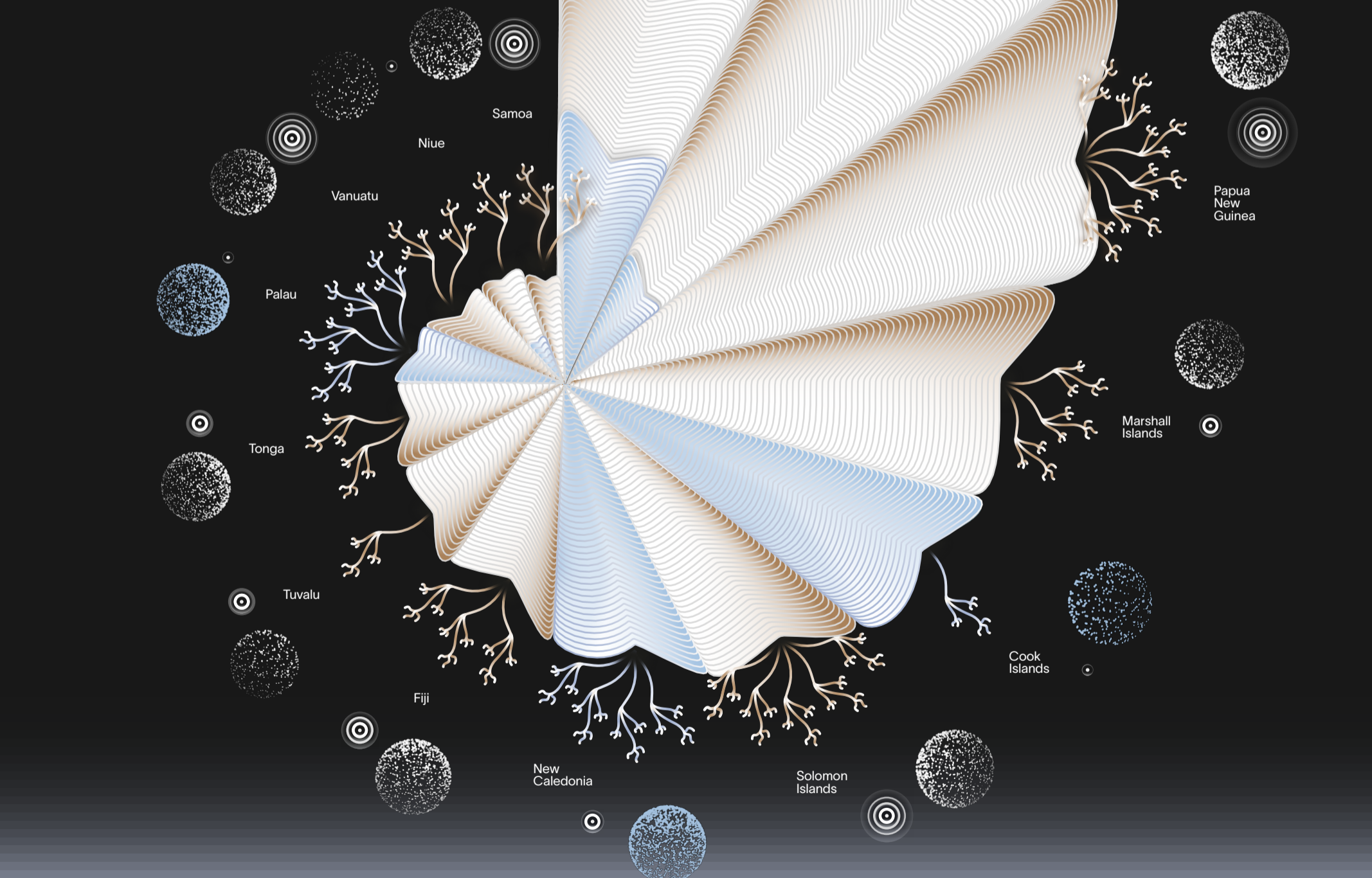


### Biodiversity:

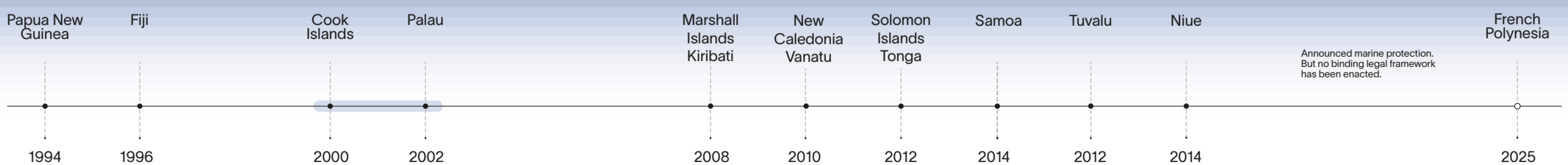


### Marine risk:

Each set of concentric circles visually represents the intensity of this pressure: the more circles, the higher the risk



### First marine area protected per country:



This visualization combines data from Marine Regions, Pacific Data Hub, SPREP, IUCN, CTI-CFF, WWF, and NOAA — integrating marine protection, biodiversity, risk, and exclusive economic zone data across the Pacific.