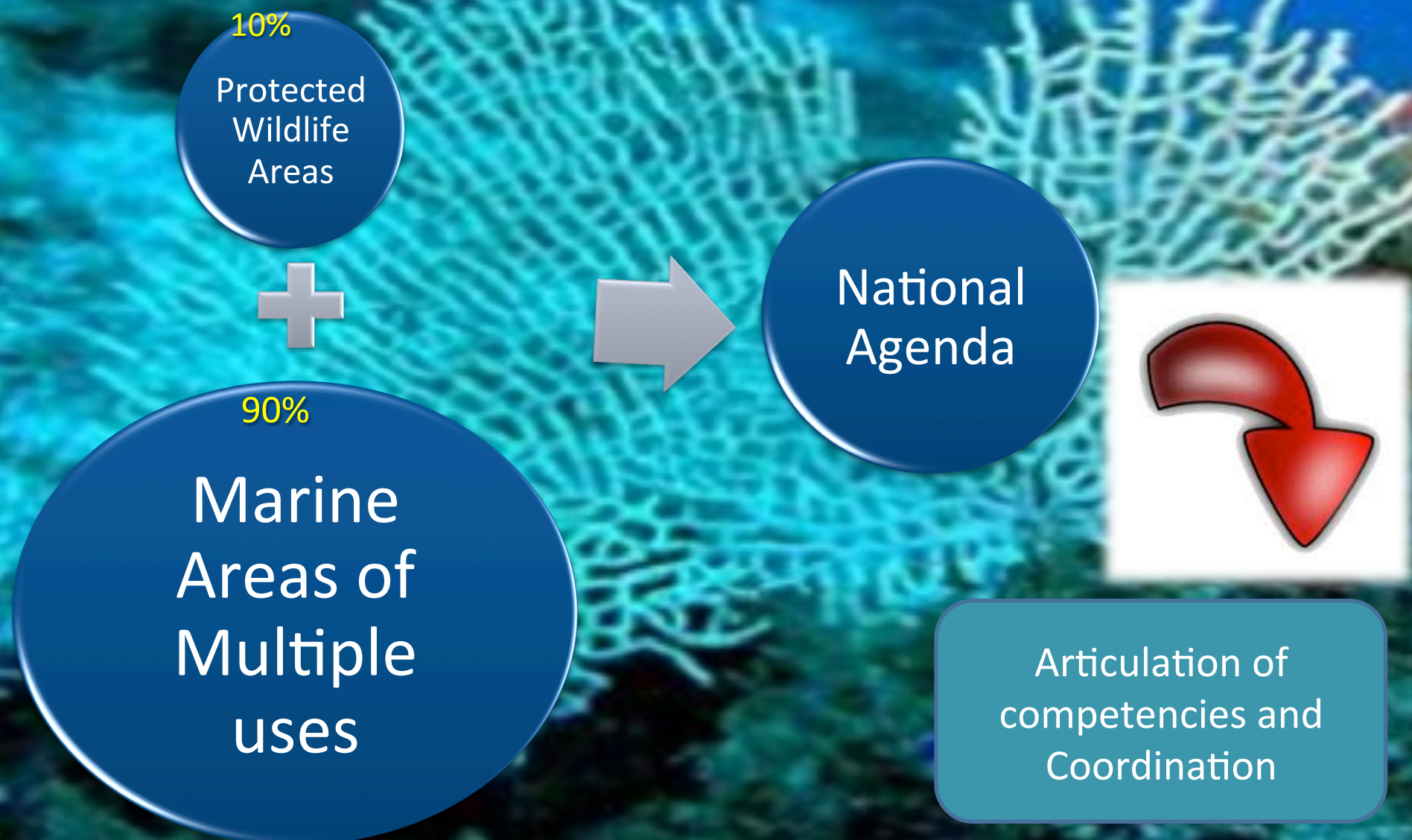


Costa Rica: Towards a National Blue Agenda

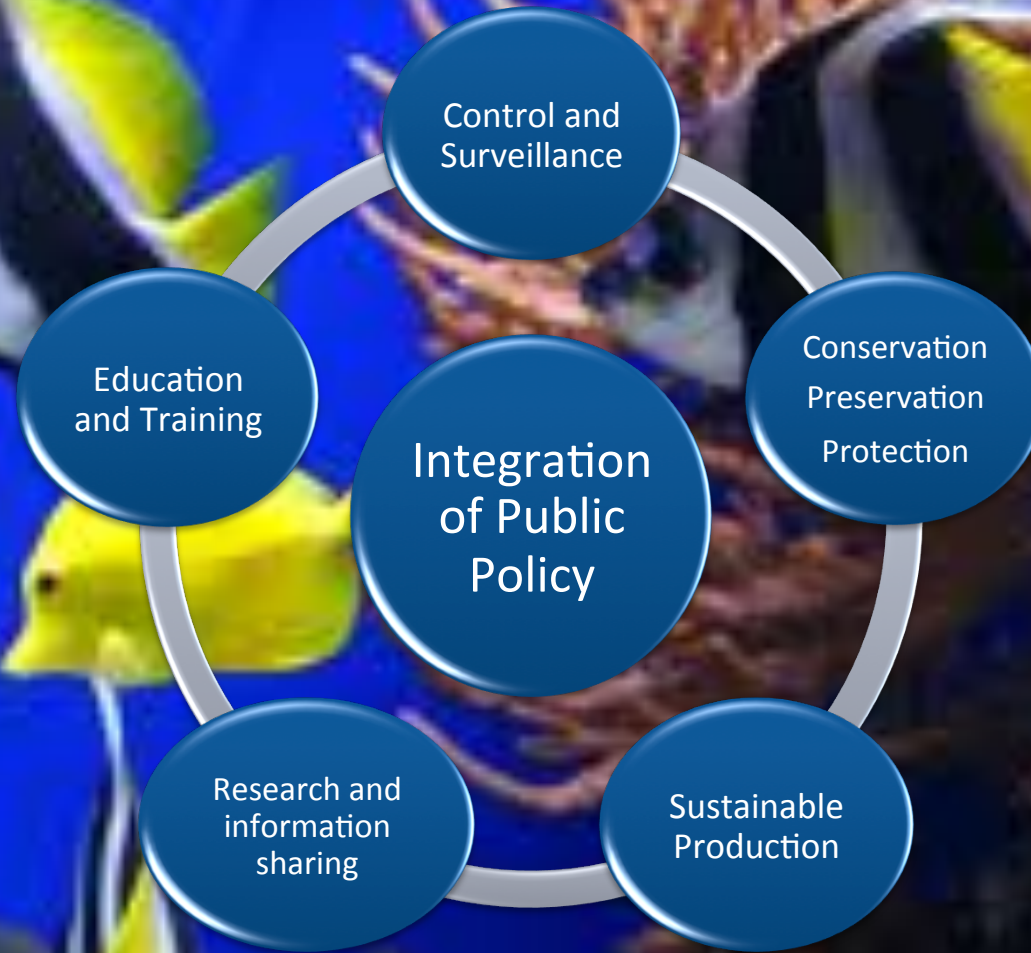
BELIZE

October 2013

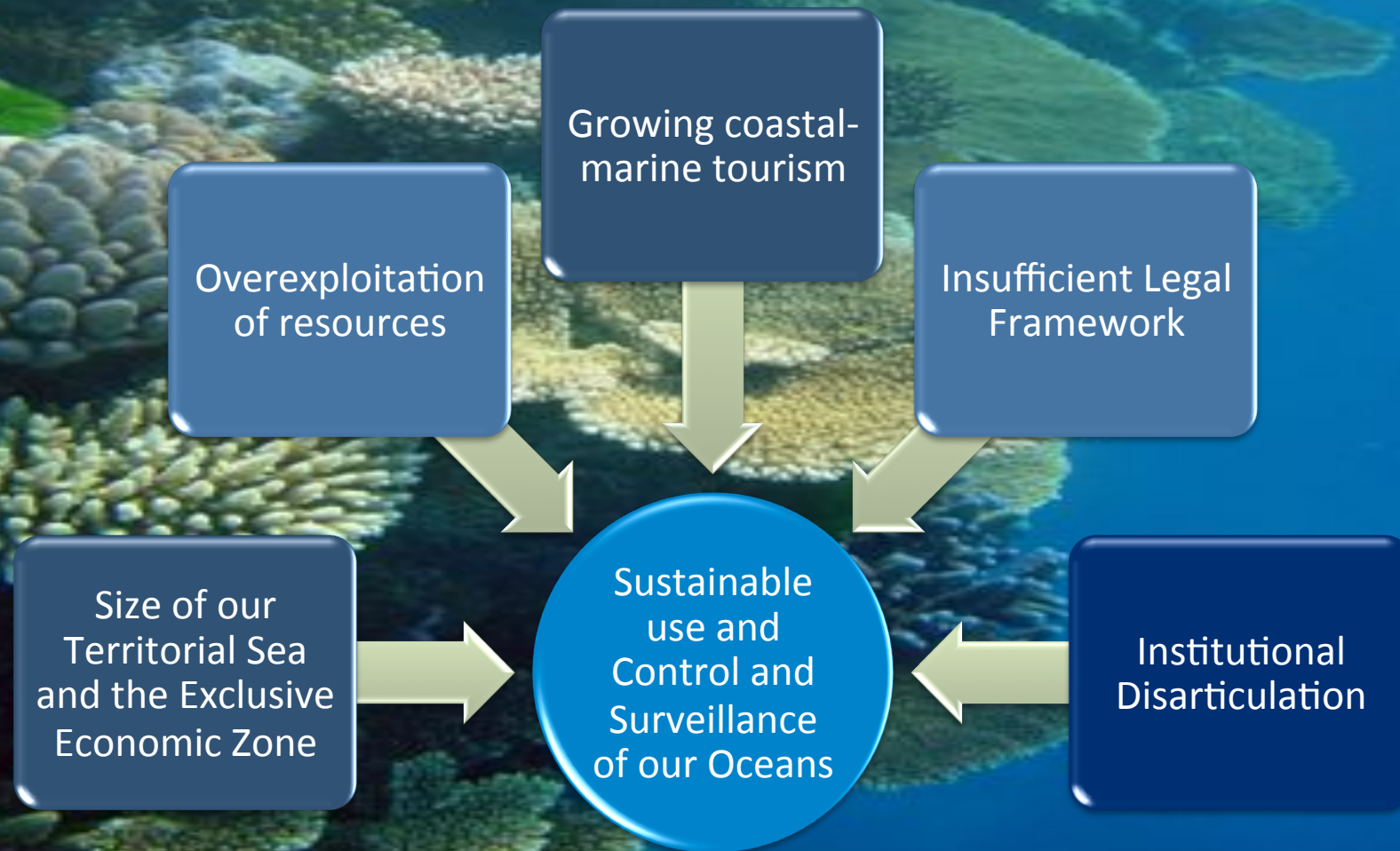
Towards a National Agenda



A Blue Agenda



Critical external factors: Protected Areas and Marine Areas of Multiple Use



Costa Rica turns its eyes to the sea: Creation of a Vice ministry of Water and Oceans



Unify competencies
in a single institution

Make efficient use of economic
resources and human capital
available

Strengthen the institution
towards meeting legal
obligations and
international commitments

Articulate competencies
and resources towards a
national agenda

Coral Reefs in Costa Rica:

km²

970



Fishery

Protection

Tourism

Research

No Use



Total Economic Value
Services +
Replacement Cost

Estimated annual
total economic
value for Costa
Rica:

US\$582 millions

Threats



93% of the Costa Rican coral reef is at risk due to human activity

Specific Threats

- Fertilization of agricultural fields
- Sedimentation
- Irresponsible Tourism

Global Threats

- Overfishing
- Climate change
- Oceans acidity

Protecting Our Coral Reefs



- The Constitution
- International Conventions
- Local Laws

International Conventions signed and ratified by Costa Rica

- **CITES (1974)**
- **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1991)**
- **UNCLOS**
- **FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries**
- **Agenda 21**
- **Convention on Biological Diversity**
- **Cartagena Convention**
- **Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, UNESCO**

Local Law



- **Creation of National Parks Services Law (1977)**
- **Environmental Organic Law (1995)**
- **Conservation of Biodiversity Law (1998)**
- **Need for Specific Legislation: The Coral Reefs Executive Decree**

Costa Rica and the ICRI



ICRI Objectives:

- Adoption of best practices in sustainable management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems
- Build Capacity
- Raise Awareness

Costa Rica Objectives:

- Sustainable management of our marine eco-systems
- Strengthen our institutions through strategic alliances
- Gain and share knowledge, take action



**MUCHAS
Gracias**