

In Bonn – right now – COP23

with the Fiji government as chair-nation

There you will hear the same old story as before
all based on IPCC, AGW, Paris-agreement, etc
i.e. models and models and political agendas

Here follow 2 papers

on real field observations in the Fiji Islands

- 1) on *Coastal Erosion* by Pamela Matlack-Klein
and
- (2) on *Sea Level Changes* by Nils-Axel Mörner

COASTAL EROSION IN THE YASAWA ISLANDS, FIJI

HUMAN ERROR – NOT SEA LEVEL RISE



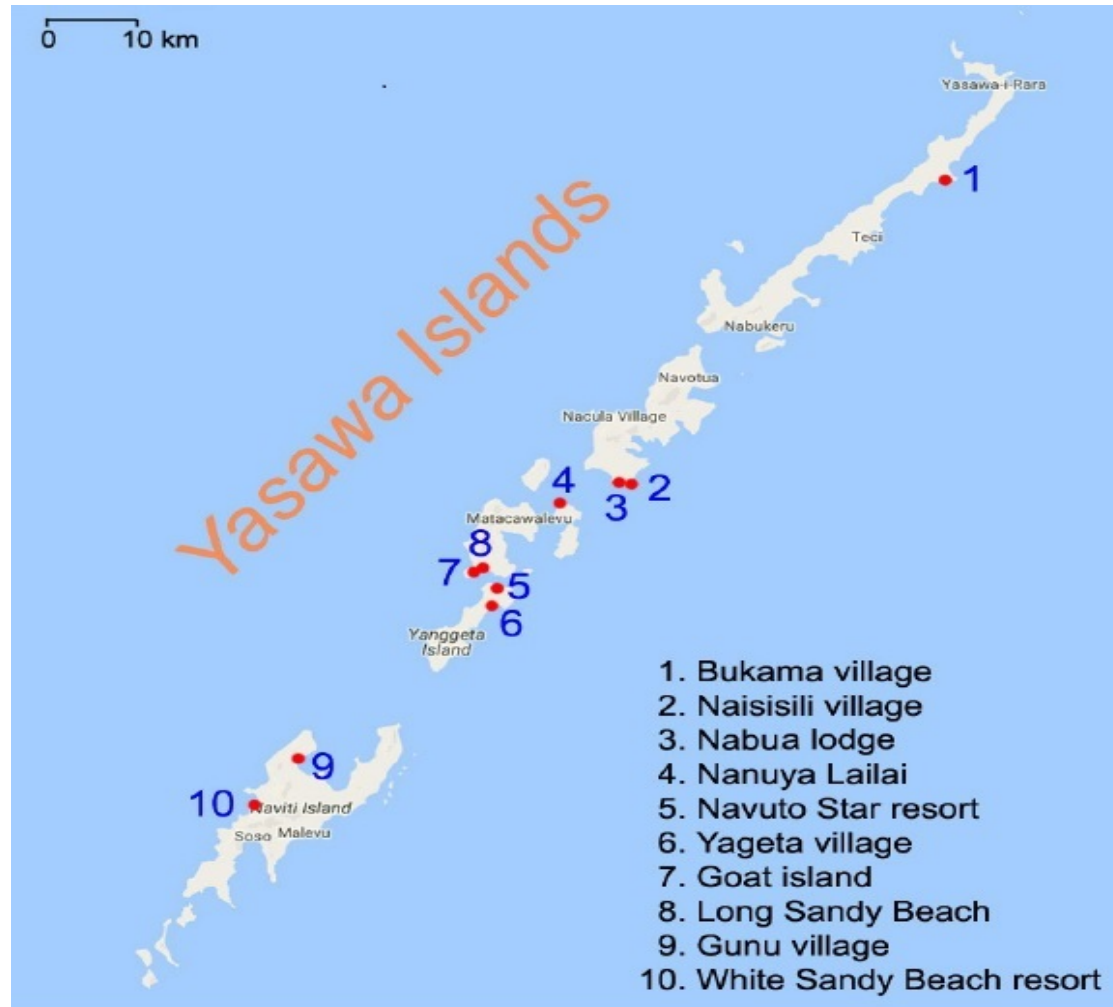
Pamela Matlack-Klein¹

1 The Portuguese Sea Level Project, Appomattox, Virginia, USA
and Oporto, Portugal

The Fiji Islands



The Yasawa Islands, NW of Viti Levu, and our primary area of work



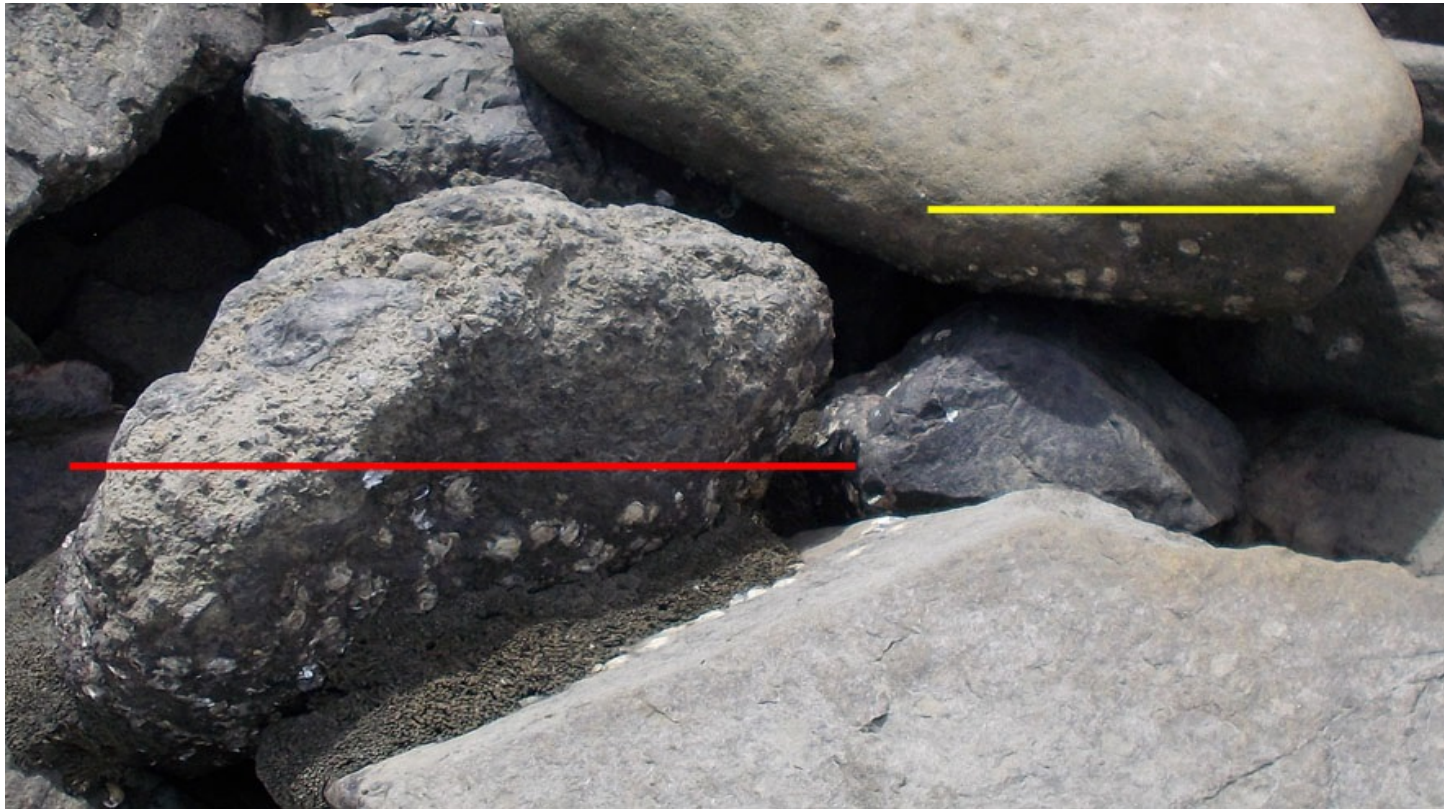
The beach at Denarau showing vegetation encroaching on the shore



No erosion at Denarau, rather encroaching vegetation



Boulders on Denarau showing a distinct line between living and dead patellas. Sea level is not rising here.



Low tide at Yageta Village, a mystery!



The Google Earth image that caught our attention, showing an enormous buildup of sediments to the north



The mystery solved! *Holothuria scabra* once carpeted the Yageta Village lagoon.



A burrowing *H. Scabra* (sea cucumber) responsible for stabilization of the lagoonal sands.



Long Sandy Beach, a victim of human constructions of sea walls and groins



Long Sandy Beach at low tide. There is no longer a dry beach.

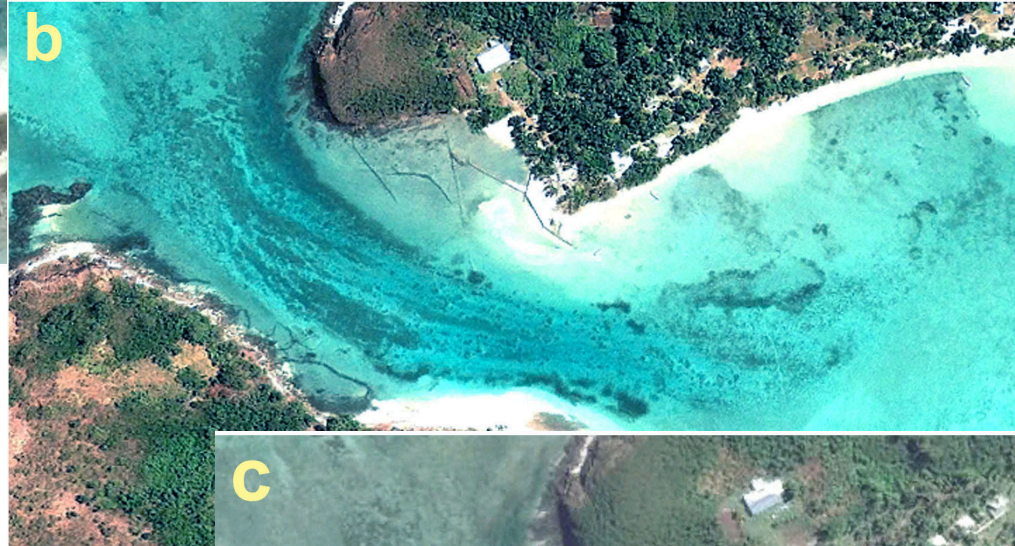


Long Sandy Beach, still long but only at low tide!

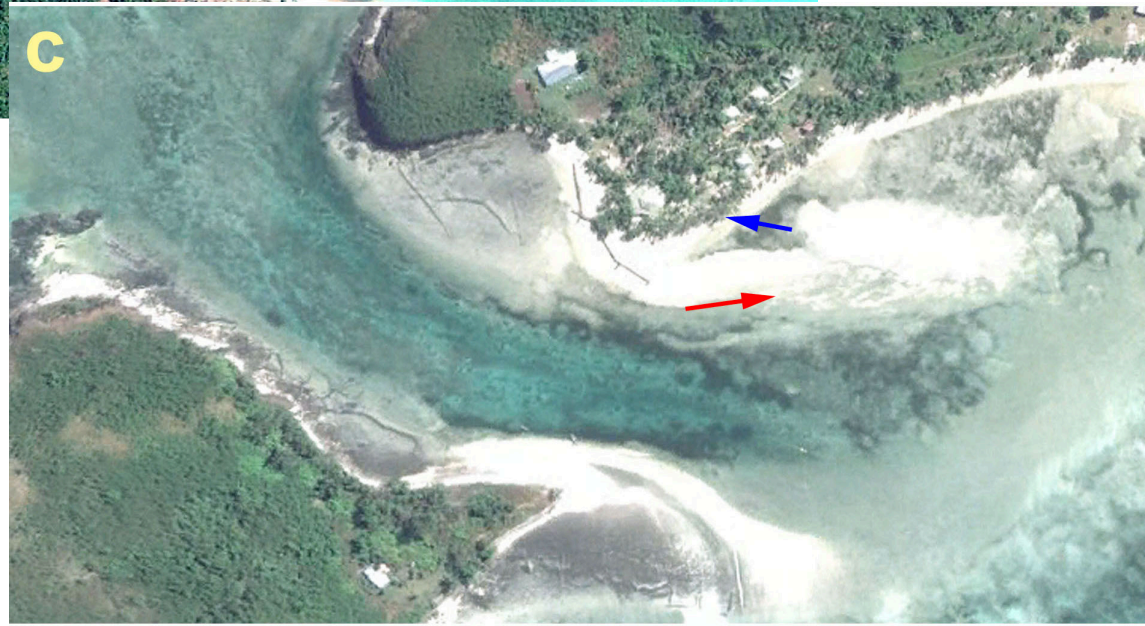




a) - Shore transport in 2005



b) - Sea walls and groins are installed in 2009



c) - Coastal currents are reversed and a gyre hits the shore causing local erosion in 2016

CONCLUSIONS

1. Erosion in the Fiji islands is not caused by SLR but by human error.
2. Sea level in the area has been stable for the past 50 years.
3. Any proposed changes to the local shoreline should be studied carefully, taking into consideration local benthic faunal populations and oceanic current conditions.



Many thanks to the CO₂ Coalition for their generous support of our work. We also are grateful to the wonderful kindness of the Fijian people living in the Yasawas for providing their hospitality and assistance with transportation.