

Ad Hoc Committee report: CBD Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

HEALTHY CORAL REEF INDICATORS

2 Coral Reef Extent

Measures area covered by coral reef ecosystems and can tell us if this is increasing or decreasing

1 Live Coral Cover

The amount of live coral cover on a reef — an important first look at coral reef health

5 Percent Coral Reefs Effectively Protected

The amount of the world's coral reefs that are included within MPAs or Other Effective Conservation Measures

4 Fish Abundance and Biomass

The number of fish on the reef and the amount of energy available, telling us about the health and integrity of the system

6 Index of Coastal Eutrophication

Measures water quality in coastal areas

3 Fleshy Algae Cover and cover of key benthic groups

An increase in the cover of fleshy algae indicating a decline in coral reef health with less diversity of fish and lower productivity

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INTERNATIONAL
CORAL REEF INITIATIVE

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Emily Corcoran

ICRI Consultant, Post-2020 Ad Hoc Committee

5 October 2021



With thanks to Vulcan for their on going technical and financial support

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Terms of Reference

Develop a Recommendation



- Evidence-based, expert consultation
- Collaborative drafting
- Adopted by consensus May 2020
- (New element: Target 2 - Restoration)

Coordinate Engagement



- Coordination of 10 written submissions since 2018
- Negotiation toolkit
- Consultations & informal dialogue
- Webinars
- Participation/statements
- Realtime engagement with Parties in session

Communicate & advocate for the uptake of the ICRI Recommendations



- Website/hub
- Translation
- Infographics/video
- Social media #ForCoral
- Voices of support
- Guest articles
- Briefing notes
- Opinion Editorials
- Side events/ webinars

Recommendation on the inclusion of coral reefs and related ecosystems within the CBD Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Explicit recognition of coral reefs

- Generalised approach to the framework with reference to all ecosystems

Retain language around *integrity and resilience*

- + Ecosystem integrity is a core feature of the text of goal A and its milestones

Urge focused action for particularly important ecosystems

- + A number of Parties are working to introduce reference to vulnerable marine ecosystems in relevant goals and targets

Explicit inclusion of coral reef indicators

- + so far the Recommended indicators are included within the monitoring framework.

CBD Post-2020 Whatsapp group - real time sharing



“ICRI - Corals & the GBF” >40 members 14 Parties

In-session and inter-sessional WhatsApp group to:

- highlight relevant agenda items
- provide real time technical support from ICRI experts
- organize joint interventions

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The coexistence of people and nature and food security, the coexistence of people and nature is possible."

▶

Sean W. Wiener, Executive Director
FOUNDATION POUR LA PROTECTION DE LA BIODIVERSITE MARINE, HAÏTI

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Sustainable use of coral reef resources is a cornerstone for the wellbeing and prosperity of millions of people ..."

▶

David Obura
CORDIO - EAST AFRICA

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There is Hope #ForCoral - Sue Lieberman

▶

Sue Lieberman
VICE PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL POLICY WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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All Advocate Africa Asia and the Pacific Government Intergovernmental IPLC Islands Latin American and Caribbean Science Western European and Others Youth

My people, the indigenous guna people from Panama, depend on reefs to provide food for their families. Decades ago around our islands, there were reefs filled with fish. Nowadays, fishermen have to go miles and miles away to get the seafood on which their diet is based.

▶

Diwigdi Valiente
SUSTAINABLE OCEAN ALLIANCE YOUTH POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL, PANAMA

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Coral reefs are truly God's blessing to the people of Kiribati. They give us our coral island soils, identity and our means of livelihood. The effects of climate change have increased the frequency of mass coral bleaching and ciguatera fish poisoning in our islands. Coral reefs are at stake. The international community must find solutions and save these assets.

▶

Mr. Taratou Kireta
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES & MARINE RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI

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Few see beyond the unique beauty of coral reefs, our magnificent rainforests of the seas, to understand the precious planetary resource that they are. In my lifetime alone, I see changes that are impacting those who live off fishing and reef tourism. They are now barely surviving. This is a global wake up call!

▶

Her Majesty Queen Noor
FRIEND OF OCEAN ACTION, OCEAN ELDER, AND HIGH PARTNER OF NATURE, JORDAN

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Over millions of years, coral reefs built our nation of Tuvalu. But Climate Change is heating the ocean and our corals are bleaching, dying, and jeopardizing our future existence as a nation. For Tuvalu, coral reef health is a matter of life and death due to the rapidly rising sea level and, so, climate change must be urgently addressed.

▶

Hon. Ampelasa Tehulu, Minister
PUBLIC WORKS, INFRASTRUCTURE, ENVIRONMENT, LABOUR, METEOROLOGY AND DISASTERS, TUVALU

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The Coral Triangle extends from the Southeast Asia waters down to the South Pacific island states. The ecosystem supports a coastal population of more than 130 million - their livelihoods and food security. We certainly do not wish to see this ecosystem deteriorate and vanish.

▶

Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CFI-CIF REGIONAL SECRETARIAT

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Enough damage has been done to our reefs which adversely affects our oceans and planet as a whole. We must cherish and protect what healthy spots remain. The greatest threat to humanity is humanity itself. Now is the time to become responsible custodians for our future generations.

▶

Sharon Kwak Pang
ATTRESS AND CONSERVATIONIST

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THE REEF-WORLD

Coral reefs support a high level of marine life that most of us don't even know about. Monitoring of the reef status for data-driven actions should be among the priorities of the Post-2020 GBF, to reverse declining trends of coral reefs & characterise the science we need for the ocean we want.

▶

Esther Maiva, Youth/MarineLife Coordinator
KENYA YOUTH BIODIVERSITY NETWORK

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Coral reefs support the livelihood of millions, defend the seacoast and shelter diverse sea life. Global warming and other human pressures are depleting our pristine coral reefs. ICR's effort to protect coral reefs needs top priority in the CBD Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. These most vulnerable ecosystems must be sustained for present and future generations.

▶

Edward JK Patterson, Director
SOMRI, INDIA

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Coral reefs are an invaluable heritage to pass on to future generations. The Government of New Caledonia is fully conscious of its responsibility towards 30% of the planet's remaining pristine reefs, still unaffected by human activity.

▶

Thierry Santa
PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW CALEDONIA

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As a country that literally lives and breathes by virtue of our coral reefs, we understand the need to prioritize and safeguard this fragile ecosystem. It is not enough to just have indicators. Unless they're being used as part of the strategy to change and implement policies, it's just paper and coral reefs could slip further into the abyss.

▶

Umitch Sengebau
MINISTER OF NATURE RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM, PALAU

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We need to focus on coral reef conservation and management for the sustenance of agriculture, fisheries and tourism industries in the Maldives. Our solutions and Our future depend on coral reefs.

▶

Abdulla Naseer, PhD
MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

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Coral reefs are some of the most biodiverse and valuable ecosystems on Earth. They represent \$375 billion a year in economic value; ensure the survival of 500 million humans and 25% of all marine life. We've already lost half, and without urgent, global action, we stand to lose the rest.

▶

Danielle Keates & David Jenart
MAFIA ISLAND DIVING, TANZANIA

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The biodiversity in lagoons and on reefs is shifting to a less diverse one with increasing bleached/dead corals. Right now, we are on the path to losing 70%-90% of the world's corals. This eventuality is not only dangerous for marine life but also for people depending on the sea.

▶

Shaama Sandooyee
CLIMATE ACTIVIST, MAURITIUS

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Coral reef ecosystems bring about nature's contributions to people including a great deal of blessings. I hope that ICR will continue to contribute to the conservation of coral reefs under the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

▶

Tarii Toshio
DIRECTOR GENERAL, NATURE CONSERVATION BUREAU MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, JAPAN

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Coral reefs are widely known to be an essential pillar of our existence; one of the very reasons contributing to the prestige Maldives enjoys internationally. However, an increase in the frequency and the magnitude of climate change associated impacts, such as mass bleaching, and ocean acidification, threatens this same system which is also the backbone of our economy. It is crucial to come together to find global solutions to save the interconnected coral reefs, of the Maldives and the world.

▶

Zaha Waheed
MINISTER OF FISHERIES, MARINE RESOURCES AND AQUACULTURE, REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

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Every Fijian is brought up by the ocean. The first thing they see is the ocean and the reefs around them. In my traditional area, the Great Sea Reef is not only our life, it's a sanctuary for us. My vision for the next 10 years is for people to not have to go far to find fish; to have enough food and fish to eat.

▶

Williams Katanivere
TRADITIONAL HEAD, TUVAI NAKATA, FIJI

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The urgent need to prioritize coral reefs could not be more in line with our vision of a resilient Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures. Our island nations depend on coral reef and their survival is imperative and foundational to all we hold dear.

▶

Kosi Latu
DIRECTOR GENERAL, SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

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Coral reefs are among the most impressive natural structures on Earth and home to more than 25 percent of all life in the ocean. If the current trends of human destruction continue most of the coral reefs will be gone in our lifetime. It is our duty and responsibility to ensure they are protected and restored.

▶

Nina Jensen
CEO, REV OCEAN

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How the world is coming together to save coral reefs

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BLOG | Open Letters to IUCN Members

Food security should open the conversation about biodiversity for

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Rowely Parico · 10 June 2021



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CONSERVATION | OPINION

We Can Save Earth's Coral Reefs

Members of the International Coral Reef Initiative have agreed on the steps we must take and governments have to act

Five A's of the Coral Reef Indicators



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"A GLOBAL CHALLENGE REQUIRING GLOBAL ACTION"

November 16, 2020

by Melissa





Coral reef ecosystems and the CBD Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

The
Recommendation
(full text) and
summary

Negotiation Toolkit

Supporting Materials
& Articles

Voices of Support

Frequently Asked
Questions

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Please draw your attention to the worrying status of the coral reefs, which must be the subject of special treatment, given their urgent situation. The Recommendation put forward by the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), which Monaco co-chairs recognizes their importance in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Join me in supporting coral reefs.

HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco

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