



Member's report on activities to ICRI

Presented by Reef Check Foundation (USA)

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):	Reef Check Foundation (USA HQ)
Focal Point 1:	Gregor Hodgson
Focal point 2:	All RC Country Coordinators
Last meeting attended:	July 08
How do you circulate ICRI information within your country and/or organization?	Newsletter/Website news items
Budget allocated for coral reef related activities (please mention for year/period):	\$1 million/2009

For countries only:

National Action Plan / Initiative	
Do you have a National Coral Reef action plan?	YES / NO
Is this plan publicly available? If so please provide location:	
Do you have a National Coral Reef Initiative or Task Force?	YES / NO
Are you engaged in any regional programs / initiatives relating to coral reefs:	
If yes, please indicate which programmes/initiatives:	

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.

- 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?

Corporate Social Responsibility is a growing area and every company is looking for an environmental partner. Potential sponsors can come from any business sector not just ocean-related. During a poor economy, however, sponsorship will be one of the

first things decreased or cut. It is better to get hooked in with the marketing budget than the charity budget.

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

Reef Check is involved in "ridges to reefs" types of programs in several countries. It is very important to focus on the positive economic benefits of this approach to make it politically palatable.

- c. 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?

Through our EcoDiver program, Reef Check is involved in monitoring coral reefs in 90 countries and territories. We track 30 organisms, about 30 socioeconomic indicators, disease and bleaching. Reef Check monitoring is used to track management success at many MPAs, MMAs as well as at the national level.

- d. 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?

Reef Check monitoring includes high value indicator species such as the humphead wrasse, lobster and grouper that are typically targeted for the Live Food Fish trade. We contribute our data to IUCN Species Groups and others tracking this.

- e. 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?

Based on numerous requests, Reef Check is now offering a packaged series of Coral Reef Conservation Training Workshops to assist MPAs, government staff and NGOs in setting up a community-based conservation program:

Reef Check Workshops

- 1) EcoDiver Training*
- 2) Training of Trainers*
- 3) Monitoring Design (MPA to National Scale)*
- 4) Analysis and Reporting*
- 5) Using Monitoring Data to Resolve Management Issues*

For further information about these and other Reef Check activities please visit www.ReefCheck.org or email rcinfo@reefcheck.org

ICRI and Other Meetings

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

- IMCC, Washington DC
- World Ocean Congress, Manado, Indonesia -- *RC Indonesia etc.*

Other (please specify):
