



# NOO RAAJJE

1<sup>st</sup> Governance committee meeting  
9/6/2020

# What is the Blue Prosperity Coalition?



NGOs



SCIENTISTS

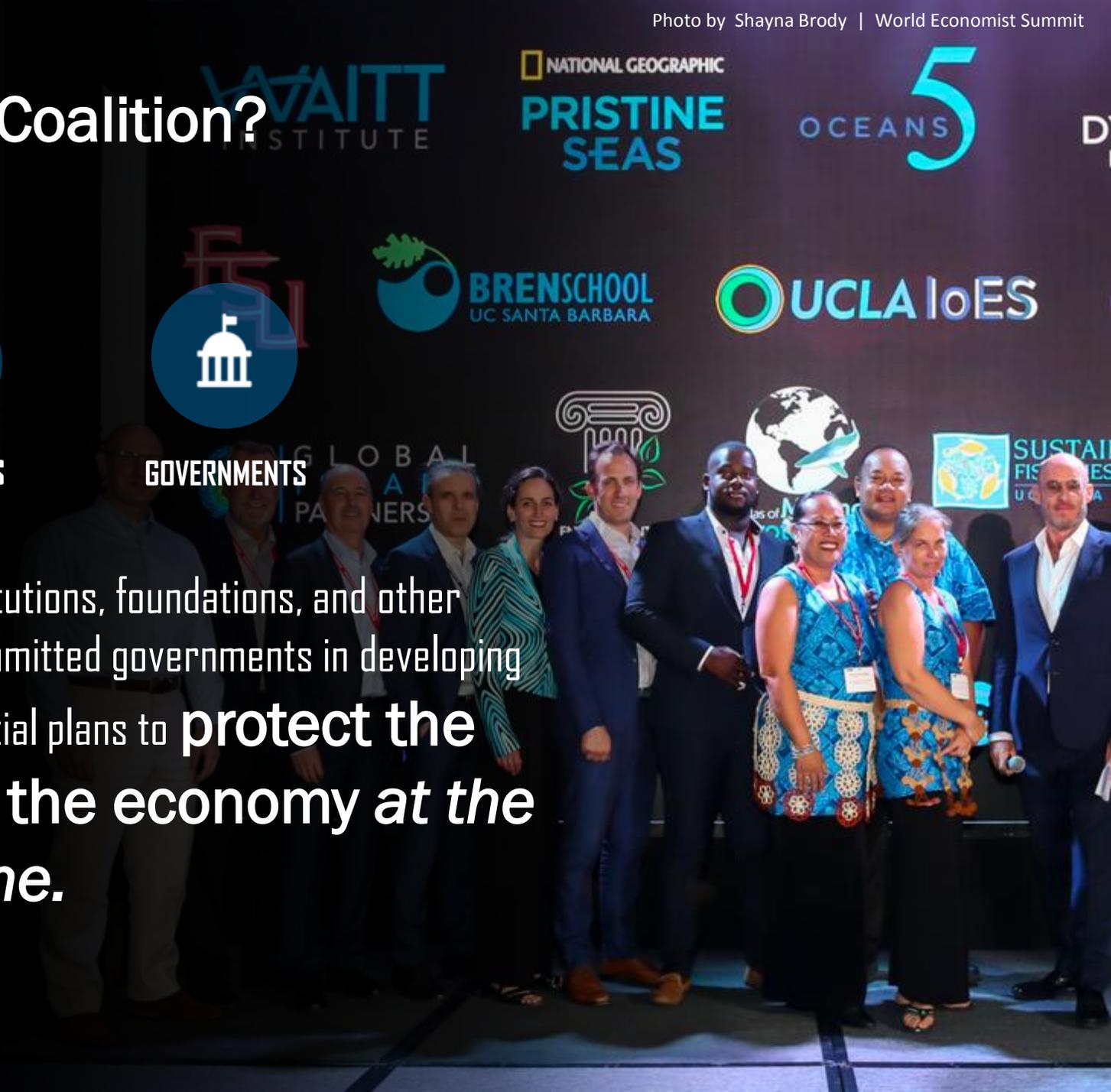


FOUNDATIONS



GOVERNMENTS

A global network of NGOs, academic institutions, foundations, and other organizations working together to assist committed governments in developing and implementing sustainable marine spatial plans to **protect the environment and improve the economy at the same time.**



# Balancing Economy & Environment

Blue Prosperity partners engage in a multi-year partnership with Governments to develop and implement 20-30% **marine protection and establish a Blue Prosperity plan.**



## Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)

A holistic approach that uses spatial information about natural resources and human uses to develop a comprehensive management system.



## Blue Economy

Sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, and ecosystem health.



## Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

A place in the ocean where human activities are limited. The most effective Marine Protected Areas prohibit all extractive use (fishing, mining, etc.).



# Blue Prosperity Coalition Government Partners

*Working to establish 20-30% protection of their total ocean space while sustainably building their Blue Economy*



# Who is the Waitt Institute?



The Waitt Institute is a founding member and the organizing body of the Blue Prosperity Coalition.

The Waitt Institute creates and implements sustainable ocean plans in partnership with committed governments and local stakeholders.



Kathryn Mengerink, JD, PhD  
*Executive Director*



Robin Ramdeen  
*Program Manager*



Andy Estep  
*Science & Field Director*



Shayna Brody  
*Communications Director*



Vanessa Dick  
*Program Director & Legal Lead*



Ute Zischka  
*Program Director & Blue Economy Lead*



# Who's involved?



BLUE PROSPERITY  
COALITION

VAITT  
INSTITUTE



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC  
PRISTINE  
SEAS

SCRIPPS INSTITUTE OF  
OCEANOGRAPHY



seasketch



UCLA IoES

NEKTON  
DEEP OCEAN EXPLORATION

# Noo Raajje Program Overview

**NOO RAAJJE** is a 5-year program partnership between Government of Maldives and the Blue Prosperity Coalition focused on building a vibrant Blue Economy to achieve sustainable use of ocean resources to

**sustainably grow economies**

**improve livelihoods & jobs**

**and protect and restore ecosystem health**

in the Maldives.



# Blue Prosperity Process



# Noo Raajje Program Progress

September 2019 - MOU Signed at UN General Assembly, New York, USA

- Underwater Research Expedition
- Work Planning with Waitt Institute onsite
- Development of Terms of Reference Noo Raajje Governance structure
- Blue Economy Priorities discussed with UCLA
- Fisheries Management Plan work begins with UCSB
- Legal Assessment begins
- 2 new program hires join on as Program Secretariat
- Marine science and stewardship training program begins



# Noo Raajje Expedition

The first expedition, led by the Waitt Institute, the Maldives Marine Research Institute, the 100 Island Challenge from Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and members of the Ministry of Fisheries, IUCN, and scientists, surveyed the health of coral reef habitats and fish populations across the Northern and Southern atolls.

- 16 Atolls Surveyed
- 978 Scientific Dives
- Studied coral reef composition & health, fish populations, water quality, and benthic communities.



# Noo Raajje MSP

The process seeks to create a sustainable marine spatial plan that protects ecologically significant areas, reduces conflict among user groups, zones activities where they will have the greatest benefits with minimal negative impacts, and ensures that future development is considered in a holistic and sustainable manner

● MSP Working Group to established within Steering Committee will be responsible for reviewing available data layers, defining zoning criteria and creating draft plans

● Stakeholders are given an opportunity to provide feedback on draft plan

● Governance Committee will be responsible for putting a final plan forward for legal adoption



# Noo Raajje Legal

An evaluation of Maldives's laws and institutions to support the design and implementation of comprehensive marine spatial planning and blue economy process. Two local experts have been recruited to work alongside our inhouse legal experts.

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# Noo Raajje Communications

## Objectives

- Increase public awareness, engagement, and support for Noo Raajje
- Highlight the importance of ocean management
- Encourage Blue Economy development
- Build a generation of "Blue Leaders"

## Work focus in 2020

- Communications Plan Approved
- Name & Logo Created
- Jan - Feb Expedition Press, Campaign, Local Outreach
- Expedition Video in Progress



# Noo Raajje Communications



# NOO RAAJJE



## HOMETOWN HEROES

ENCOURAGING LOCAL CHAMPIONS FOR OCEAN PROTECTION

### TUNE IN!

SEPT. 8, 2020, 6 P.M. PDT (UTC-07)



**KENDRA BEAZER**  
BARBUDA COUNCIL



**YOLANDA JOAB  
MORI**  
ISLAND PRIDE  
MICRONESIA



**WELDON WADE**  
BERMUDA OCEAN  
PROSPERITY  
PROGRAMME



**FATHIMATH  
HANA AMIR**  
MALDIVES MARINE  
RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE



**MODERATOR  
KATHRYN  
MENGERIN**  
WAITT INSTITUTE



[WWW.VIRTUALISLANDSUMMIT.COM](http://WWW.VIRTUALISLANDSUMMIT.COM)

THE VIRTUAL  
ISLAND SUMMIT

# Noo Raajje Blue Economy

Focuses on advancing existing blue economy activities including sustainable fisheries and tourism.



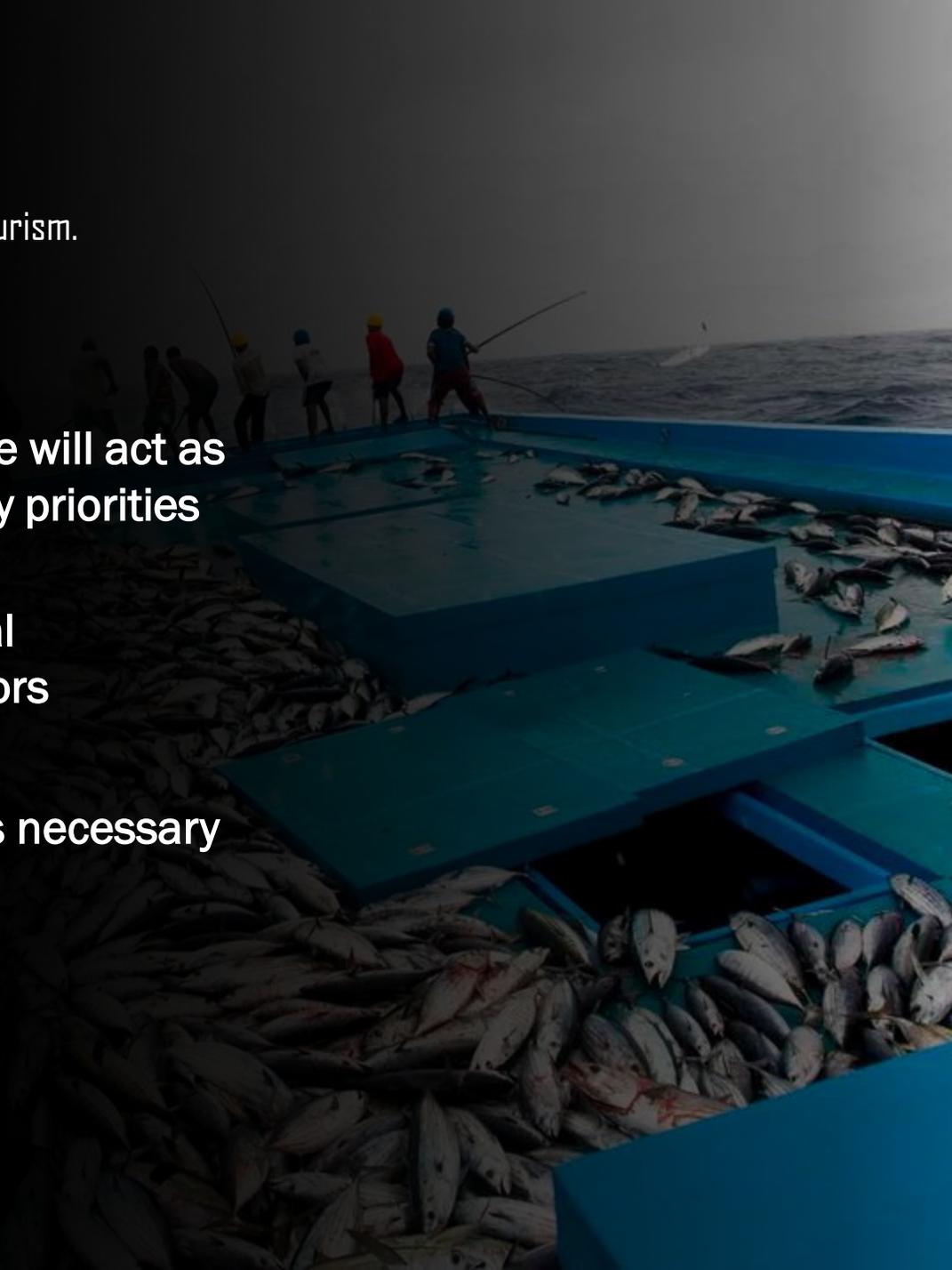
National COVID Economic Recovery Task Force will act as Noo Raajje BE Working Group will help identify priorities



Economists at UCLA Institute of Environmental Sustainability will work as our lead collaborators



Local or regional experts will be brought on as necessary



# Noo Raajje Sustainable Fisheries

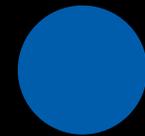
Improving sustainability of ocean resources and vibrancy of coastal livelihoods



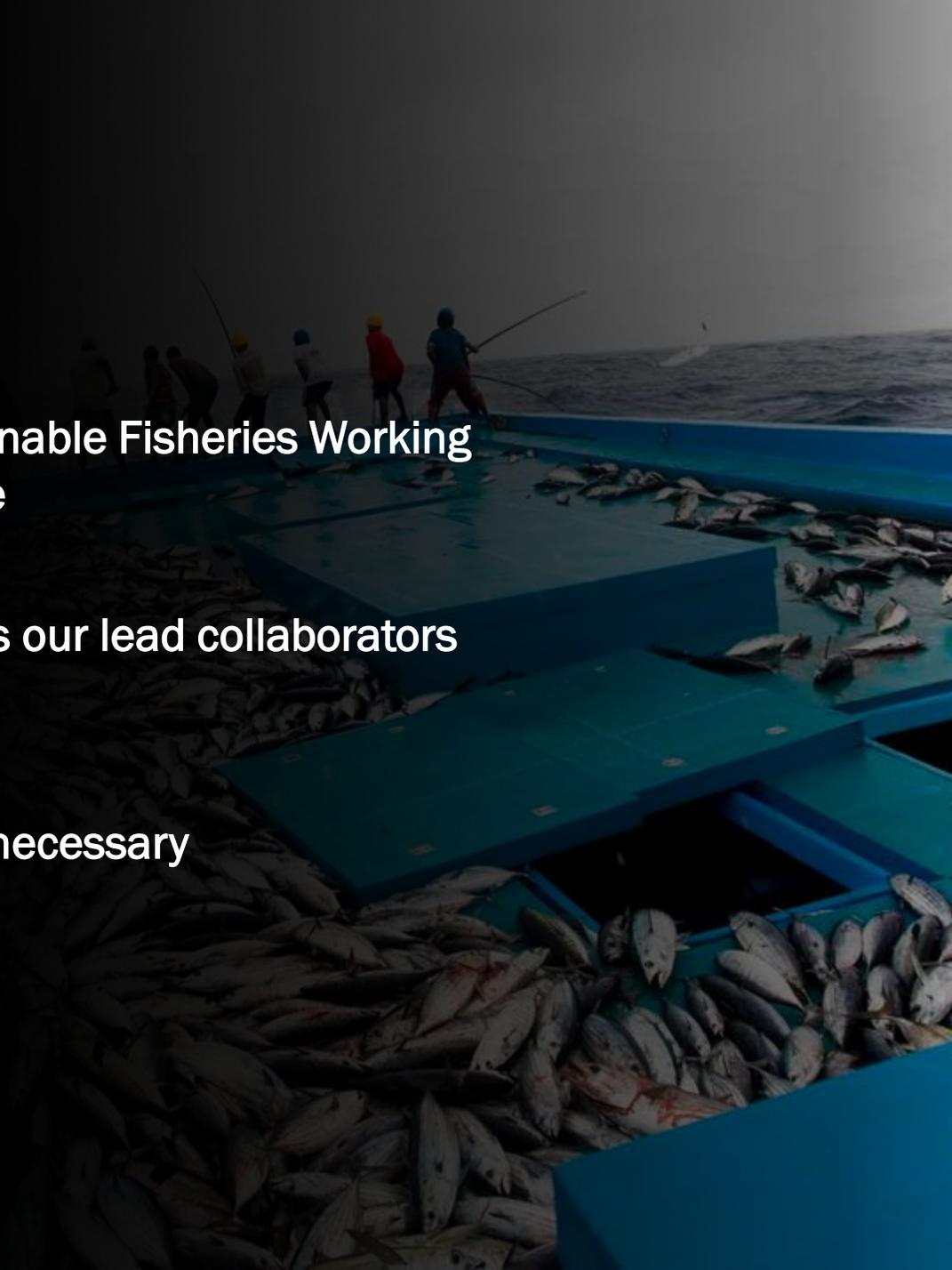
MoFMRA will help identify priorities until Sustainable Fisheries Working Group is established within Steering Committee



Fisheries Scientists at UCSB emLab will work as our lead collaborators

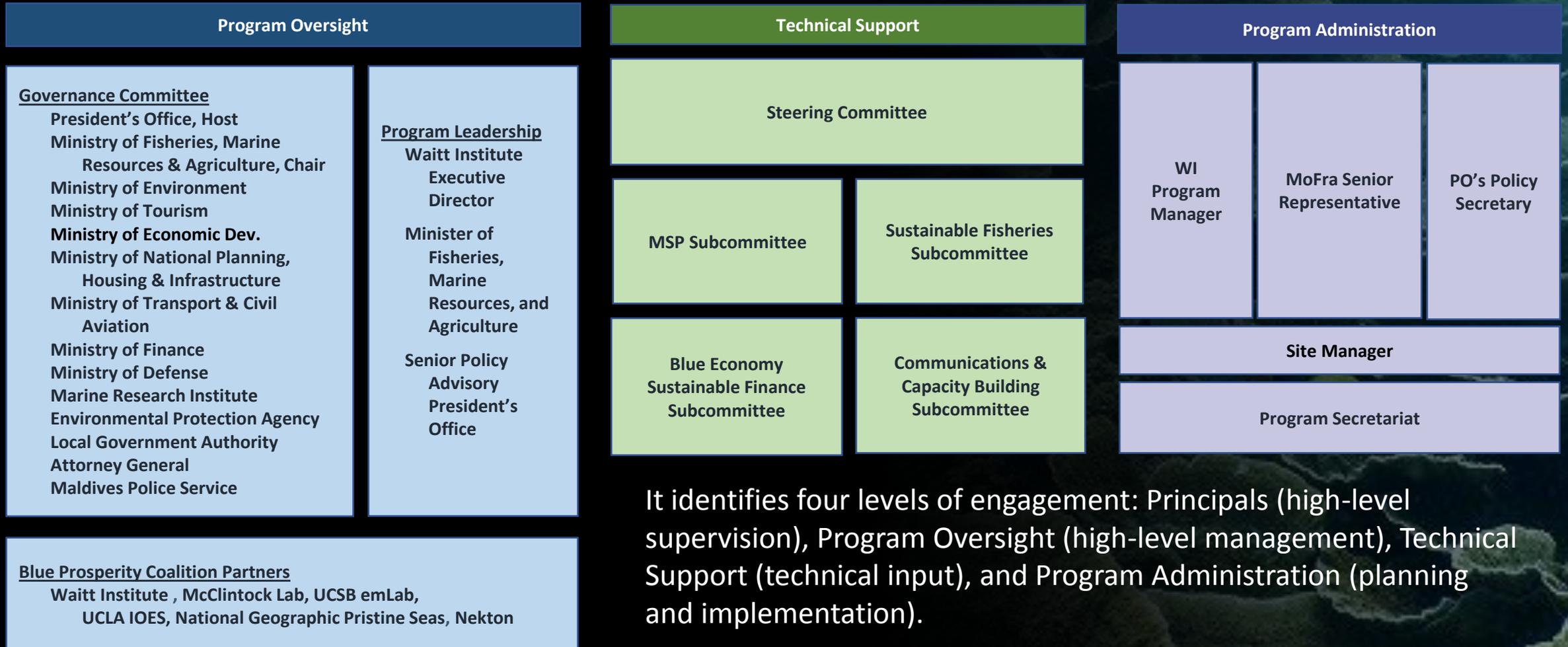


Local or regional experts will be brought on as necessary



# Noo Raajje Program Governance

The governance approach for Noo Raajje program management, oversight, implementation, accountability, and workflow as it relates to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Government of the Republic of the Maldives (“Government of the Maldives”) and the Blue Prosperity Coalition.



It identifies four levels of engagement: Principals (high-level supervision), Program Oversight (high-level management), Technical Support (technical input), and Program Administration (planning and implementation).

# Noo Raajje Program Governance

## Governance Committee Responsibilities

- Attend Governance Committee meetings
- Act as Ambassadors and Liaisons for *Noo Raajje*
- Provides final approval for actions that lead to program objectives throughout the MSP, fisheries management and Blue Economy development processes
- Identifies technical experts from Government, NGO, and private sector to serve on the Steering Committee
- Review policy pathways for implementing sustainable ocean management in the Maldives
- Agree on a final Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) & policy pathway to make a comprehensive MSP legally enforceable

# Noo Raajje Program Governance

## Steering Committee Responsibilities

- Attends Steering Committee meetings and keeps represented Ministries informed
- Provides technical input and guidance to the Government Committee throughout the marine spatial planning, fisheries management and blue economy planning processes
- Reviews draft policies and acts as a peer review platform
- Sends a final plan forward to the Government Committee to adopt

# Noo Raajje Rules of Engagement

## Membership

- Governance, Steering and Sub Committee members are there as representatives of their organization and not as individuals.
- Membership is transferable to another individual of the same organization provided the new member's participation is approved by Co-Chairs
- Members are appointed for the duration of the program and involvement is voluntary

# Noo Raajje Rules of Engagement

## Decision Making

- The Government shall make decisions as part of the Governance Committee
- Program Administration will make decisions in accordance with the Work Plan
- For decisions outside the annual Work Plan, Program Leaders shall make decisions Including whether a decision should be elevated to the Principals.
- Stakeholders with expertise in ocean use and management will make decisions as Part of the Steering Committee.

# Noo Raajje Rules of Engagement

## Voting



Decisions of the various bodies of the Program shall be made by consensus



Where consensus cannot be reached, the decision will be subject to a vote



Before voting, a motion will be introduced and a discussion will follow, led by the chair or co-chairs.

# Noo Raajje Rules of Engagement

## Voting Continued

- A quorum of 51% members must be present. When a quorum is not present, the Motion may be referred to electronic ballot.
- A motion will be adopted by majority vote
- In the case that a member cannot attend a meeting, their vote may be taken by the Proxy i.e. a Chair approved representative from the same organisation
- Each organization had just one vote

# Noo Raajje Rules of Engagement

## Meetings



Program Leadership will meet 4 times annually



Governance Committee will meet according to the Work Plan



Steering Committee will meet according to the Work Plan



Program Administration will meet biweekly

# Get in touch

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#NOORAAJJE

