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ICRI *Ad Hoc* Committee on Reef Restoration

• Dr Margaux Hein &
Dr Ian McLeod



Chairs: Australia (Ian McLeod, David Souter)

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Alicia McArdle (MARS)
Amanda Brigdale (Australia)
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Thomas Moore (KAUST)
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Mohd Kushairi (Coral Triangle Initiative)
Ewout Knoester (REEFolution Kenya)
Juliet Karisa (KMFRI)

ICRI Ad Hoc Committee



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- 36 active members
- Government officials, researchers, NGO representatives, field-practitioners
- Global representation:
 - Regional Initiatives (SPREP, CTI, Commonwealth Blue Charter)
 - Countries (Japan, Belize, Indonesia, USA, France, Australia, Monaco)
 - Large projects and programs (RRAP, Shusha Island, Mission Iconic Reefs)
 - NGOs (Coral Guardian, REEFolution Kenya)
 - Global Initiatives (UNEP, CORDAP, CRC, ICRS)

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In Memoriam



ICRI Ad Hoc Committee



Committee aimed to assess and document:

- global **needs and priorities** for current and future reef restoration and adaptation programs
- global **research and development priorities** to deliver method, productivity and cost breakthroughs
- **priority drivers** and areas for reef investment (including mitigation policy)

... and to:

- identify mechanisms to improve **joint planning and delivery** of reef restoration and adaptation **R&D**
- identify **opportunities to partner** on reef restoration and adaptation research and development activities.



Background

Progress



2021

- ICRI restoration Hub page
- Online training and capacity building - RRN
- Restoration and resilience-based management workshop and publication

2022

- CBD targets for coral
- ICRS and Reef Futures
- Rules and regulation workshop

2023

- Maintain ICRI Restoration Hub
- Update materials and conduct mentored training
- Build on National Academy recommendations
- Link with RBM ad-hoc Committee
- Book Chapter for UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration
- Advise the Coral Reef Breakthrough

Highlights



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Highlights from large programs – RRAP



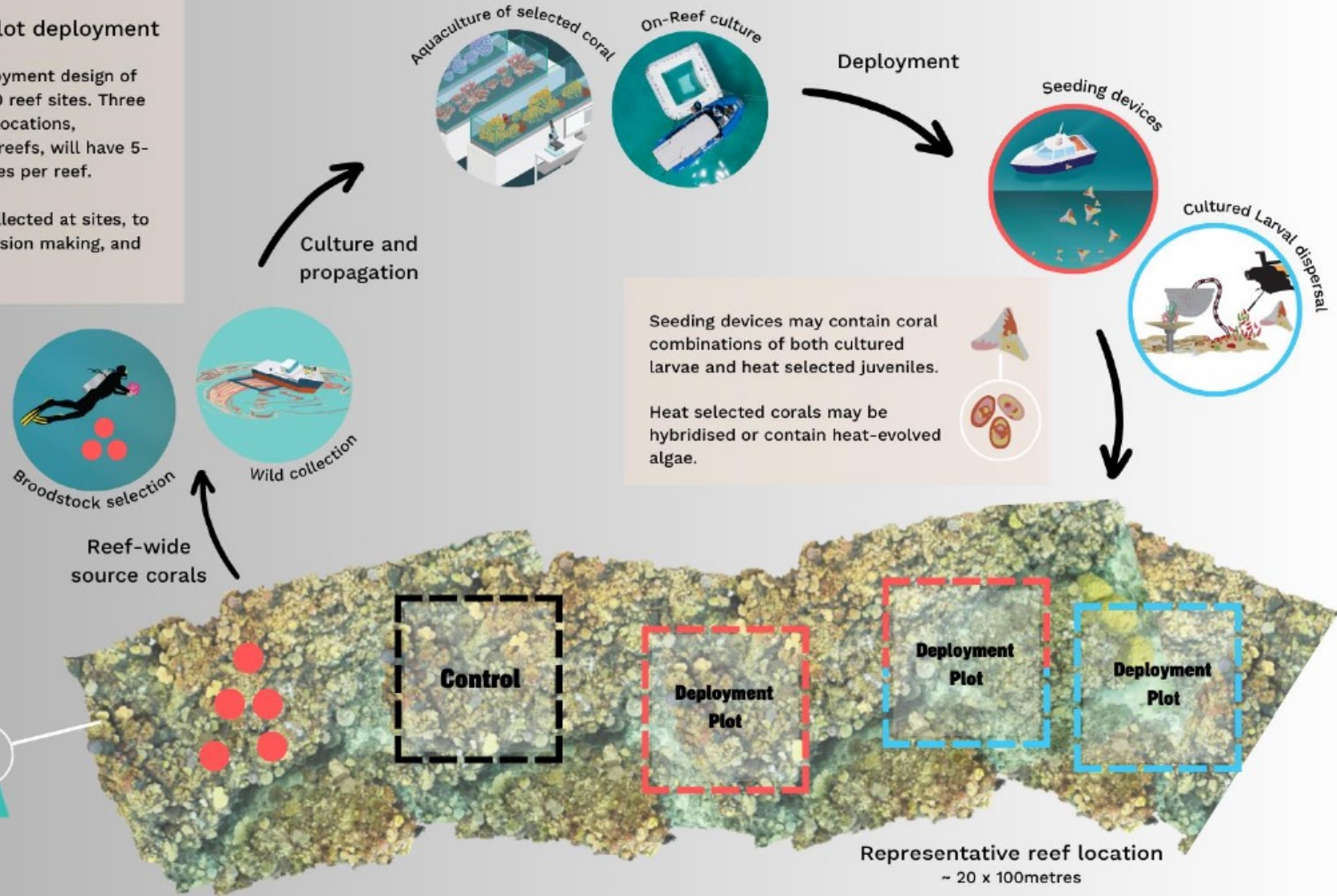
RRAP

REEF
RESTORATION
& ADAPTATION
PROGRAM

Pilot deployment

Representation of the pilot deployment design of several million corals across 5-10 reef sites. Three (unspecified) Great Barrier Reef locations, comprised of several connected reefs, will have 5-10 collection and deployment sites per reef.

Ecological intelligence will be collected at sites, to monitor, inform deployment decision making, and source coral colony collection.

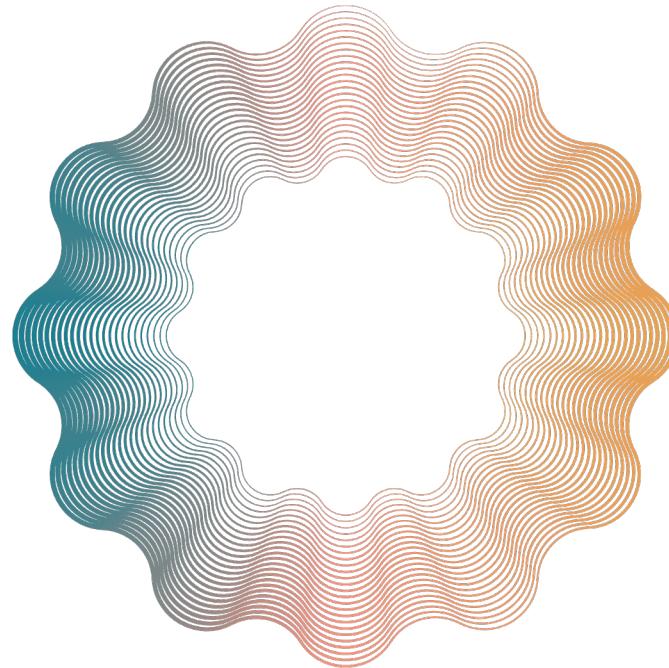


QUEENSLAND

Highlights from large programs – KAUST Reefscape Program



- 100 ha at Shusha Island
- Mix of conservation, protection, restoration, and enhancement
- 3 underwater coral nurseries – capacity of 100,000 corals
- 500 tanks land-based nursery under construction



KAUST
Reefscape
Restoration
Initiative

@Shushah Island



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Highlights

Highlights from NGOs - REEFolution



- Established in 2016 / 13 full staff of which are trained Kenyan residents
 - 3500 artificial reef units + 40,000 corals outplanted over ~ 0.5ha
 - Nursery with capacity to grow 15,000 corals/year
 - Co-managed Marine Protected Area of 47ha
 - Community outreach: school program, volunteer program
 - Science-based: Kenyan & international researchers
- + collaborations with CORDIO and Kenyan research organizations



Highlights

The Coral Restoration Consortium

(New and Improved)



- **Mission:** To provide **local communities** and practitioners the knowledge to implement impactful **coral reef** restoration.

- **Goals:**

#1 Listen actively to diverse voices.

#2 Elevate the practice of coral restoration by developing products for the community.

#3 Share stories to connect the community and increase the pace of learning.

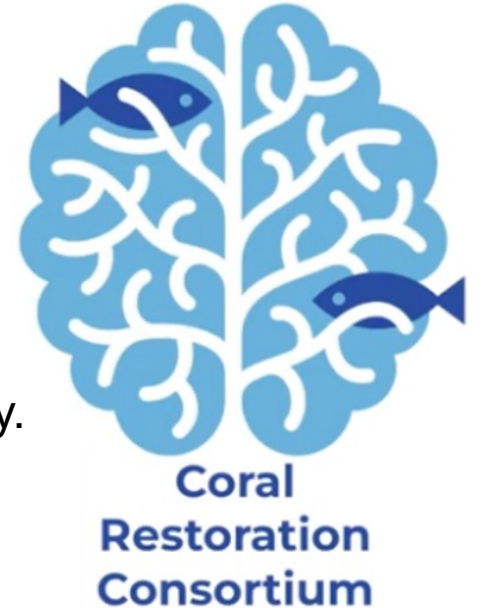
#4 Administrate efficiently and effectively.

- **Annual Survey & Map**

- Who is doing restoration?

- What are the current needs of the community?

- **Launching Storytelling Platform @ COP28**



Highlights

CRC and the Coral Bleaching Crisis



- **Online webinar**
 - 600 people registered
 - Reached > 4000 Instagram
 - > 4000 Twitter
 - > 2500 Facebook

- **Guidance document**
 - Prepare
 - Act
 - Monitor



Coping with the
2023 bleaching:
Prepare, manage, monitor,
and recover.

A photograph of two divers underwater. One diver is holding a tray filled with coral fragments. The scene is set in clear blue water with bubbles rising from the divers.

Restoration Hub

The Restoration Hub has been designed to be a centre point for all information, whether that is the latest guidelines, new and existing initiatives, recent news and events related to the restoration of coral reefs and their related ecosystems (mangroves and seagrass).

New Directions





New Directions

- New Chairs
- New Topics
- New Members



Thank you



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