INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF INITIATIVE (ICRI)
29th General Meeting
20-23 October 2014 – Okinawa, Japan

Member's report on activities related to ICRI

Reporting period October 2013 – September 2014

1. **Updates on your activities.**

Project 1

Cornerstone(s) implemented through the project	Check all that apply: ☒ Integrated Management ☒ Capacity Building ☒ Science & Monitoring ☒ Periodic Assessment (Review)
Project Title	Coral Vivo
Location	Main Field Area: Southern Bahia State (16-18 S) Brazil
Dates	Since 2003
Main Organizer(s)	Clovis B Castro
Main Stakeholder(s)	Débora O. Pires, Emiliano N. Calderon, Gustavo Adolpho D. Duarte, Maria Teresa J. Gouveia, José Carlos S. Seoane, Adalto Bianchini, Raquel S. Peixoto, Carla Zilberberg, Alexandre S. Rosado, Alexandre Schiavetti, Paulo A. Horta, Ricardo M. Chaloub, Cátia F. Barbosa, Simoni C. Dias, Octávio Franco
Description of Project (Please elaborate on how the project implements the FFA cornerstones)	Since its creation, in 2003, the Coral Vivo Project is growing and continually expanding its activities. Currently, activities are carried out in four axes that communicate with each other, each having an experienced professional as executive coordinator. A brief description of the main actions of each axle: a) Public Policies (Executive Coordinator Gustavo Duarte – Instituto Coral Vivo): the Coral Vivo has strong actions towards public policies, at local and national levels. It has locally elected representation on the Council for the Environment of the Municipality of Porto Seguro, who also serves as Advisory Council to the Recife de Fora Natural Park, and the Deliberative Council of the Extractive Reserve Corumbau, both in southern Bahia. At the national level, it is developing (as executive coordination), in partnership with the Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade (ICMBio/Ministério do Meio Ambiente), the National Action Plan for the Conservation of Coral Environments (PAN Corais), which is in final stages of preparation with two participatory workshops already held in 2014. b) Environmental Education (Executive Coordinator Teresa Gouveia – Instituto de Pesquisas Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro): the Projeto Coral Vivo has conducted training courses on environmental education for about 400 public school teachers. At the moment, it has

	ongoing partnership with three state colleges on the Discovery Coast (one in Santa Cruz Cabrália; one in Porto Seguro; and one in Arraial d'Ajuda), forming the Coral Vivo Education Network. These school units collectively have about 3,000 high school students and young adults (EJA). In these partnerships, environmental education projects are embedded in the pedagogical and political projects of the colleges, which are performed with the accompaniment of Coral Vivo. The University Extension Program (Proex) has received more than 120 volunteers from throughout Brazil for a period of about three weeks each. c) Research (Executive Coordinator Emiliano Calderon – Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro - UFRJ): Coral Vivo Research Network was formed with PhD researchers from public institutions from Bahia to Rio Grande do Sul (see http://coralvivo.org.br/coral-vivo/pesquisadores/). These Research Associates conduct joint studies linking different areas of knowledge. A formal Research Group was formed in CNPq, with the leadership of Adalto Bianchini (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande - FURG). A project was recently approved in the call "Capes Ciências do Mar" to study the influence of Buranhém River and tourism on the Recife de Fora, Porto Seguro. This project has the General Coordination of Alexandre Rosado (Microbiology/UFRJ) and direct participation of FURG and Universidade Estadual de Santa Cruz. Research conducted concern the generation of knowledge for environmental management (such as mapping and monitoring), evaluation on the effects of climate change and water quality on reef organisms, man's relationship with the reef environments, tourism and other interferences. We highlight here the Research Base located in Arraial d'Ajuda, which has nurseries, an experimental system - the marine mesocosm, and logistical support for work at sea. d) Communication and environmental awareness (Executive Coordinator Debora Pires – Museu Nacional/UFRJ): the Coral Vivo has two facilities for visitation, which have already received hundreds of thousands of visitors accompanied by trained guides. The first is associated with the Coral Vivo Research Base, founded in 2004 and located within the waterpark Arraial d'Ajuda Eco Parque, which has almost 200,000 visitors per year. Here, visitors can follow part of the research conducted with support of the Coral Vivo, in addition to seeing small coral (recruits) measuring just over a millimeter through a stereomicroscope. The second location is Espaço Coral Vivo Mucugê, founded in 2012, located on the main street of Arraial d'Ajuda touristic area. Its main attraction are centenarian coral colonies borrowed from Museu Nacional. In its first year it received about 30,000 visitors accompanied by trained guides. Garments and souvenirs produced in exclusive models for Coral Vivo are marketed here. The surplus is completely used for the sustainability of the project. The Coral Vivo is also active on social networks, with more than 60,000 fans enjoying our Facebook page. It publishes a periodical of wide circulation (Coral Vivo Notícias) and has a strong presence on the news. In addition, the Coral Vivo

	Project is part of the Project Network of Marine Biodiversity (BIOMAR Network), which also includes the Tamar (Sea Turtle), Baleia Jubarte (Humpback Whale), Golfinho Rotador (Spinner Dolphin) and Albatroz (Albatross) projects. The Coral Vivo Project is sponsored by Petrobras through the Petrobras Socioenvironmental Program and cosponsored by Arraial d'Ajuda Eco Parque. Other sources fund specific areas, such as the Ministério da Educação (through Capes) and the Ministério de Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovação (through CNPq).
Outcome (Expected outcome)	Coral Vivo aims to promote the insertion of themes related to conservation and sustainable uses of coral and reef environments in political, social, educational, and scientific agendas in Brazil. The main goal is to make stakeholders of all these fields to dialogue and integrate into a common agenda to protect these habitats and their sustainable use, especially for the livelihoods of local communities that are dependent on them.
Lessons learned	Conservation and sustainable use actions necessarily deal with changes in culture, in the generation of knowledge and its use by society. It takes time. Therefore, the main lesson learned was that continuity is the key factor for success in any initiative.
Related websites (English preferred)	www.coralvivo.org.br, facebook.com/coralvivo

Project 2

Cornerstone(s) implemented through the project	Check all that apply: ☐ Integrated Management ☐ Capacity Building ☒ Science & Monitoring ☒ Periodic Assessment (Review)
Project Title	National Plan of Action for Coral Reef Conservation ICMBio
Location	Brazil
Dates	2014
Main Organizer(s)	Chico Mendes Biodiversity Conservation Institute
Main Stakeholder(s)	Researchers, Environmental managers, local community, NGOs (mainly SAMN Associação Amigos do Museu Nacional - Coral Vivo)
Description of Project (Please elaborate on how the project implements the FFA cornerstones)	Following the evaluation of the status of coral and reef fish species according to IUCN criteria, the Chico Mendes Brazilian Institute of Biodiversity (ICMBIO) prepare a Plan of Action to reduce threats to 55 endangered species of the Brazilian Coral Reefs (www.icmbio.gov.br).
Outcome (including expected outcome)	Improve coral reef conservation status trough the reduction of human impact and expansion of its protection and knowledge, promoting sustainable use and social-environmental justice, in the next five years.
Lessons learned	The plan was finished in august 2014, it is in press and now it is

	going to be implemented.
Related websites (English preferred)	www.icmbio.gov.br

Project 3

Cornerstone(s) implemented through the project	Check all that apply: ☒ Integrated Management ☒ Capacity Building ☒ Science & Monitoring ☒ Periodic Assessment (Review)
Project Title	Brazilian Monitoring Program
Location	6 Federal Protected Areas
Dates	Since 2002
Main Organizer(s)	Federal University of Pernambuco/ICMBio
Main Stakeholder(s)	Government, Scientists, Citizen Science.
Description of Project (Please elaborate on how the project implements the FFA cornerstones)	Coral Reef Monitoring: *A National Program* The Brazilian National Coral Reef Monitoring Program started in 2002 with a two year pilot phase to test and adapt Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) protocols to characteristics of Brazilian reefs. The adopted protocol is Reef Check compatible, expanded to include more indicators and identification at species level, individual size measurements as well as abundance, and to incorporate more refined measurements for coral bleaching and diseases. In 2010 the Chico Mendes Brazilian Institute of Biodiversity incorporate the Coral Reef Monitoring Program under the regular activities of the MPAs. For this, more than 60 MPA personnel and local guides and volunteers have been trained on monitoring activities during several courses and joint expeditions. Coral Reef Conservation Campaign: has run for several years. It is focused on promoting public awareness regarding the importance of the conservation of coral reefs and the fragility of these environments. It includes awareness materials such as posters, brochures, booklet, and a video (DVD) with 8 minutes of duration. In 2010 training four courses were conducted in: Abrolhos National Marine Park and Corumbau Extractivist Reserve. In 2011, three courses were conducted in Marau Municipality, in Environment Protected Area with support of Brazilian Ministry of the Environment (www.mma.gov.br).
Outcome (Expected outcome)	To monitor the effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas under different management regimes; a Manual for coral reef monitoring and a publication including main results in the last 10 years.
Lessons learned	Volunteer participation is not only important to collect data and to raise local questions and issues but also to increase awareness and engagement.
Related websites (English preferred)	www.icmbio.gov.br; www.mma.gov.br

Project 4

Cornerstone(s) implemented through the project	Check all that apply: ☐ Integrated Management ☐ Capacity Building ☒ Science & Monitoring ☐ Periodic Assessment (Review)
Project Title	Brazilian National Institute of Science and Technology: Tropical Marine Environments Project
Location	National
Dates	Since 2012
Main Organizer(s)	Federal University of Bahia, Federal University of Pernambuco and Ministry of Science and Technology
Main Stakeholder(s)	Scientists and Government
Description of Project (Please elaborate on how the project implements the FFA cornerstones)	Project is still in initial phase. It is a science focused project but also aims to provide subsidies for management, evaluating protocols that have been used for coral reef monitoring in the country and observe variation of coral reefs in space and time in face of climate and anthropogenic stressors.
Outcome (Expected outcome)	A guide of coral reef monitoring methods and health assessments for Brazilian coral reefs.
Lessons learned	
Related websites (English preferred)	No English websites

2. Contribution to the ICRI Plan of Action and GM.

a. Engaging other sectors

[Insert text here]

b. Reef zoning for multiple use

Location where a zoning plan has been implemented	
Year when the zoning plan was implemented	
Is the zoning plan accepted by the local community?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Did the zoning plan cause conflicts among stakeholders?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Did the zoning plan resolve conflicts among stakeholders?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Has there been effective enforcement for stakeholders to follow the zoning plan?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Overall, how would you rate the success of the zoning plan?	☐ Very successful ☐ Somewhat successful ☐ Not so successful ☐ Unsuccessful

Brazil is working to elaborate the actualization of National Biodiversity Priority Areas and is working to insert the Marine Spatial Planning in the marine politics.

3. **Publications.** Please list relevant publications/reports you have released during this reporting period.

Title (incl. author and date)	**Website URL if available**	**Type of publication** (Paper, report, etc.)

4. **General Information.**

Member type (Country / Organization):	Brazil
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