



36th General Meeting VIRTUAL

An update on the
Global Coral Reef R&D
Accelerator Platform
(CORDAP)

Jennifer Koss
NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program, Director

The Global Coral Reef R&D Accelerator Platform Initiative (cordap)

An initiative launched by the G20



Reef Futures, December 2021
Jennifer Koss, CORDAP Vice Chair



THE G20 DECIDED TO ESTABLISH AN R&D ACCELERATOR PLATFORM TO DELIVER THE BEST SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS TO SECURE A FUTURE FOR CORAL REEFS

(G20 Environment Ministers Communiqué - November 22, 2020)



Develop and share novel scientific tools

Facilitate access to information & research facilities

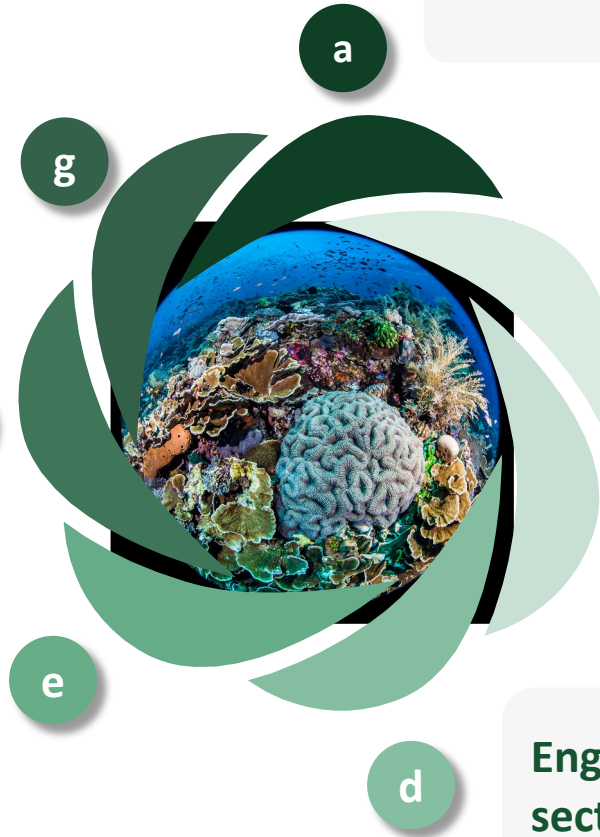
Provide advanced R&D training to scientists from developing and least developed countries

Deliver novel science and technology to conserve and restore coral reefs

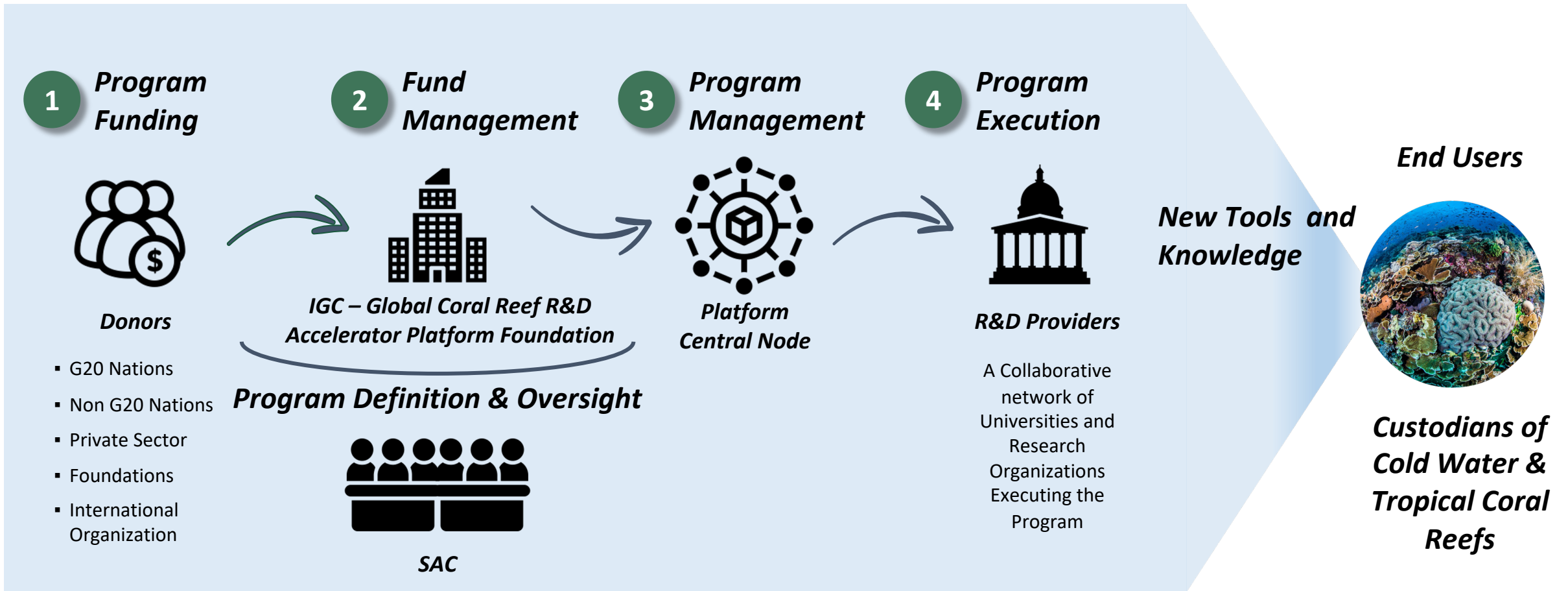
Connect existing national, regional, and international R&D programs

Support a gender-balanced, transdisciplinary global community of scientists, technologists and innovators to achieve the goals

Engage the R&D capacity of the private sector with the goals



New Tools and Knowledge to Secure a Future for Corals



The Initiative Governing Committee has now been formed - and is comprised of G20 Member states, other countries and international agencies


Initiative Governing Committee (IGC) Members to date



Advisory members of the IGC




United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)




International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)




Great Barrier Reef Foundation (GBRF)



International Coral Reef Society (ICRS)



Japanese Coral Reef Society (JCRS)



Coral Restoration Consortium (CRC)

Initiative Governing Committee elected officers



Chair – Dr. Osama Faqeeha, Deputy Minister of Environment, MEWA,
Saudi Arabia



Vice Chair – Ms. Jennifer Koss, Director, NOAA Coral Reef Conservation
Program, USA



Executive Director (interim) – Prof. Carlos M. Duarte, KAUST, Saudi Arabia



So how is CORDAP different?

CORDAPs mission is to bring together the best teams in a range of disciplines from biology/ecology to engineering, materials, automation, robotics, sensing and more to provide these solutions!!

- **CORDAP will run global targeted R&D calls in priority themes selected by its Scientific and Advisory Committee to address the critical issues outlined above.**
- **CORDAP is the only international organization fully dedicated to funding and scaling up global R&D for coral restoration and conservation - including countries who don't have the funds for their own reef research.**



Next Steps

- *A target of US\$30M per year is being sought to resource these R&D programs at the scale to make a significant timely global impact.*
 - The Saudi Arabian Government - US\$10M commitment per year to the Platform
- *Urgent support required from G20 partner countries to complete resourcing of the R&D Program and enable launch of first call for proposals*
- Every cent committed to the Platform will go directly on targeted collaborative R&D projects in those priority areas selected by the international SAC and IGC; Saudi Arabia and KAUST are funding ALL administrative costs.

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