



Member's report on activities to ICRI

Presented by France

Reporting period July 2008 – April 2009

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

Representation to ICRI (Country / Organization):	FRANCE
Focal Point 1:	Bernard SALVAT
Focal point 2:	Pascal COLIN (Ministère Outre-Mer) Emmanuel THIRY (Ministère Ecologie) Eric CLUA (CRISP-AFD-CPS) Serge PLANES (CNRS-EPHE)
Last meeting attended:	FORT LAUDERDALE, USA
How do you circulate ICRI information within your country and/or organization?	Diplomatic messages Diffusion ICRI GA Reports Meetings Through IFRECOR (French Initiative) Through media
Budget allocated for coral reef related activities (please mention for year/period):	About 1.5 million \$US for coordination and French GEF projects outside France and excluding research and management (funds and salaries)

For countries only:

National Action Plan / Initiative	
Do you have a National Coral Reef action plan?	YES = IFRECOR
Is this plan publicly available? If so please provide location:	Web site IFRECOR on Ministry of Ecology and Ministry of Overseas
Do you have a National Coral Reef Initiative or Task Force?	YES = IFRECOR second programme 2006 - 2010
Are you engaged in any regional programs / initiatives relating to coral reefs:	YES
If yes, please indicate which programmes/initiatives:	CRISP (Initiative Pacifique) CARSPAW Caraïbes SPREP-GCRMN Polynesia mana node French GEF (FFEM)

2. Member contribution to the ICRI GM: Your responses to the following questions will assist the Secretariat in assessing contributions towards the major themes of the Mexico-

United States action plan. 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 April GM. The Secretariat will also request specific Members to highlight certain initiatives, should additional information be of interest to the full ICRI membership. Please keep this in mind when filling out this report and place special emphasis on calling attention to new initiatives/programs/projects of your government/organization which will be of interest to the ICRI Members.

- a. Please provide any lessons you have learned from your experiences of developing partnerships with the private sector that might be relevant to ICRI members?

Many local partnerships have been set-up through IFRECOR for management and monitoring of coral reefs with private sector. These partnerships focussed on concrete and on-the-ground activities and most of the time are short time.

- b. Are you aware of programmes or policies by your country/organization for implementing integrated ecosystem management from watershed to reef slope?

c.

Watershed management to reef ecosystem is one objective of the IFRECOR action plan which will be implemented in the third programme 2011-1015.

See also CRISP Initiative

- d. Are there any monitoring or research activities you are either involved in or aware of aimed at improving understanding of adaptive management of coral reefs and related ecosystems that may be of interest to ICRI members?

Examples could include any efforts through workshops, environmental education programs, beach and underwater clean ups, etc. with coastal/local communities to promote understanding and recognition of the environmental services coral reefs provide.

CSI for Coral Reefs : investigate and enforcement forensics training workshop, South Pacific. 26-30 May 2009, CRIOBE EPHE Moorea, French Polynesia

A Five-Day Field Workshop for Coral Reef or MPA Managers, Enforcement Officers, Field Biologists & Interested Parties. A unique five-day field-based training workshop designed for coral reef and MPA resource managers, environmental assessment specialists, marine field investigators, students and litigators on conducting coral reef enforcement and natural resource investigations on a wide variety of anthropogenic events. It will run from Tuesday, May 26, 2009 through Saturday, May 30, 2009 – all participants must be on-site by early morning February 25.

Taught in, around, and adjacent to, the nearshore coral reef waters of Moorea, Tahiti, French Polynesia. The workshop will be held out of the Centre de Recherches et Observatoire de l'Environnement (**CRIOBE**), and involve lectures and demonstrations related to the relatively new field of coral reef forensic investigations, along with hands-on field injury and crime scene investigations guided by international professionals in wildlife enforcement, coral reef ecology, and marine natural resource investigation.

Regardless of region, most coral reef ecosystems around the world are under various levels of impact from illegal fishing, vessel groundings, destructive fishing, physical damage, coastal pollution and runoff, overfishing, illegal international trade, over-lapping (and often conflicting) use by various user groups, bleaching, chemical effects and endocrine disruption, alien species-associated phase shifts, and nutrient-associated phase shifts. Few areas have trained field investigators and well-developed

natural resource programs to properly assess and handle the wide variety of anthropogenic events occurring; in most cases, such short-term human impact events often overwhelm the capabilities of resource managers to maximize prosecution, mitigation, negotiation, mediation, or litigation success. This takes on even greater significance relative to multi-country joint-investigations relative to shared coral reef impacts and illegal trafficking in coral reef products.

- e. Please indicate the effects of the Live Reef Food Fish Trade on your government/organization. Are you aware of any programs/policies in place to address these impacts?

Same as in CRISP Member report :

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (to which the Coordinating Unit of the CRISP programme belongs since April 2008) has edited and dispatched a 12 mn movie (French and English version) for calling the attention of Pacific decision-makers regarding the risks of overfishing generated by LRFT. This movie is called: "Live Reef Fish Trade: the Boom and Bust syndrome". The CRISP programme (if the ICRI secretariat agrees) proposes to bring and offer to ICRI members 200 DVDs during the next ICRI meeting.

- f. What other new initiatives/programs/projects/progress, in particular since January 2008, has been made by your government/organization relative to Marine Protected Areas, Ramsar site designations containing coral reefs, integrated coastal zone management measures, policy changes influenced by economic valuation of coral reef ecosystem services, etc., which you believe would be of general interest to other ICRI Members?

Creation of GDRI – groupement de recherché international on coral reefs – March 2009

Objective is to get together all French research scientists working on coral reefs in the three oceans with and to favor their activities with foreign institutions working on coral reefs

Creation of Pacific Institute for Coral Reef – EPHE – February 2009

An Institution to enlarge French activities in the Pacific on science, formation and education

Launching of the national "Agence des Aires Marines Protégées" in 2007

New international protected areas:

- World Heritage convention 2008 : New Caledonia coral reefs and lagoons (15.000 km² out of 40.000)
- Ramsar site 2008 : Fakarava atolls (6), Tuamotu, French Polynesia (5000 km²)

IFRECOR National committee to meet in Wallis and Futuna, 3-7 May 2009. Status of actions of the second action plan 2006-2010, first reflexion on the third action plan 2011-2016

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 your ICRI Focal Points considering attending any of the following meetings in 2009?

- IMCC, Washington DC YES
About 15 french participants
- World Ocean Congress, Manado, Indonesia PROBABLY NOT

Other (please specify):

Regional meeting of Marine Protected Areas in the Pacific, in Moorea French Polynesia, 24-28 November 2009, organized by the French Agence on MPA, France IUCN, CRISP and the government of French Polynesia