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

- 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
- 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
New Tools and Knowledge to Secure a Future for Corals

**Program Funding**
- Donors
  - G20 Nations
  - Non G20 Nations
  - Private Sector
  - Foundations
  - International Organization

**Fund Management**
- IGC – Global Coral Reef R&D Accelerator Platform Foundation

**Program Management**
- Platform Central Node
- SAC

**Program Execution**
- R&D Providers
  - A Collaborative network of Universities and Research Organizations Executing the Program

End Users
- New Tools and Knowledge
- Custodians of Cold Water & Tropical Coral Reefs

**Program Definition & Oversight**
- 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**

- Argentina
- Australia
- European Union
- India
- Japan
- Mexico
- South Africa
- Brazil
- United States
- United Kingdom

**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.
Platform Contact Information

Platform Central Node (cordap)
KAUST,
Thuwal 23955
Saudi Arabia
Email: pcn@kaust.edu.sa
Phone: +966 12 8083275
cordap.org