

The Coral Reef Breakthrough

#ForCoral

coralbreakthrough.org

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What are Breakthroughs?

- UN Climate Champions
- Race to Resilience
- Race to zero
- Momentum to mobilize action



Context for the Coral Reef Breakthrough

The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda focuses on four outcomes to build ocean and coastal resilience:

1. Invest USD 4 billion to secure the future of 15 million hectares of mangroves globally through collective action on halting mangrove loss, restoring half of recent losses, doubling protection of mangroves globally and ensuring sustainable long-term finance for all existing mangroves

2. Halt loss, protect and restore coral reefs to support people in tropical communities

3. Halt loss, protect and restore seagrass, marshes, and kelp forests to support people in temperate communities

4. Urban coastline is protected by grey & hybrid solutions



Context for the Coral Reef Breakthrough

Target 1. All areas are planned or managed to bring loss of areas of high biodiversity importance close to zero

Target 2. 30% of degraded areas are under effective restoration

Target 3. 30 per cent of areas are effectively conserved

Target 8. Minimize impacts of climate change and ocean acidification including through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches

Target 19. Financial resources increased to \$ 200 billion per year, including \$ 30 billion through international finance



Context for the Coral Reef Breakthrough

Develop targets that are:

- Science-based
- Actionable
- Measurable

End product:

- Concise and clear (3-4p)
- Target audience: decision-makers
- Aligned with existing targets & initiatives



Strategic Partnerships



Working Group of 30 + coral reef experts:

- Reef management
- Blue finance
- Reef resilience
- Reef restoration
- Capacity building
- Monitoring and evaluation



Process and Timeline

February – May 2023

May-August 2023

September 2023

November 2023

WORKING GROUP MEETINGS
X4



- Convene working groups and assign (co)chairs
- Review of the breakthrough intended goals
- Draft of targets, action points, and principles



- Presentation of progress at ICRI's online meeting In May 2023
- Review and finalization of Breakthrough draft by WG



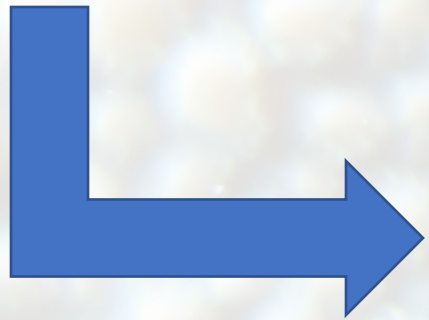
- Presentation at ICRI's 37th General Meeting
- Presentation to ICRI members for Adoption



- Secondary Presentation at the UNFCCC COP28

The Coral Reef Breakthrough

“The Coral Reef Breakthrough aims to secure the future of at least **125,000 km²** of shallow-water tropical coral reefs with investments of at least **USD 12 billion** to support the resilience of more than half a billion people globally **by 2030.**”



Action Point 1: Stop drivers of loss

Action point 2: Double the area of coral reefs under effective protection

Action point 3: Accelerate restoration

Action point 4: Secure investments

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Spatial Target

“Secure the future of at least **125,000 km²** of shallow-water tropical coral reefs by 2030”

- What’s the global coral reef extent?
- What would 30% look like?
- How much coral reef is already under protection?
- What target do we need to create momentum?

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Spatial Target

“Secure the future of at least **125,000 km²** of shallow-water tropical coral reefs by 2030”

- **What’s the global coral reef extent?**
 - World Resource Institute: ~ 250,000km²

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Spatial Target

“Secure the future of at least **125,000 km²** of shallow-water tropical coral reefs by 2030”

- What’s the global coral reef extent? ~ 250,000km²
- **What would 30% look like?**

~ 75,000km²

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Spatial Target

“Secure the future of at least **125,000 km²** of shallow-water tropical coral reefs by 2030”

- What's the global coral reef extent? ~ 250,000km²
- What would 30% look like? ~ 75,000km²
- **How much coral reef is already under protection?**

~ 60,000km² (UNEP-WCMC)

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Spatial Target

“Secure the future of at least **125,000 km²** of shallow-water tropical coral reefs by 2030”

- What's the global coral reef extent? ~250,000km²
- What would 30% look like? ~75,000km²
- How much coral reef is already under protection? ~ 60,000km²
- **What target do we need to create momentum?**

50% | 125,000km²

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Investment Target

“with investments of at least **USD 12 billion** to support the resilience of more than half a billion people globally **by 2030**”

- **How much does it cost to effectively conserve, protect, and restore coral reefs?**

“The cost of saving our oceans – estimating the Funding gap of sustainable development goal 14” (Johansen and Vestvik 2020)

- USD 174.5 billion/year for oceans
- 1% for 7 years (2023-2030) = **USD 12 billion**

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Action Points

ACTION POINT 1: Stop drivers of loss: Mitigate local drivers of loss including land-based sources of pollution, destructive coastal development, and overfishing.

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Action Points

ACTION POINT 2: Double the area of coral reefs under effective protection: Bolster resilience-based coral reef conservation efforts by aligning with and transcending global coastal protection targets including 30by30

- Target 3 of Kunming-Montreal
- EFFECTIVE
- Respect, protect, and integrate Indigenous and local knowledge and traditional perspectives

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Action Points

ACTION POINT 3: Accelerate Restoration: Assist the development and implementation of innovative solutions at scale and climate smart designs that support coral to impact 30% of degraded reefs by 2030

- Target 2 of Kunming-Montreal
- Simultaneously protecting what we have and rebuilding what we have lost.
- Restoration = Broad range of interventions to repair and boost potential for corals to adapt to future conditions

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Action Points

ACTION POINT 4: Secure investments of at least USD 12 billion by 2030 from public and private sources to conserve and restore these crucial ecosystems

- Equitable distribution of funding
- Diversification of funding opportunities
- Scale-up investments in both space and time

The Coral Reef Breakthrough – Tenets

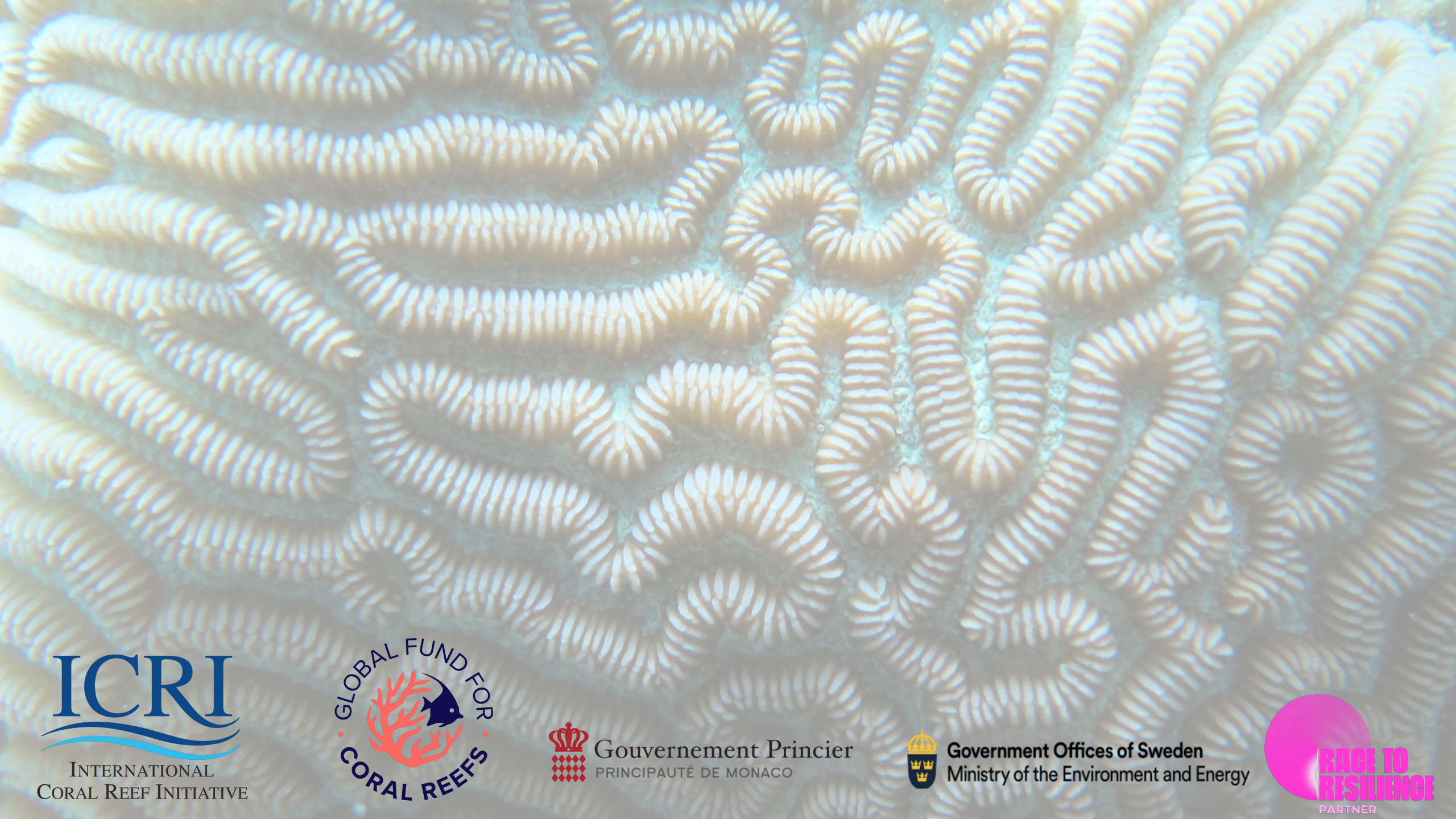
- Conserve the integrity, functionality, and resilience of coral reef systems
- Employ best-practice, climate-smart guidelines for intervention
- Monitor strategically
- Mobilize sustainable financing
- Consider local context
- Prioritize reefs that have the greatest value for nature and people
- Empower people
- Equity and inclusion

Special Acknowledgements



Q&A / Discussion

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Ministry of the Environment and Energy

