



Member's report on activities to ICRI

Presented by Department of Marine and Coastal Resources /Thailand

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):	Thailand / Department of Marine and Coastal Resources
Focal Point 1:	Niphon Phongsuwan
Focal point 2:	
Last meeting attended:	
How do you circulate ICRI information within your country and/or organization?	Report to the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources
Budget allocated for coral reef related activities (please mention for year/period):	

For countries only:

National Action Plan / Initiative	
Do you have a National Coral Reef action plan?	YES (under revision)
Is this plan publicly available? If so please provide location:	no
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:	yes
If yes, please indicate which programmes/initiatives:	1) Green Fins 2) First Institute of Oceanography and Phuket Marine Biological Center joint project 3) IOC/WESTPAC Projects

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?

Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) (under Department of Marine and Coastal Resources) sees the importance of **public participation in managing of natural resources**. An example of coral reef management, Green Fins project has been implemented by PMBC with support from COBSEA/EAS and with public participation in order to mitigate the impact of diving tourism to coral reefs. At present, we have established the Green Fins Association, which is an NGO to run the project with PMBC advice.

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

- 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?

An example from Green Fins programme, other than the dive operators have to operate the diving tour with care of environment, they also provide coral reef status data (from reef monitoring by Reef Watch protocol or Reef Check method) as well as clean up the reefs.

- 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?

- 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?

Example from the Green Fins project, we create the “adopt a reef project”. This project aims at the Green Fins dive operator members and other general divers (Green Fins individual members) to monitor coral reefs where they often visit in order to see the changing of the reefs. The data is now accessible in the database with GIS application (see www.greenfins-thailand.org)

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 (**Secretariat of Green Fins will attend**)
- World Ocean Congress, Manado, Indonesia