



Jamaica Member’s report on activities to ICRI

Presented by National Environment and Planning Agency

Reporting period October 2006- April 2007

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 report will be made available on the ICRI Forum prior to the meeting, and a question and answer session held at the meeting. The ICRI secretariat is well aware of your busy schedule, thus don’t hesitate to submit incomplete report.

1. General Information

Representation to ICRI (Country / Organization):	Jamaica/National Environment and Planning Agency
Focal Point 1:	Ainsley Henry
Focal point 2:	Not yet designated
Last meeting attended:	Cozumel, October 2006
How do you circulate ICRI information with your country and/or organization?	Email, meetings, reports
Budget allocated for coral reefs (please mention for year/period):	Country estimate approx USD \$144,000.00

For countries only:

<i>National Action Plan / Initiative</i>	
Do you have a National Coral Reef actions plan?	YES in draft but inactive
Date of publication:	To be finalized
Do you have a National Coral Reef Initiative?	NO – Proposed to be incorporated with National Ramsar Committee
Relevance to regional program / initiative:	Ramsar Committee currently has scope for coral reefs so it may be a good fit, possibility currently being

	explored
How and where to obtain more information:	Integrated Watersheds and Coastal Zone Management Branch, National Environment and Planning Agency, Kingston 5, Jamaica
Monitoring	
Is there a national monitoring programme for your country?	Through the Jamaica Coral Reef Monitoring Network (JCRMN) a node of the GCRMN the annual work plans of several partner agencies are designed to incorporate monitoring work. This year the monitoring program is to be intensified and national reporting improved. Monitoring is done through a combination of the Reef Check, AGRRA, CPACC and Caricomp methodologies
Date of the last assessment?	February 2007
How and where to obtain more information:	National Environment and Planning Agency/Centre for Marine Sciences University of the West Indies.
Marine Protected Areas	
How many MPA(s) with coral reefs?	There are three marine parks with coral reefs in Jamaica and two other designated protected areas with coral reefs
What is the percentage of coral reef MPA(s) to the (coastal zone / marine area)?	Uncertain the coral reefs in Jamaica are currently being mapped,
Number of sites (with coral reefs) under the World Heritage Convention?	The Palisadoes Port Royal Protected area and Ramsar site is being considered for World Heritage Designation and will be the first such in Jamaica
Number of wetland sites (with coral reefs) under the Ramsar Convention?	There are currently two of three Ramsar Sites with Coral Reefs in Jamaica
Number of Biosphere Reserves (with coral reefs) under UNESCO's MAB Programme?	None in Jamaica

2. Report

A. Specific requests / questions for the next ICRI General Meeting

International Year of the Reef (IYOR) 2008

Do you have a committee/focal point for IYOR 2008?

If yes, contact information:

There is currently no defined focal point or committee for IYOR but the Integrated Watersheds and Coastal Zone Management Branch of the National Environment and Planning Agency is expected to be the focal point for many of the Activities. NEPA is currently planning aspects of the activities.

Contact with the Branch can be made through the Manager, Ainsley Henry at 1-876-754-7540 ext 2213 or ahenry@nepa.gov.jm

If available, brief description of what has been done so far:

The designation has been discussed at the annual general meeting of the Jamaica Coral Reef Monitoring Network and plans are being formulated by the full membership to have events to mark this signature event.

The Ministry of Local Government and Environment has also sent out communiqués to that effect and related ministries are currently seeking to formulate their plans to participate in the world wide observance.

The National Environment and Planning Agency is currently finalizing plans to gather additional information to inform the public education strategy for the years events it is hoped that funding will be acquired to assist with all the activities both active and educational that are expected to come on stream. Next year in recognition of the IYOR the IWCZMB of NEPA will add an underwater/reef component to the International Coastal Clean-up activities. Mechanisms to demonstrate the interrelatedness of the coral reefs with other aspects of Jamaican life inclusive of World Wetlands Day, Earth Day etc are also being contemplated. The new work plan for the National Ramsar Committee an advisory committee to the Agency is also expected to include a significant amount of work geared at showcasing the importance and interrelatedness of coral ecosystems.

If available, brief description of near future plans:

See Table below but it is also hoped that in the next budget year (April 2008) attempts to secure government funding for some activities for IYOR will be successful.

Relevance to mangrove ecosystems - Please give details of activities pertaining to mangroves, particularly where mangroves are associated with coral reefs.

The link between mangrove and coral reef ecosystems are of particular significance with respect to the activities being planned for WWD 2008. Jamaica is currently revamping the System of Protected Areas and it is expected that those areas with both systems will benefit from a signage programme that has been proposed that will highlight the values and functions the interrelatedness and the potential economic and social benefit to be accrued from these areas.

B. Summary of activities and pertinent points

1. Brief summary of major coral reef activities/projects:

Activity / Project Title	Location	Amount	Duration	major activities	for more info (web site / email)
1. ICC 2008	Palisadoes Port Royal Protected Area	Not yet budgeted	1 day	Dive clean up of coral areas in conjunction with regular coastal activities, Media coverage is expected	Not yet available
2. Anchorage for Reef and Cays	Palisadoes Port Royal Protected Area	USD \$95,000.00 Project funding being sourced.	Three months for installation and two years maintenance	Train staff to install and maintain anchorage buoys and marker buoys. Install same and produce public education material about them.	Not yet available
3. Dive in to earth day	Island Wide	Not yet budgeted	One day of activities	Not yet finalized	Not yet available
4. World Wetlands Day	Island wide	Not yet Budgeted Estimated USD \$10,000.00	One week of public education culminating with one day of activities	Radio and television spots about wetlands in general and coral reefs in particular	Not yet available
5. World Ocean Day	Island Wide	Not Yet Budgeted	One Day Activities	Not Yet finalized	Not yet available
6. Coral Reef Presentation	Institute of Jamaica, Kingston	Not yet budgeted	Year long – couple of months	Specific display at the Institute (Natural History Museum)	Not yet available

2. Please list:

- Key activities of the member since last report relating to coral reefs and associated ecosystems
 - i. Continued Reef Check Monitoring in collaboration with JCRMN.
 - ii. Dissemination of information on the proposal to designate 2008 IYOR
 - iii. Project proposal for anchorage written and submitted for funding (still seeking funding)
 - iv. Future monitoring plans
 - 1. Expansion of reef monitoring to include Alligator Reef on the south coast. (ongoing)
 - 2. Expansion of reef monitoring to include reefs off St. Thomas (ongoing)
 - 3. Parotee, St. Elizabeth reef monitoring (being planned)
 - 4. Robin's Bay, St. Mary reef monitoring (proposed)

- Identify points of relevance to other ICRI members, or the secretariat (eg points of particular concern; questions to ask of ICRI; information requested; assistance sought; lessons learned)
 - i. Has there been any financial support identified for activities for the year for each member?
 - ii. Will there be materials provided to assist with activities that year.
 - iii. Are there any funding sources that have indicated a willingness to support these sorts of activities

- Identify forthcoming activities that might be of interest to other members in terms of funding; partnership; uptake.