



Member’s report on activities to ICRI

Presented by World Resources Institute (WRI) / USA

Reporting period December 2010– December 2011

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):	Organization – World Resources Institute
Focal Point 1:	
<i>Name:</i>	Lauretta Burke
<i>Organization:</i>	World Resources Institute
<i>Email:</i>	Lauretta@wri.org
Last meeting attended:	July 2010, Samoa
How do you circulate ICRI information within your country and/or organization?	By e-mail
Budget allocated for coral reef related activities (please mention for year/period):	Approx. US \$500,000 for 2011.

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

In February of 2001, the World Resources Institute (WRI) and partners released *Reefs at Risk Revisited* - a global analysis of threats to coral reefs. ICRI supported this project and the launch was a major media success (described below). Our efforts since the launch have focused on disseminating and leveraging the results of the *Reefs at Risk Revisited* project; developing a project on “management scorecards” to promote better management of coastal and marine resources; and our continuing work on economic valuation of coral reefs. A summary of each of these efforts is provided below.

a) *Reefs at Risk Revisited* - released.

On February 23, 2011, WRI and partners released *Reefs at Risk Revisited* with events at the National Press Club in Washington, DC and the Royal Society in London, and several small launches at other locations including Indonesia, Malaysia and Australia. These launch events were a huge success, with over 100 attendees in Washington and 50 in London. The report was covered by more than 200 media outlets, spanning 20 countries.

In addition to the report, the *Reefs at Risk Revisited* project released a range of multimedia products and tools, including: a short video presenting the key findings of *Reefs at Risk Revisited*; downloadable data sets; an online map of reefs at risk on Google Maps; an interactive map of “Reef Stories”; regional and global factsheets; video of the launch event in Washington, DC; and links to the major media coverage of the launch and publication. WRI, with assistance from ICRI and other partners, has also initiated an extensive outreach and policy influence campaign; successfully disseminating key findings through regional launches, media engagement, newsletters, websites and

other events coordinated with partner organizations, as well as by distributing the report to our partners, donors, interested parties, and key decision makers.

The report, including the executive summary, has been downloaded by over 9,000 users, while our *Reefs at Risk Revisited* datasets and KML files have been downloaded over 1,500 times. The Reefs at Risk data layers have also been posted on ReefBase and the Coral Triangle Atlas, at the request of our partners working on the Coral Triangle Initiative.

b) **Leveraging *Reefs at Risk Revisited***

Since the launch of the *Reefs at Risk Revisited* (R@R-R) report, we have focused on getting the results out to decision-makers – by disseminating the full report; developing shorter and region-specific reports, through video and by producing a data DVD to support analysis.

Derivative Reports

1. **Summary for Decision-makers** – With support from ICRI, we have condensed the 120 page R@R-R report into a 30 page summary for decision-makers. This will be published in English as an online PDF. We would like to also publish a French translation of this summary – also as an online PDF. We are seeking assistance with the translation to French.
2. **Summary for the Coral Triangle** – With support from the USAID-funded Coral Triangle Support Partnership, we are developing a summary report focused on the Coral Triangle. It will include global results, summary maps and statistics for the Coral Triangle Region, and maps, summary statistics and a description of threat and status for each country in the Coral Triangle. This will be published in English and translated into Indonesian.
3. **GCRMN Pacific Report** – At the ICRI GM in Samoa, WRI agreed to collaborate on the GCRMN regional report for the Pacific, by providing country-level maps, graphics and statistics for each country / territory in the region. WRI's Katie Reytar ultimately played a larger role than initially anticipated in providing comments and some editing on each country chapter. Responsibility within the GCRMN partnership for managing the report review and production process was not always clear. Because of time constraints, the review process did not meet WRI requirements, and we were not able to include our logo on the cover of the report.

If ICRI / GCRMN decide to do regional reports in the future, I recommend:

- a) Conducting a review of the implementation of the Pacific report, in order to derive lessons learned from this experience;
- b) Establishing a clearly-defined report management process – with responsibilities made explicit—and a single, designated manager; and
- c) Establishing a clearly-defined review process, both for individual chapters and for the report as a whole.

Data DVD

WRI recently just released a *Reefs at Risk Revisited* Data and Resources DVD that contains a comprehensive set of materials associated with the *Reefs at Risk Revisited* project. The DVD includes: GIS data (input data and model results); a full set of maps in JPEG format; KML files (for viewing on Google Earth); a PDF of the report; technical notes; a 4-minute overview video; and links to additional resources. Fifty copies were sent to the ICRI meeting. (Contact reefsatrisk@wri.org for additional copies.)

Videos

1. **In French and Spanish.** In February, we released a 4-minute video, providing an overview of *Reefs at Risk Revisited* findings. We have recently produced French and Spanish versions of the video, with Celine as the narrator. (This video will be available through www.wri.org/reefs and youtube.)
2. **Google** – With support from Google, we are developing a video tour of the Reefs at Risk Revisited data and results in Google Earth.

c) **Management Score Cards**

Moving beyond reports and analysis, we are working with partners to encourage better coastal and fisheries management. We are collaborating with the Healthy Reefs Initiative (HRI) to implement the first-ever Eco-Audit, which evaluates the progress that four countries along Mesoamerican Reef (Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Belize) are making to protect their coral reefs. Working with partners, indicators have been developed to track progress across seven broad areas - marine protected areas; sustainable fisheries management; coastal zone management; sanitation and sewage treatment; research, education and awareness; sustainability in the private sector; and global issues (planning resilience and support of global agreements). We are currently working with partners to finalize indicator rankings and track down verification documentation. A launch of results is planned for early 2012.

d) **Economic Valuation of Coral Reefs**

1. **Jamaica coral reef valuation.** WRI released its fifth economic valuation of coral reefs in the Caribbean under the *Coastal Capital* project series. Beginning in 2005, WRI and partners have implemented coral reef valuations in Tobago, St. Lucia, Belize, and the Dominican Republic. In June, WRI, with the Nature Conservancy and the University of the West Indies released a valuation of Jamaica's coral reefs. This evaluated coral reef associated fisheries, the role of healthy reefs in protecting beaches (and associated tourism revenue) and their role in reducing flooding along the shoreline. (Project descriptions and published results are available from <http://www.wri.org/project/valuation-caribbean-reefs>.)
2. **Standardized framework for valuation.** Building upon our experience in the *Coastal Capital* series, as well as the experience of our network of partners previous and ongoing coral reef valuation efforts, we are facilitating a discussion about the utility of the development of a more standardized approach to coastal ecosystem valuation. Currently, a wide variety of methods are used to conduct valuation of coastal ecosystems. The sheer variety of coral reef economic valuation methods can be confusing, and can yield results which are not comparable or easily understood. We are developing a partnership to explore what would be efficient and useful to address this problem. The idea is to develop a more standardized, yet adaptable, framework for coastal valuation, in order to produce valuation results that are most useful to decision-makers, conservation advocates and other stakeholders.

Working with regional and global experts, we will draw out lessons learned and best practices from previous coral reef valuations. We will then identify key success factors for policy influence, and address outstanding issues in coral reef valuation including: selection of valuation methodology and geographical scale, identification of potential users and policy applications of economic valuations, and effective and efficient data-collection methods. We believe these results will be useful to the ICRI community.

Current partners in this effort include: The Marine Ecosystem Services Partnership and the Nicholas Institute of Duke University, the Conservation Strategy Fund, MARES Program of Forest Trends, The Nature Conservancy, The University of North Carolina Wilmington, and the University of the West Indies. We are happy to include other partners.