

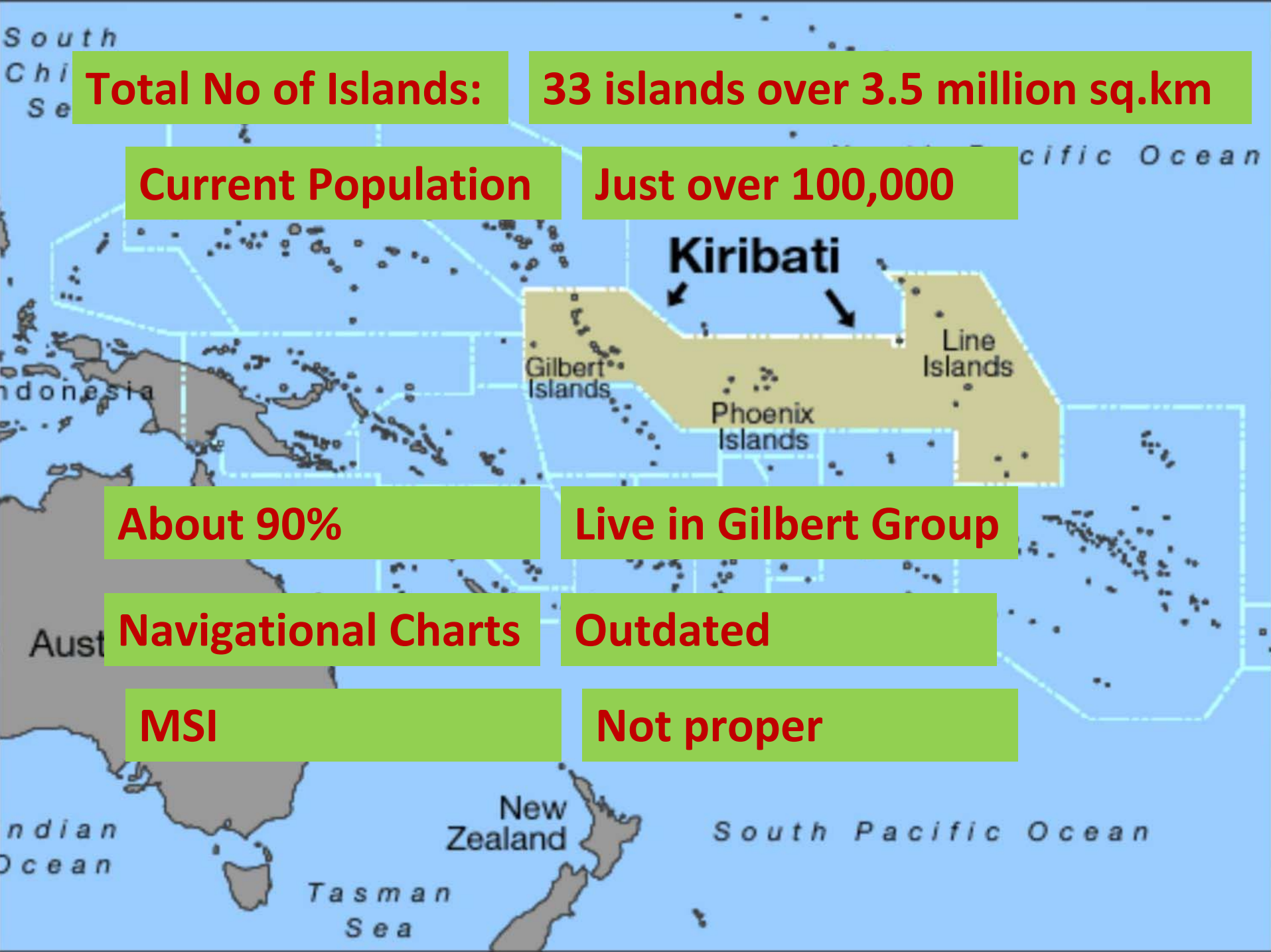


Report on HYDROGRAPHY IN KIRIBATI

***Ruoikabuti Tioon – Director of Marine
Marine Division
Ministry of Communications, Transport &
Tourism Development***

- Background
- Overview of Hydrography
- IHO Technical Team Visit 2011
- Report from IHO & Recommendations and Way forward for Kiribati
- Measures undertaken
- Conclusion





Total No of Islands:

33 islands over 3.5 million sq.km

Current Population

Just over 100,000

About 90%

Live in Gilbert Group

Navigational Charts

Outdated

MSI

Not proper

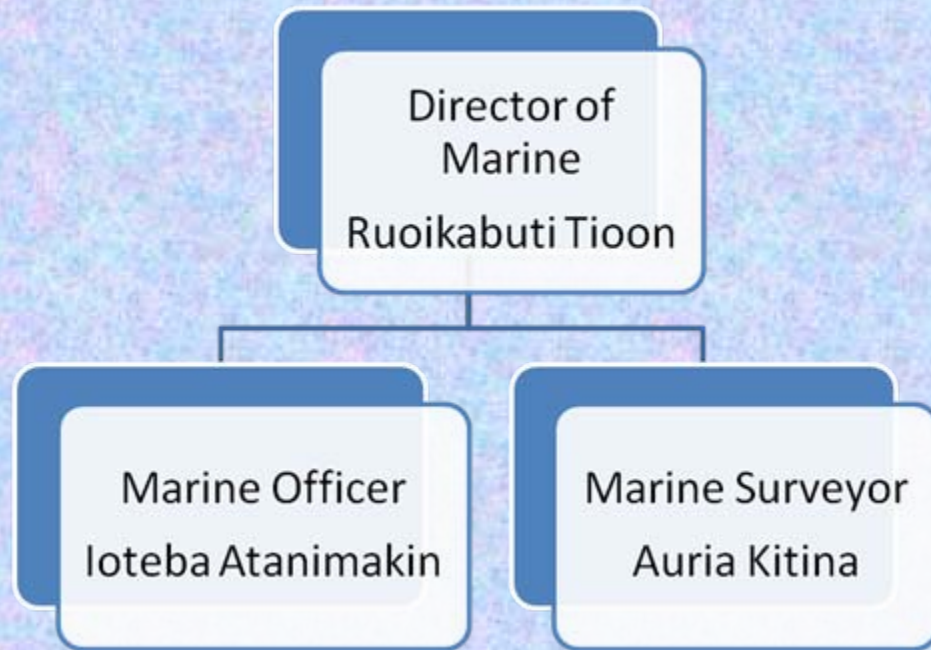
■ Background

- Kiribati is also one of the poorest countries in the world, officially classified as a least developed country.
- GDP is the lowest in the region and the economy is heavily dependent on government spending.
- Economic situation is constrained by its small population and land area, its remoteness, its scattered population centers and its lack of infrastructure and no capability to Hydrography Services.
- Almost no natural resources and industry and employment options are very limited.
- Heavily dependent on foreign aid and a net importer, it is economically vulnerable to fluctuations in the A\$ and increases in food and fuel prices.
- Only about 8% of the population are economically active with many limited to subsistence fishing.

The Marine Division:

Responsible for:

- Maritime Safety
- Coordinating SAR Services
- Qualification and Licensing
- Flag State and Port State Inspection
- Ensuring that Maritime Conventions are being complied
- Boat Passage upgrading
- maintenance of nav equipments.
- Marine Pollution & Accident Investigation
- Ship registration



■ Overview of Hydrography

Nautical Charts & MSI

- There is no Hydrography Services in Kiribati.
- UKHO published charts on behalf of the Gov't of Kiribati
- total of 14 Charts covering the whole of Kiribati published by UKHO at varying scales,
- Published in the 1950s and 1960s from surveys with data obtained around 1943 and earlier,
- only BA 731 (Gilbert Group) published in 1994.
- The Marine Department does promulgate coastal warnings and information broadcasted locally by Radio Station,
- BUT NOT SENT to PCA (UKHO) or Navarea Coordinator

■ IHO Technical Team Visited Kiribati - Nov 2011

- IHO Team comprised Director Robert Ward (IHB) and Mr Bob Wilson (UKHO)
- Meetings with Hydrographic and Nautical Charting stakeholders

■ Report & Recommendation for Way forward - Kiribati

- To modernize Kiribati charts – “sought assistance”
- To appoint a National Coordinator for Hydrography and Charting
- To appoint a National MSI Coordinator
- To develop a Minimal Capability for Hydrographic and Information Gathering -
 - Discussed with Dept of Lands – relevant data collected and forwarded to PCA (UKHO)
 - To recruit a Temporary Hydrographic Adviser – (Pending) - looking for Funding
 - assist Kiribati in establishing a Hydrographic capability and seeking support
 - Establishing National Charting Priorities -

▪ **Measures Undertaken:**

▪ **April 2012**

- Hard copies of report of Hydrography and Nautical Charting received by Marine Dept

▪ **November 2012**

- All hard copies distributed to addressees – awaiting for comments and feedbacks

▪ **December 2012**

- Marine Dept sent Survey report (from Australia) for Betio Port to UKHO

▪ **April 2013**

- Arrangement by Marine dept with Det. Of Lands and Min. of Fisheries and form a coordinating body in Hydrography and Nautical Charting

▪ **Measures Undertaken:**

▪ **October 2013**

- Meeting with Dept of Lands and Min. of Fisheries convened.

Outcome of Meeting –

- Director of Marine – appointed as National Coordinator of Hydrography and Charting
- to seek assistance from SOPAC to Kiribati chart modernization

▪ **October 2013**

- Director of Minerals (Min. of Fisheries) approached SOPAC (Fiji) seeking its support and assistance
- Marine Dept sent Official request letter to SOPAC through Min. of Foreign Affairs and Immigration.

In Conclusion

On behalf of the Ministry of Communications, Transport and Tourism Development and the Gov't of Kiribati, I would like to thank IHO for the study they had undertaken in Kiribati, the UKHO for the continuous publication of Kiribati Charts and to the Australian Gov't and to all Members for the support given to Kiribati.

We will work to the recommendations from the "IHO Report" and to try our best to meet all Hydrography requirements as required by IHO Convention and to SOLAS.

Kiribati is a Member State to SOLAS and it must see the importance of Hydrography and Nautical Charting.

Because the audit scheme is likely to become mandatory around 2015, this is a Great concern which must be addressed to the Kiribati Gov't and that it needs to embark and to act NOW !!!

Thank you

