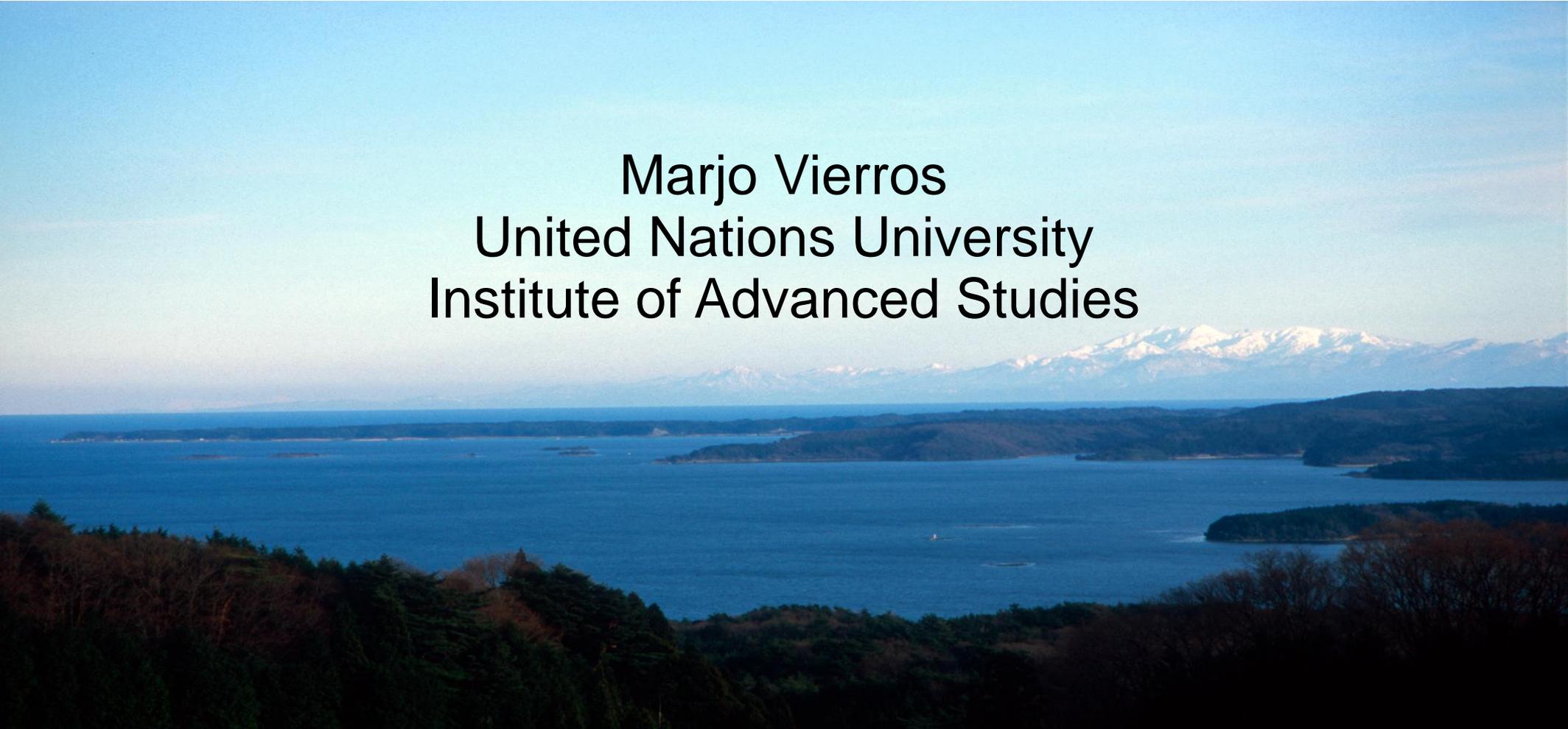


# The role of satoumi in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity

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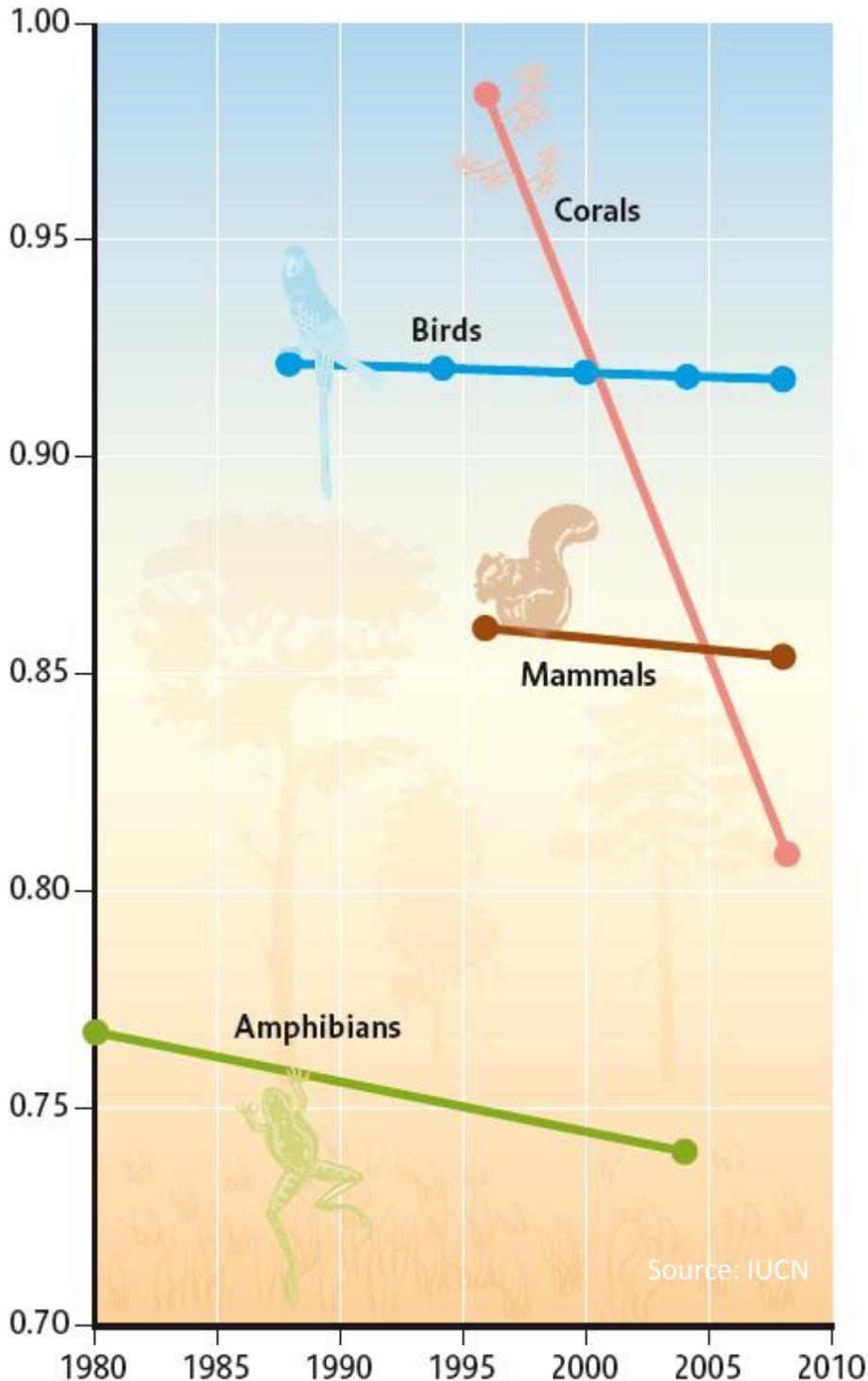


# The international context

Why the dialogue on satoumi is important:

- 2010 – International Year of Biodiversity
- The 2010 target to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss globally was not reached – new targets for 2020
- Biodiversity in marine and coastal areas continues to decline worldwide
- Cumulative drivers of biodiversity loss increasing
- Current management activities have not always been successful – need to consider new and innovative approaches

## Red List Index



## The 3rd Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-3) released in 2010:

- Increasing pressures on biodiversity (pollution, climate change, overfishing, ocean acidification...)
- The Red List Index (RLI) for all these species groups is decreasing.
- Coral species are moving most rapidly towards greater extinction risk

# The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

- CBD first comprehensive convention to address biodiversity
- Dates from 1<sup>st</sup> Rio Conference in 1992, almost universal membership
- Objectives: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, equitable sharing of benefits arising from its utilization
- CBD = framework convention
- CBD lays out general provisions, goals and targets (what needs to be achieved)
- Countries implement those provisions in a way that is appropriate for their national circumstances
- **This has often proved to be difficult**

# CBD, satoumi and reducing biodiversity loss

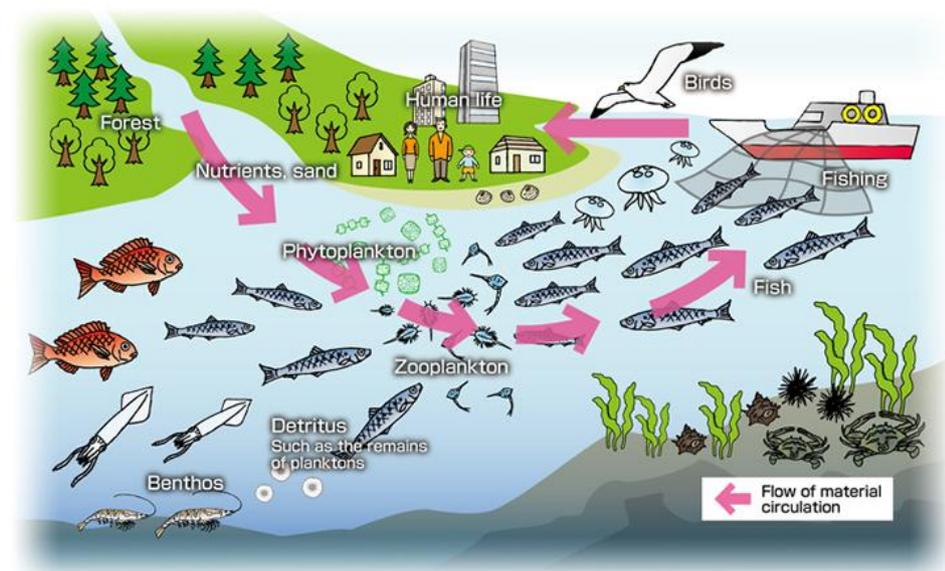
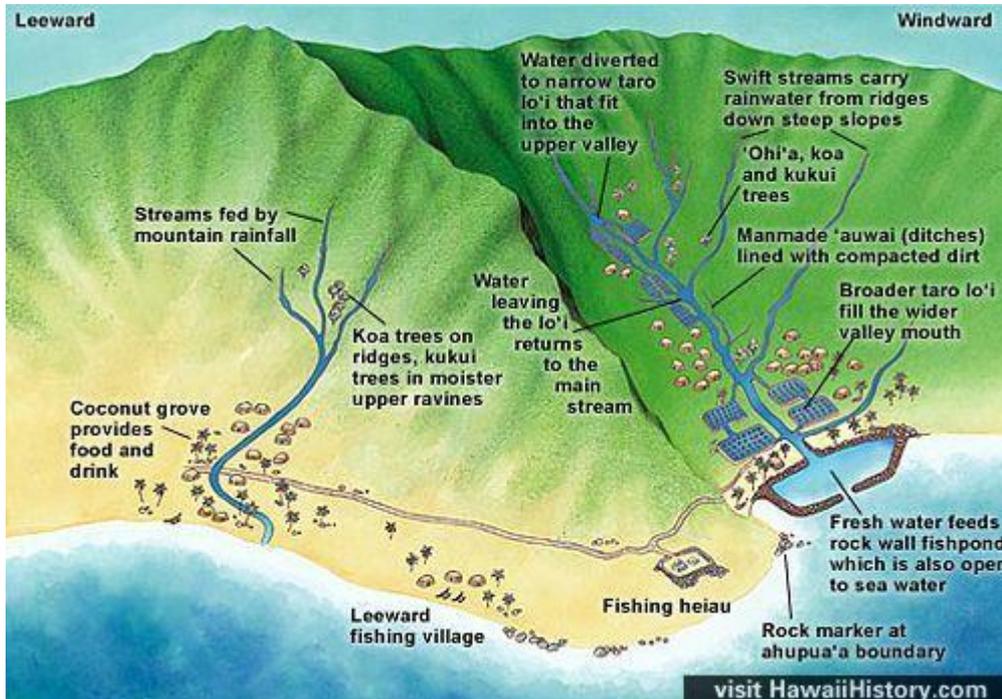
- This talk addresses three general areas where satoumi implements the CBD:
  1. Taking into account interconnections between coastal areas, watersheds and oceans, including the people who inhabit them (ecosystem approach)
  2. The need to integrate biodiversity concerns into the work of all economic sectors (mainstreaming)
  3. The need to provide for both conservation and sustainable use, and to take into account the local cultural, social and economic context in management (livelihoods and bottom-up approaches)

# Many traditional cultures have a holistic understanding of the coast

- Land, sea, freshwater and atmosphere are interconnected and part of one system. People are also part of this system.
- Northern Australia Sea Country: Mixing of fresh water and seawater (Ganma); Flow of water connects different places and people (Gurruṯu)



# Holistic management systems



- Hawaii ahupua'a, Japan satoumi
- Different from western sectoral management
- Ecosystem approach, ICM/IMCAM, integrated watershed management

# CBD Ecosystem approach

- **Ecosystem approach is the primary framework for action under the CBD**

- Described as:

*A strategy for the **integrated management of land, water and living resources** that promotes **conservation and sustainable use** in an equitable way. Application of the ecosystem approach will help to reach a balance of the three objectives of the Convention. It is based on the application of appropriate **scientific methodologies** focused on levels of biological organization which encompass the essential processes, functions and interactions among organisms and their environment. **It recognizes that humans, with their cultural diversity, are an integral component of ecosystems.***

- 12 principles, and 5 points of operational guidance

# Ecosystem approach and satoumi

Some ways in which satoumi implements the ecosystem approach:

- Recognizes the intricate connections that exist between land and sea, as well as human communities
- Encompasses priorities of different sectors, as well as scientific, cultural and spiritual values
- Implementation generally on community level with government support
- grounded in an understanding of the local socio-cultural context and focuses on restoring ecological services and enhancing livelihoods

# The ecosystem approach

- The CBD ecosystem approach recognizes that **there is no single correct way to implement it**, as it as it depends on local, provincial, national, regional or global conditions.
- Methods and tools depend on the specific problem addressed
- Species management programs, habitat restoration, marine protected areas, and fisheries management measures can all be undertaken as components of the ecosystem approach, as needed.

# Satoumi and sectoral integration

- Integrating biodiversity concerns into the work of sectors (coastal development, fisheries, shipping) has been a key challenge in implementing the CBD
- Different ministries and organizations have different priorities
- Satoumi is flexible enough to accommodate those priorities
- Implementation of satoumi-related projects provides a mechanisms for sectors to communicate, discuss priorities and work together

# **Satoumi and CBD provisions on marine and coastal biodiversity**

Some ways in which satoumi implements the CBD programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity:

- Coastal and riverbasin management
- Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- Restoration of seagrass beds
- Sharing of costs and benefits: fishermen reforestation of watersheds

**Satoumi provides a culturally-appropriate way to implement CBD provisions on coastal and marine biodiversity**

# Broader international relevance of satoumi

- The role of satoumi in implementing provisions of international conventions goes beyond the CBD
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands: Wise (sustainable) use of wetlands
- The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change: Provisions related to adaptation
- Others: the UNESCO Man and Biosphere and World Heritage conventions, the Convention on Migratory Species and Regional Seas Conventions.

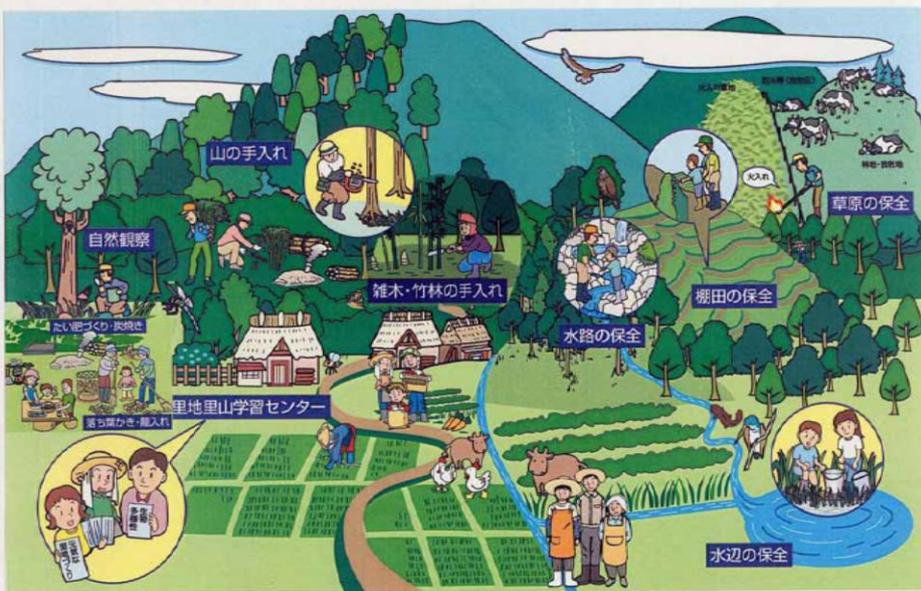
# Some possible future research directions

- Integrating scientific and local (traditional) knowledge in implementation of satoumi
- Linking satoyama and satoumi
- Extending satoumi further offshore
- Satoumi and adaptive management

# Integrating scientific and local knowledge

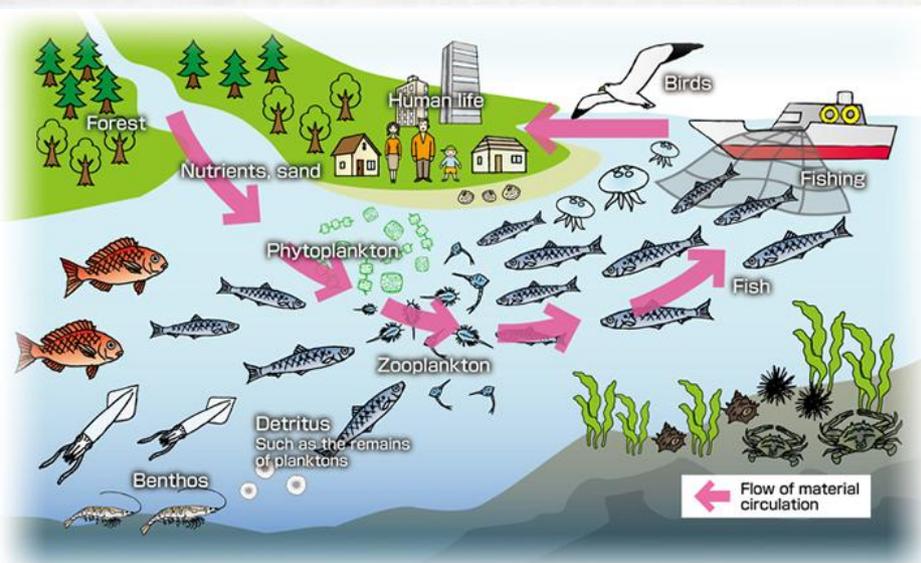
- Satoumi relies on a high level of scientific research and monitoring
- At the same time, the local knowledge of fishermen and coastal communities is also respected
- Integrating science (numerical and data-based) with local knowledge (anecdotal and qualitative) is difficult, and is a subject of much interest internationally

# Creating connections between satoyama and satoumi in management



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- Satoumi is based on an understanding of the connections between the land and the sea
- Thus, activities undertaken through satoyama affect satoumi areas further downstream
- Understanding these intricate connections, and coordinating management approaches is important for the success of satoumi



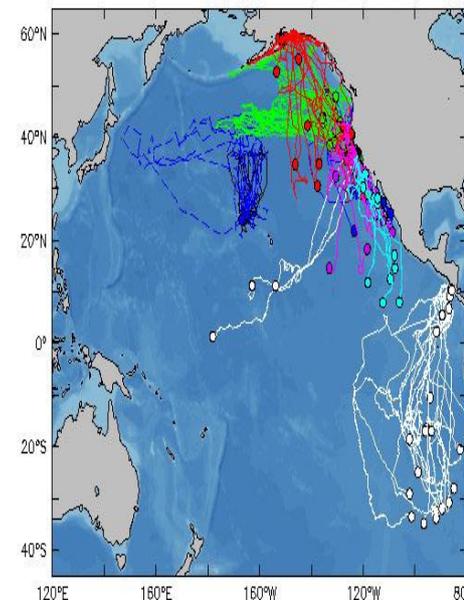
# Extending satoumi further offshore

- Fish and other marine species migrate from coastal areas to further offshore during different stages of their life history

- Thus, the success of satoumi also depends on being able to extend or link management of coastal areas to those further offshore

- Dealing with this challenge may require different methodologies and data collection

Tagging of Pacific Predators (TOPP) project, UCSC



# Satoumi in a time of change

- Management of natural resources is always undertaken in a context of uncertainty (there is never enough data)
- We are also facing unprecedented challenges with future climate change
- How can satoumi help coastal ecosystems and human communities become more resilient to impacts of climate change?
- How will satoumi practitioners learn from their experiences (both successes and failures) and adapt their management approaches as needed (adaptive management)?

# In closing...

- Satoumi is a culturally appropriate way to implement provisions of the CBD and other international conventions
- While more work is still needed, satoumi shows great promise as a tool to achieve more resilient coastal ecosystems and human communities
- The lessons from its application should be widely shared, both nationally and internationally



THANK YOU!