



European Research Area
for Climate Services

European Research Area for Climate Services ERA4CS - Transnational Collaborative Research Projects 2016
Topic A - Researching and Advancing Climate Services Development by Advanced co-development with users

User workshop in French Polynesia

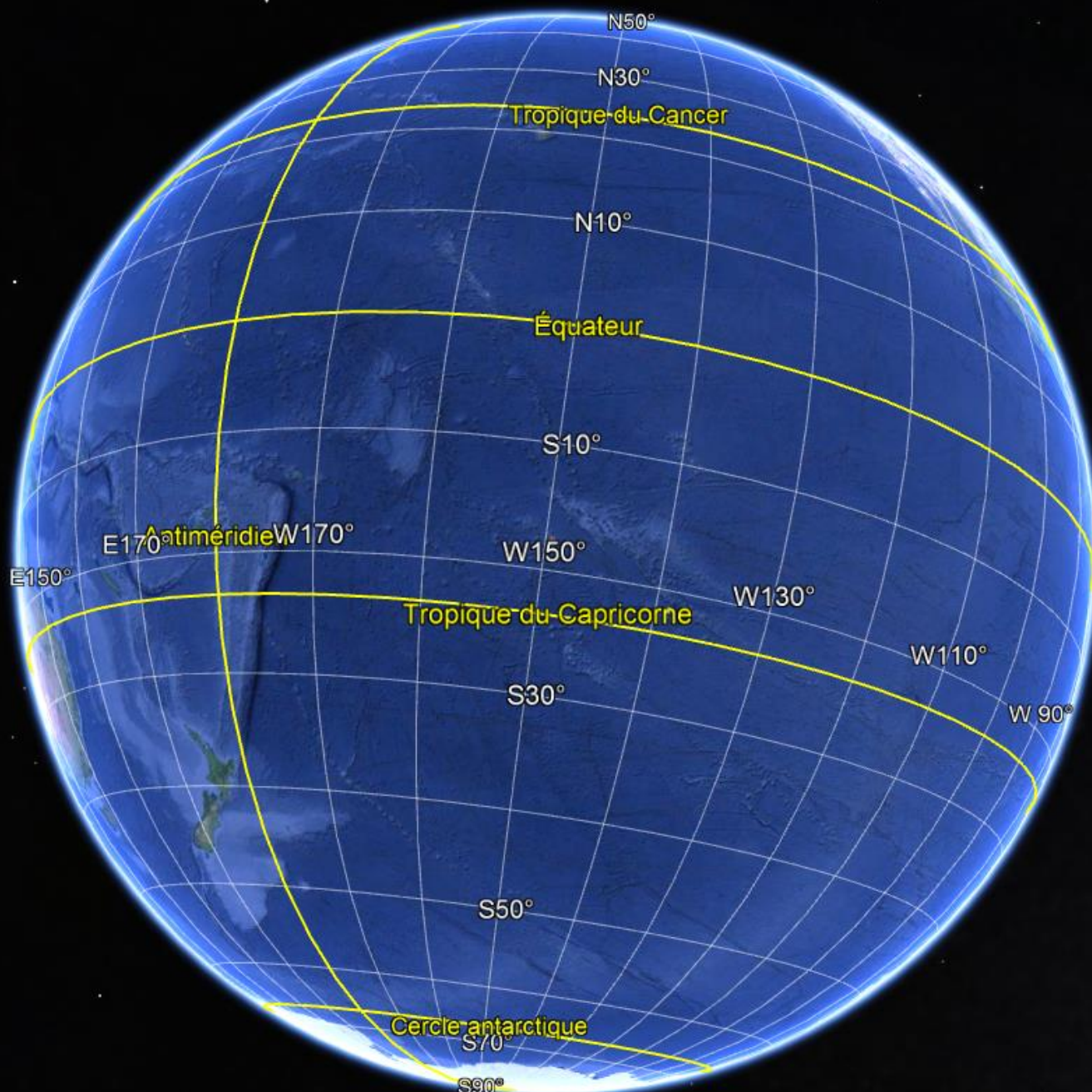
Main outputs of the two-days workshop with Polynesian stakeholders

22-23 March 2018, Papeete

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Patrice WALKER, Gonéri LE COZANNET





Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image IBCAO

Google Earth

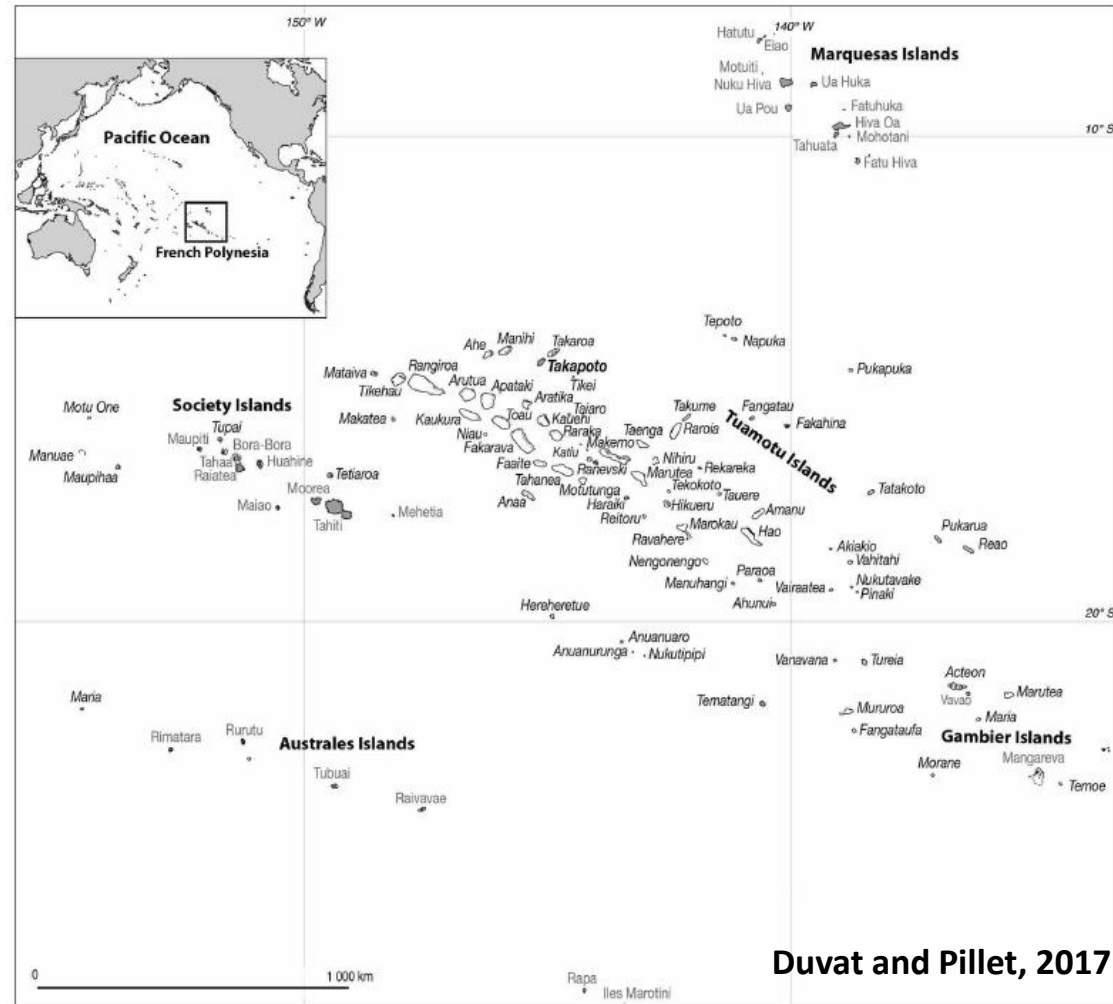
- 277,000 habitants
 - 170,000 in Tahiti
 - 16,000 in the Tuamotus
- 4200 km² of land over 2,5M km²
- 118 islands in 5 archipellagoes

Governance context

- French autonomous overseas territory: local government, French High Commission and State services established locally and a local assembly

Scientific community established locally:

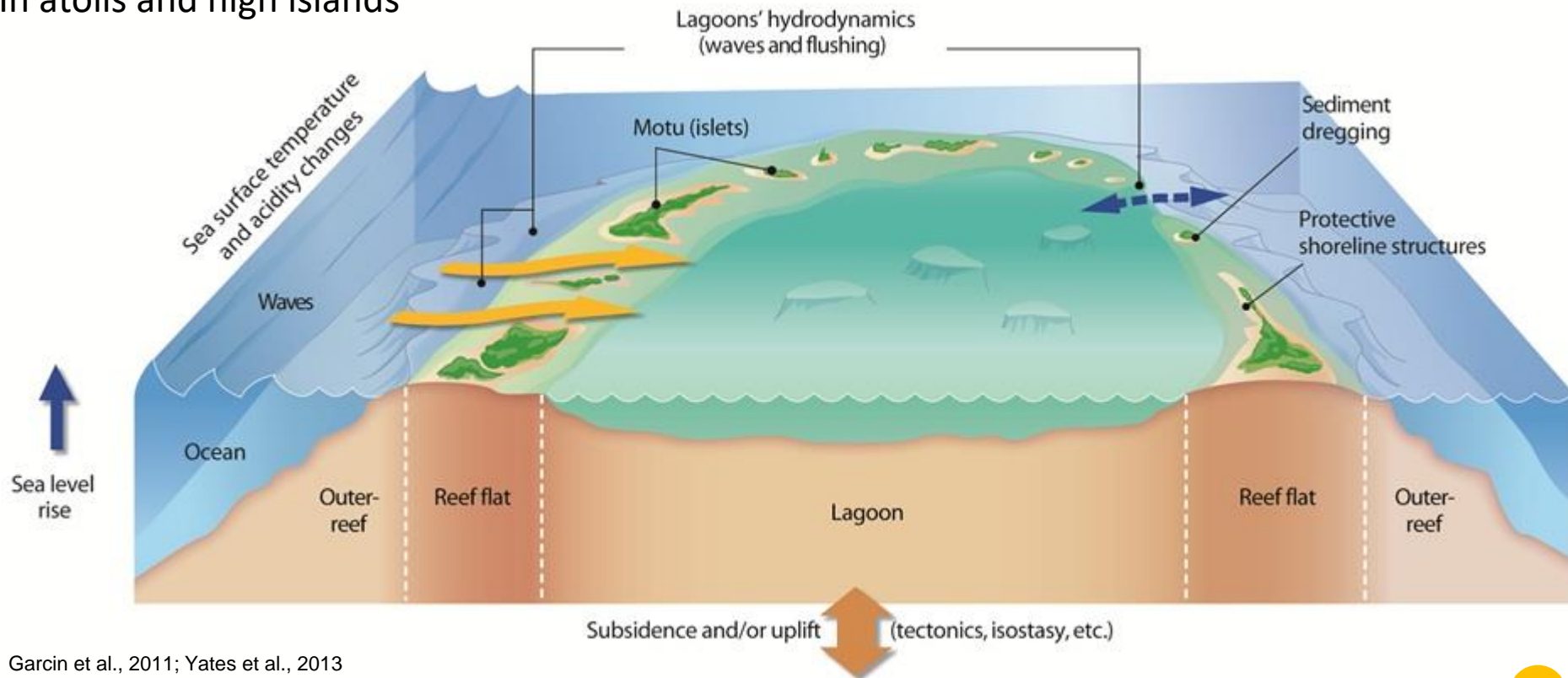
- Coral ecosystems, land ecosystems, geodesists... in the university of French Polynesia, institutes established locally or with a local antenna (Criobe, Ifremer, SHOM, BRGM...) and local companies (e.g., Creoccean...)



- Flooding: cyclones, seasonal waves, lagoon flushing
- Erosion and shoreline change
- Groundwater resources

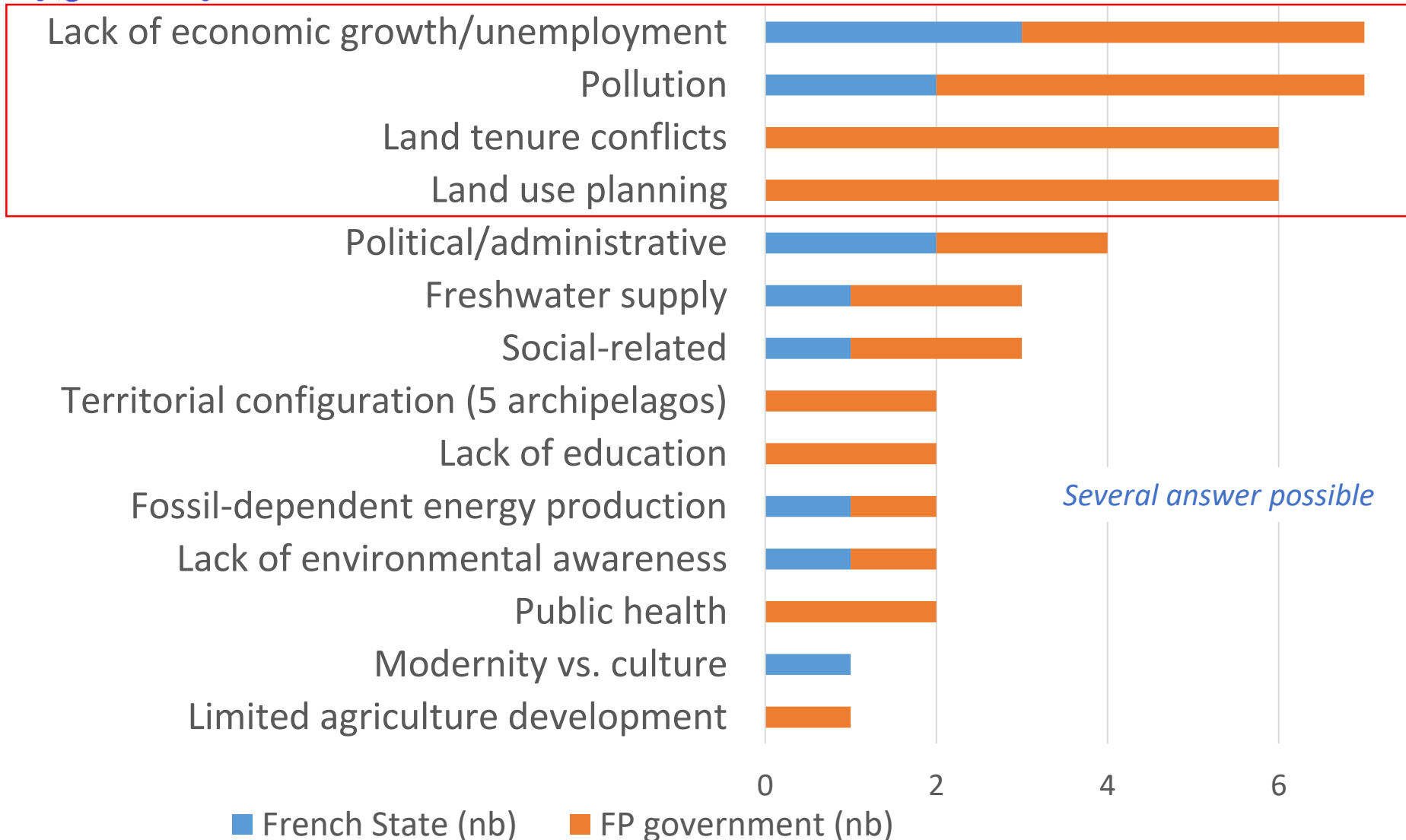


In atolls and high islands

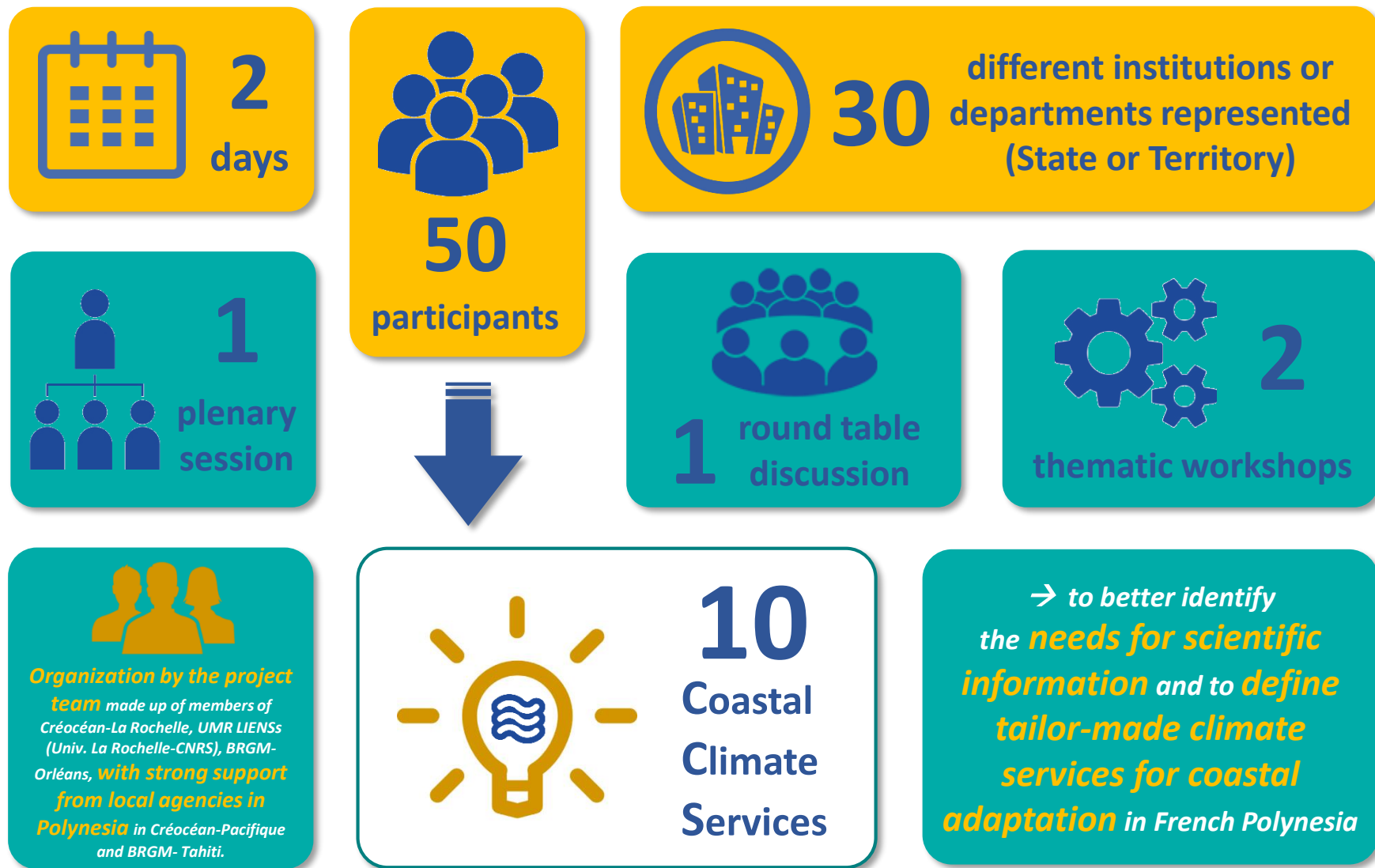


Garcin et al., 2011; Yates et al., 2013

Results from interviews: issues in French Polynesia



Climate change is not perceived a major problem yet, despite interest in science information





Coastal climate services co-designed with workshop participants

Report

<http://inseaption.eu/>



→ As an outcome of the workshop, 10 coastal climate services were co-designed:

CCS 1

Sustainable development goals: performance indicators

CCS 2

Access to adaptation finance

CCS 3

Critical infrastructures and sea-level rise (airports and ports)

CCS 4

Professional training and new jobs

CCS 5

Erosion of recreational beaches

CCS 6

Habitability of low-lying atoll reef island (water resources and other vital resources, coastal risks, economic activities...)

CCS 7

Nature-based and Polynesian culture-based solutions

CCS 8

Participatory science to support the observation of impacts

CCS 9

Co-construction and sharing of knowledge (schools, associations, inhabitants)

CCS 10

Promote sustainable aggregate mining practices

For each CCS: a leader/facilitator, major proposals, and key partners have been identified

Some needs are already well formalized
(e.g., critical infrastructures, training)

Other needs are emerging, and require further interactions with users
(habitability, nature based solutions...)

INSeaPTION works on both type of needs, either with a stronger focus on physical science or interactions with users



INSeaPTION

Mauruuru !

Thank you!

Polynesia case study:



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<https://twitter.com/inseaption>

What are the barriers but also the tracks for the construction of relevant climate services?

Data needs

- at different time scales,
- to identify elements related to climate change in the short as well as in the longer term



Needs for further works on:

- Events of high frequency / low amplitude and their impacts:
- Strategy with regard to cyclonic risks



Finance and costs of sustainable development and adaptation

- today, climate change is **not a financial opportunity** in French Polynesia (vs. Maldives, and other territories): could explain the **weak mobilization** on this subject?
- **Better access** (knowledge) to **adaptation finance** could help to increase interest



Education and awareness is needed in the area of sea level rise and climate change

Concerns from critical infrastructures (airports and harbours)

Ecosystems and nature-based solutions, rather than costly engineering solutions



Needs in collaborations to ensure the quality of climate services rendered: manage the complementarities of the people/stakeholders involved!
Needs for better coordination of research and observations (Climate Energy Plan in particular), scientists and adaptation actors