



Member's report on activities to ICRI

Presented by Nguyen Giang Thu
Reporting period January 2009 – December 2010

Please note that the purpose of this report is to help you share information about your activities within the ICRI community to allow discussion at the next ICRI General Meeting. The reports will be made available on the ICRIForum prior to the meeting. The ICRI secretariat is well aware of your busy schedule, thus don't hesitate to submit an incomplete report.

1. General Information

Are you an ICRI Member?	Yes
Representation to ICRI (Country / Organization):	Country: Vietnam
Focal Point 1:	
Name:	Dr. Vo Si Tuan
Organization:	National Institute of Oceanography
Email:	thuysinh@dng.vnn.vn ; vosituan@gmail.com
Focal point 2:	
Name:	Nguyen Giang Thu
Organization:	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development
Email:	thung.khcn@mard.gov.vn ; giangthu@gmail.com
Last meeting attended:	ICRI East Asia Regional workshop, Hoi An 8-11 th December, 2009
How do you circulate ICRI information within your country and/or organization?	Through official website, workshop
Budget allocated for coral reef related activities (please mention for year/period):	National budget allocated for coral reef related activities from 2009-2015: 16 millions USD

For countries only:

National Action Plan / Initiative	
	YES
Do you have a National Coral Reef Initiative or Task Force?	YES
Are you engaged in any regional programs / initiatives relating to coral reefs:	Yes
If yes, please indicate which programmes/initiatives:	UNEP/GEF South China Sea Project, PEMSEA, East Asian Sea Regional MPA network

2. Updates on your activities (new initiatives/programs/projects of your government /organization which will be of interest to the ICRI Members)

- New establishment of Con Co MPA

- National project funded by state budget to establish 3 new MPAs in planning phase: Cu Lao Cau, Bach Long vi and Phu Qui
- Development of management plan for marine conservation in Nui Chua National Park, Phu Quoc MPA and approval of management plan for Cu Lao Cham MPA
- Monitoring to evaluate management effectiveness of Phu Quoc MPAs
- Provincial project to study coral reefs and proposed management strategy in Phu Yen Province (south Viet Nam) implemented by the Institute of Oceanography with fund provided by local government.
- National project to study degradation of coastal ecosystems, including coral reefs (2009 - 2011). In the framework of this project, indicators for coral reef degradation in South Viet Nam have been developed and published in the National Conference on Marine Biology and Sustainable Development, Hai Phong, Nov. 2009.

3. Contribution to the ICRI GM: Your responses to the following questions will assist the Secretariat in assessing contributions towards the major themes of the current ICRI action plan and objectives of the general meeting. Due to the heavy schedules of ICRI members, we have tried to keep the questions to a minimum and value any response you can provide.

NOTE: The Secretariat will compile Members' responses to the below questions into a general presentation to be given during the GM. The Secretariat will also request specific Members to highlight certain initiatives, should additional information be of interest to the full ICRI membership.

a. **Fisheries session:** Please provide any lessons you have learned from your experiences in managing fisheries and any projects/programs you are involved in.

The fisheries component of the UNEP/GEF South China Sea Project successfully developed the scientific, policy, and institutional foundations required to enable the establishment and operation of a regional system of fisheries *refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand. The management of the environment and fisheries in the region is highly fragmented and the *refugia* concept has contributed significantly to bridging the divide between fisheries and environmental managers in the region. The concept has provided a basis for a wider understanding of fisheries concerns by other sectors, and has sensitised the environment sector to the need to consider fisheries in habitat or ecosystem based management.

The Support to Marine Protected area network of Vietnam

Publication

- Vo Si Tuan, 2009. Development of indicators for coral reef degradation in the coastal waters of South Viet Nam. Proceeding of National Conference on Marine Biology and Sustainable Development. Publishing House of Natural Science and Technology (in Vietnamese with English abstract): 138 - 145
- Final report "Monitoring of seagrass beds and coral reefs in Phu Quoc Marine Protected Area". WWF and Institute of Oceanography (In English): 47 ppp
- Final report "Status of coral reefs in the coastal waters of Phu Yen Province and proposed solutions for co-management". SEMLA programme of Phu Yen province and Institute of Oceanography (in Vietnamese): 107 pp
- Ph.D Thesis Nguyen Van Long, 2009: Study on relationships between coral reef fish communities to some characteristics and status of coral reefs in the coastal waters of south-central Vietnam, 156pp.

- What was The Problem or the Challenge? – including information on the location, the perceived problem and the effects on the coastal resources
 - What was done? Both ecological and sociological interventions
 - How successful was it? E.g. has fisheries improved; positive effects on coral reefs; better reef resources exportation ?
 - Lessons learned and recommendations; Key messages to convey to other people
 - References
 - Author/s Contact
- b. The ICRI secretariat is planning on revisiting/updating the ICRI “call to action” (http://www.icriforum.org/library/call_action.pdf) and ICRI “framework to action” (http://www.icriforum.org/library/framework_action.pdf). Please provide any guidelines you think would be useful.
- c. During the meeting, a full day will focus on the Caribbean region. If you have any question about the region, ongoing projects in the region,... please let us know.
- d. During the meeting, we are planning on having a presentation on the “Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB)”. Could you please list your coral reef sites listed under the MAB programme.
- e. What other new initiatives/programs/projects/progress, in particular since April 2009, has been made by your government/organization relative to Marine Protected Areas, Ramsar site designations containing coral reefs, policy changes, economic valuation of coral reef ecosystem services, etc., which you believe would be of general interest to other ICRI Members?
- f. Please list publications, reports you have been released since April 2009

For any of the above questions, please provide links to further information. As appropriate, the Secretariat will compile such information to make it accessible to all Members on the ICRI Forum.

ICRI and Other Meetings - Are you considering attending any of the following meetings in 2009?

- 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Doha, Qatar, from 13 to 25 March 2010
- 5th Global Oceans Conference: Ensuring Survival, Preserving Life, and Improving Governance:
 - Policy, Science, and Technical Symposium (May 3-4, 2010)
 - Policy Conference (May 6-7, 2010)
- 10th Meeting of the conference of the Parties to the convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10), October 18-29, 2010, Nagoya, Japan
- Other (please specify):