



SPREP's report on activities to ICRI

Presented by Caroline Vieux

1. General Information

Representation to ICRI (Country / Organization):	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
Focal Point 1:	Caroline Vieux, Coral Reef Management Officer
Focal point 2:	Position vacant, Coastal Management Adviser
Last meeting attended:	ICRI General meeting, Washington DC, January 2008
How do you circulate ICRI information within your country and/or organization?	Through Travel Report within the organization and through SPREP circulars to the countries
Budget allocated for coral reef related activities (please mention for year/period):	USD 780,000 / 2007-2009

For countries only:

National Action Plan / Initiative	
Do you have a National Coral Reef actions plan?	
Is this plan publicly available? If so please provide location:	
Do you have a National Coral Reef Initiative or Task Force?	
Are you engaged in any regional programs / initiatives relating to coral reefs:	YES
If yes, please indicate which programmes/initiatives:	CRISP
Marine Protected Areas	
How many MPA(s) with coral reefs?	Under assessment for Polynesia/Melanesia
What is the percentage of coral reef MPA(s) to the (coastal zone / marine area)?	Under assessment for Polynesia/Melanesia
Please provide the appropriate contact name for MPA data holdings	
Details for contact (email/fax/telephone)	

2. **Member contribution to the ICRI GM:** Your responses to the following questions will contribute to ongoing ICRI activities. Due to heavy schedules of ICRI members, we have tried to keep the questions to a minimum and value any response you can provide.

Economic Valuation of coral reef ecosystems:

- a. Do you have examples of where economic valuation of coral reefs is being applied in practice? (e.g. in consideration of coastal land use, coastal/marine spatial planning, for determining compensation);

No.

- b. Do you have established methods for assessing these values? If so, please provide further information.

Sustainable Tourism:

- a. With respect to coral reefs, what does sustainable tourism mean to you?

Conserving the reefs while supporting livelihood of local people by developing small scale tourism operations.

- b. What are the key challenges you face to achieving sustainable tourism?

The shift in people expectation and the willing to get more than sufficient revenues. In the Pacific, I believe sustainable tourism can only be at a small scale.

A. Summary of IYOR 2008 Activities:

- Please tell us, briefly, about your activities for IYOR.

SPREP, through the CRISP, is coordinating the Pacific Year Of the Reef (PYOR). Funds have been given to countries to fund activities as part of PYOR. Lots of countries have used these fundings to organize the environment week on the theme of coral reefs. Two regional school competitions have been launched, legends of the reefs and challengecoralreef. As part of challengecoralreef, 11 schools throughout the regions have been awarded with funding to implement actions to save their local reefs.

SPREP is editing a quarterly e-newsletter on PYOR and CRISP projects and a website has also been developed for PYOR (www.sprep.org/pyor).

A side-event on PYOR will be organized at the SPREP meeting in September in Pohnpei to reach the level of decision-makers and raise awareness on the themes of economic value of reefs and good governance.

B. Emerging Issues

- Please identify any emerging issues that you feel should be taken up by ICRI.

I think data sharing is a critical issue, at least in the Pacific region, as fisheries, environment, forestry, agriculture and land departments usually do not work together. It is very often that Fisheries and Environment departments are in competition for coral reef management. In some cases, environment deals with coral monitoring and Fisheries, with fish monitoring...When we talk about integrated coastal management, data sharing to allow integrated decision making seems to be a key.