



International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)

Member's Report | 37th General Meeting

19th – 23rd September 2023 Hawai'i, – United States of America

Reporting Period: 2021 – 2023

A. Member Information:

- Name of ICRI member: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Name of person(s) completing member's report:
Gabriel Grimsditch, Programme Management Officer, Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Unit
- Email: gabriel.grimsditch@un.org
- Are you a Focal Point: Yes No
 - If no, who are you completing the form on behalf of:
Leticia Carvalho, Head of the UNEP Marine and Freshwater Branch
- Which was the last General Meeting you attended: 36th GM
- Will you be attending the 37th ICRI General Meeting: Yes No
- Member social media:
 - X: @UNEP
 - LinkedIn: UNEP
 - Instagram: unep
 - Facebook: UN Environment Programme

B. Reporting on the implementation of ICRI Plan of Action 2021-2024: turning the tide for coral reefs. *Your responses will help inform the Secretariat about members' contributions toward the current Plan of Action*

Theme 1 - Preparing for the Future: Promoting Resilient Coral Reefs

1.A - Strengthening policies - Supporting conservation and recovery of coral reefs and associated ecosystems through resilience-based management frameworks.

- (ICRI) How have you embedded resilience-based management into your policies? (*Tip – refer to the RBM policy brief: <https://icriforum.org/resilience-hub/>*)

Answer:

Resilience-based management is a critical component of UNEP’s policies, both at an institutional strategic level as well as in support of UNEP’s work on conservation and restoration of coral reefs and associated ecosystems.

The 2022-2025 UNEP Medium-Term Strategy ‘[For People and Planet](#)’ focuses on the pillars of Climate Action, Nature Action and Chemicals and Pollution Action, with resilience-building as a key theme mentioned throughout the policy document. As an example, this policy document identifies a key step towards living in harmony with nature by 2025 as ‘significant actions are being taken to reduce ecosystem degradation and build the resilience of landscapes and seascapes, with ecosystem integrity and conservation being leveraged as assets and tools for disaster risk reduction and greater social resilience.’ Specifically on coral reefs and associated ecosystems, UNEP has formed part of the ICRI ad hoc committee on resilience-based management since its inception in 2019 and has supported the creation of the [Resilience Hub](#).

UNEP has also ensured that resilience-based management has been incorporated as a guiding principle for its funding streams dedicated to coral reef conservation and restoration, for example through the [UNEP/ICRI Small Grants Programme](#) or the [Global Fund for Coral Reefs \(GFCR\)](#). In both funding streams, the policy for selection of projects has been based on building the resilience of coral reefs and associated ecosystems, with selection criteria for projects reflecting the importance of incorporating resilience-based management in project activities. For the GFCR for example, the investment strategy is based on identifying coral reefs in predicted climate refugia around the world and building their resilience by reducing local anthropogenic threats through investing in conservation action and sustainable businesses. For the UNEP/ICRI Small Grants Programme, projects were selected that incorporated resilience-based management strategies in their activities. More information is provided below in section 1.B.

1.B - Promote capacity building for applying resilience-based management approaches to coral conservation Ad Hoc Committee on Resilience-based Management.

- (ICRI) Please list any examples of leading practices, techniques and strategies for building reef resilience that your organisation/country is involved in. Include their location and extent, methods of implementation, financing, and an assessment of their results (or likely results), with links for more information if possible.

Answer:

UNEP is a global environmental leader supporting activities that build coral reef resilience in most major coral reef regions around the world, incorporating the latest resilience science and strategies.

The [UNEP/ICRI Small Grants Programme](#) has provided one vehicle to support resilience-based management approaches for coral reefs across many regions. The 2021 round of small grants supported projects on conservation and restoration of coral reefs and associated ecosystems, using resilience-based management strategies, by governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Belize, Costa Rica, Fiji, the Gambia, Haiti, Kenya, Madagascar, the Philippines, and the Solomon

Islands. Each grant was of approximately USD 80,000, making a total of USD 720,000 invested through the small grants programme since 2021. All of the projects were finalized and reported on by August 2023 and results and lessons learned are being prepared. The projects funded by the small grants programme support resilience-based management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems by supporting and implementing a diverse range of conservation and restoration strategies, including support to marine protected areas (MPAs), locally managed marine areas (LMMAs), ecological restoration projects, blue carbon projects, and development of alternative livelihoods. All projects focused on building social-ecological resilience for a range of habitats and coastal communities, and lessons learned can be shared through ICRI networks.

Similarly, the GFCR, has been operational since 2021 and is using the latest climate models and resilience theory to select potentially climate-resilient coral reefs and diverse investment strategies, including community-led conservation projects, coral restoration or sustainable business as well as alternative livelihoods projects, to enhance the social-ecological resilience of these critical ecosystems and coastal communities. So far, projects have been approved in Kenya/Tanzania, Fiji, Philippines, the Bahamas, Indonesia, the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef, with a pipeline of concepts being developed for Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Brazil, Seychelles, Colombia, Sri Lanka, Micronesia, Mozambique and the Gulf of Aqaba. Tens of millions of USD in grant funding have been mobilized from various donors and partners. UNEP is currently co-chairing the board of the GFCR and is leading on the implementation of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework to determine the impacts of funded programmes. Programmes are using a range of resilience-based management approaches to enhance social-ecological resilience, and M&E indicators include indicators that are important for understanding social-ecological resilience. There are strong capacity-building elements for governments, civil society and local communities in all GFCR programmes.

Another important investment in resilience-based management for coral reefs by UNEP is the [Go Blue](#) project on the Kenyan coast, which began in 2021 and is currently ongoing. UNEP is co-leading the environmental stream of the project with the UN Human Settlement Programme (UN-HABITAT) and is implementing resilience-based management strategies on the Kenyan coast that include the reduction of stressors on coral reefs and associated ecosystems through support to MPAs, LMMAs, blue carbon projects and alternative livelihoods. This includes building the capacity of government agencies, civil society and local communities in the sustainable management of coastal ecosystems.

- (ICRI) Have you developed, or are you aware of, training materials that you can share?

Answer:

UNEP has published several important guides and reports that are important for implementing resilience-based management for coral reefs, including a [guide to assessing coral reef resilience for decision support](#), a [guide to projecting future coral bleaching conditions using IPCC models](#) and a [guide to coral reef restoration](#).

UNEP has also produced several online interactive websites that explain the status of coral reefs and associated ecosystems globally as well as the drivers of degradation, for example in support of the [GCRMN report](#) and on the [ocean's vital blue ecosystems](#).

1.C - Promote and build capacity for the restoration of resilient coral reefs Ad Hoc Committee on Reef Restoration

- (ICRI) Please list any examples of reef restoration mechanisms that your organisation/country is involved in. Include their limits, conditions of implementation, financing and an assessment of their results, with links for more information if possible.

Answer:

UNEP has a specific mandate from the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) to work on coral reef restoration through [UNEA Resolution 4/13](#) on 'sustainable coral reefs management' with a specific request to the Executive Director to collaborate with ICRI in the compilation of best practices for coral restoration for the maintenance of ecosystem services (Action Point 2 of UNEA Resolution 4/13).

As a result of this, UNEP and ICRI co-published '[Coral reef restoration as a strategy to improve ecosystem services: A guide to coral restoration methods](#)' in 2021, and launched it via a [webinar](#). UNEP has been a member of the ICRI ad hoc committee on reef restoration since its inception and has contributed actively to the activities of the committee.

Furthermore, UNEP has supported coral reef restoration in the water through the [UNEP/ICRI Small Grants Programme](#), specifically in Belize in collaboration with the Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association on upscaling restoration of critically endangered acroporid corals and in Fiji in collaboration with Corals for Conservation (C4C). In both countries coral restoration is carried out with selection for thermal tolerant genotypes and following UNEP's coral restoration guidelines.

As part of the [GFCR](#), UNEP is also supporting coral restoration projects focusing on thermally tolerant genotypes and building coral reef resilience in most of the funded programmes across all target countries.

UNEP is an advisory member to the Coral Research and Development Accelerator Platform (CORDAP) Initiative Governing Committee.

Theme 2 – Coral Reef Science and Oceanography: Advancing and Utilizing the Latest Science and Technology

2.A – Coral monitoring capacity building

- (ICRI) Do you have information / case studies that could contribute to the update of the "Methods for ecological monitoring of coral reefs" (<https://portals.iucn.org/library/efiles/documents/2004-023.pdf>), especially related to the use of new technologies.

Answer:

UNEP is leading the implementation of the M&E framework for the [GFCR](#) and this includes coral reef monitoring across all funded programmes and target countries, with core fund indicators including live coral cover, macroalgal benthic cover and total reef fish biomass. UNEP will work with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) on developing an M&E Toolkit to assist GFCR convening agents and partners with measuring indicators, and which will include guidance on available methodologies for coral reef monitoring. The toolkit is predicted to be complete by end of September 2023, and training webinars will be organized for GFCR convening agents and partners before the end of the year.

Furthermore, UNEP is planning to work with WCS to expand the current Marine Ecological Research Management Aid (MERMAID) software platform to include all GFCR M&E indicators, providing new IT solutions for reporting and analysis of coral reef related data sets (both ecological and social data).

The UNEP M&E framework provides an opportunity to explore innovative methodologies for coral reef monitoring with a wide network of partners and geographies, and to collect data that can be used for future Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) reports.

- (ICRI) Are you aware, developing, or involved with, any capacity building activities related to the use of coral reef monitoring mechanisms, especially regarding the advancement of monitoring practices (noting technology)?

Answer:

Through the GFCR, UNEP will work on building the capacity of convening agents and partners across the whole GFCR portfolio on measuring, analysing and reporting on core M&E indicators for the fund – including indicators on live coral cover, macroalgal cover and fish biomass. This will provide opportunities for building the coral reef monitoring capacities of NGOs in GFCR target countries.

2.B – The Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN)

The GCRMN would like to receive feedback on the [Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2020 report](#) to improve the production of future regional and global reports. As such, please kindly respond accordingly to the questions below:

- (ICRI) In reference to the Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2020 report:
 - Have you read the report?
 - Did you utilise the report and/or use the results and contents?
 - How could the next report be improved (considering the entire process from data acquisition to reporting)?

Answer:

Yes, we have read the GCRMN report. Yes, UNEP has used the GCRMN report for communications purposes, to raise awareness of the plight of coral reefs globally and to provide the evidence base for proposals, policies, and projects related to coral reefs.

Future reports can be improved by inclusion of additional metrics that give a more complete picture of coral reef health and resilience. For example, indicators that might be interesting to add to the analysis could be fish biomass, a breakdown of different coral growth forms (branching, tabulate, massive, encrusting, etc), cover of important substrate organisms (soft corals, coralline algae, etc), or benthic complexity from remote sensing.

An automated, centrally-curated, global database to store and analyse photo/video transects using trained AI to identify substrate types and fish and calculate % covers and biomass, would also be an incredibly powerful addition to coral reef monitoring and data sets globally.

The model of organizing national and regional workshops for scientists, private sector and government officials to come together and share data sets for GCRMN reports is a good model that could be expanded to include more stakeholders.

- (ICRI) The GCRMN intends to establish time-bound task forces to address specific priority issues and to build capability and capacity across the network. As a first priority, a Data Task Force was established. The Task Force brings together subject matter experts to increase the transparency, reproducibility, and robustness of future GCRMN reports alongside capacity in monitoring, data collection, analysis, management and sharing of coral reefs and associated ecosystems. The Task Force will focus on:
 - Improving data integration and analyses to facilitate the production of GCRMN regional and global reports; and
 - Promoting good data management practices based on FAIR data principles for the coral reef scientific community.

Tell us if you will be interested in joining the Data Task Force, or upcoming task forces. More so, please inform us if you have data to contribute to upcoming regional, or global, reports and if you will be organising and/or partaking in any capacity building activities regarding data monitoring:

Answer:

1. *Taskforces: UNEP is interested in joining the Data Task Force, as well as upcoming taskforces*
2. *Data to contribute (GCRMN Region Country, Data description): UNEP does not collect data directly but works with partners that collect significant coral reef data sets through projects, for example through the GFCR. UNEP and the GFCR will be acquiring significant coral reef data sets through the M&E framework all convening agents will be reporting on. Furthermore UNEP, with WCS, will be developing the software infrastructure (MERMAID expansion) necessary to capture and analyse varied coral reef data sets on a wide range of social and ecological indicators. Through Regional Seas Programmes and Regional Offices, UNEP also has the convening power to bring together scientists in all coral regions in the world to contribute data sets.*
3. *Upcoming capacity building activities: By leading the implementation of the M&E framework for the GFCR, UNEP will be working with convening agents and partners to build capacity to collect data on GFCR M&E indicators, including social and ecological indicators relevant to coral reefs. An M&E Toolkit will be developed for the GFCR and training will be provided. MERMAID will be used as the software platform for Convening Agents and Partners to upload data on M&E indicators, including coral cover, macroalgal cover and fish biomass.*

Theme 3 - Local Threat Reduction: Integrating Response Planning Frameworks

Please tick the most appropriate box/boxes:

- (ICRI) Do you have (or in the process of developing) a coral reef response plan(s) on, for example, but not limited to:
 - coral disease
 - vessel groundings
 - bleaching

- invasive species outbreaks (lionfish and COTS)
- large storm events
- other:

If yes, please provide us with more information.

Answer:

Not applicable to UNEP as a global UN agency.

Theme 4 - Diversity and Inclusion: Expanding the Coral Reef Community

4.A – Connect with youth audiences:

- (ICRI) Are you developing (or planning to develop) any communication campaigns or outreach materials? What will your primary target audiences be and what would your key messages include?

Answer:

UNEP is providing a leadership role for strategic communications and engagement work for the GFCR, which will include communicating GFCR targets and results and positioning the GFCR as a best practice global demonstration initiative for public-private biodiversity finance; including through the promotion of its innovative and cutting edge technology and data platforms. Leveraging UNEP's strategic communication expertise, including, advocacy, campaigns, media and social media, influencers, events and networks, UNEP will develop strategic communication assets (e.g., data visualizations, data-based impact snapshot reports, videos, infographics, newsletters, web stories, and other activities that might be identified at regional level) and identify strategic opportunities to build the GFCR brand through leveraging special events, media and press opportunities, champion & influencer endorsements and social media initiatives (many of which may be rooted in the UNEP machinery).

The brand-building efforts will be designed to both elevate the visibility and reinforce the credibility of the GFCR's impact, expertise, tools and achievements, across its network and with other high-level ocean partnership networks (e.g., ICRI, CORDAP) that can advocate for the importance of protecting and restoring coral reefs and the unique role GFCR plays in this mission. In turn, elevating the importance of the GFCR's role and the crisis facing coral reefs, this component will develop a creative visibility plan to attract funding and support. This component will align GFCR results and progress with global messaging on biodiversity, climate, pollution and coral reefs to ensure the GFCR is relevant and top of mind in environmental initiatives, boosting credibility and fundraising capacity.

Messaging will highlight the need to tackle the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and waste, all which have direct impacts on corals, under the hashtag #ForNature which is a sub-brand of UNEP's well-established #ForNature campaign. It will also communicate GFCR success stories.

Target audience will include media, potential donors, philanthropies, governments, public and private sector.

4.B - Collaborate with Indigenous people and seek to incorporate indigenous and local knowledge into policies and management plans:

- (ICRI) How do you incorporate indigenous and local knowledge into policies and management frameworks. Please provide us with some examples. Do you have any plans or strategies to further promote this incorporation?

Answer:

UNEP actively supports co-management models for conservation and sustainable use of coral reef ecosystems. This entails supporting the rights of indigenous and local populations to play an active role in managing, sustainably using and protecting their marine resources, in collaboration with local and national authorities and governments. UNEP has supported the development and implementation of co-managed or LMMAs that incorporate indigenous and local knowledge in management plans in [Kenya](#), [Madagascar](#), Costa Rica, Belize, Haiti, Fiji, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, and the Gambia through the [UNEP/ICRI Small Grants Programme](#) and the [Go Blue](#) project. More information can also be found here: <https://icriforum.org/icri-unep-small-grants-programme-2021-winners/>.

The GFCR will also be supporting community-based approaches to coral reef conservation and management for resilient reefs in targeted areas.

- (ICRI) Do you have any, or know of, best practices to solicit Indigenous and local community knowledge?

Answer:

UNEP's work with indigenous and local communities related to coral reefs has been achieved by working with NGOs that are firmly embedded in local communities, that have been active in the communities for decades and that hire a substantial number of staff from local or indigenous communities.

Across UNEP's broader work, UNEP recognizes the importance of indigenous peoples' participation as well as the valuable inputs that these holders of traditional knowledge – gained through trans-generational experiences, observations and transmission - can contribute to sustainable ecosystem management and development: <https://www.unep.org/civil-society-engagement/major-groups-modalities/major-group-categories/indigenous-peoples-and>. Recognizing the specific importance of indigenous peoples and their communities for UNEP, UNEP has a dedicated part-time focal point on indigenous issues since 2004. UNEP recognizes indigenous peoples' rights, risks, responsibilities, contributions and challenges in caring for the environment in furtherance of UNEP's over-all mission to promote ecosystems health and human well-being. UNEP's engagement with indigenous peoples is supported by a [Policy Guidance](#) that was approved by UNEP's Executive Director in November 2012 to guide UNEP's work by supporting staff to understand the synergies and linkages between indigenous peoples and the environment, informing decisions in policy development and implementation as well as inspiring potential partnerships.

C. Kunming-Montreal Global biodiversity framework

- (ICRI) Do your current National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) incorporate coral reefs? If not, what kind of material will be useful for your Country/organisation to ensure coral reefs are integrated in the revision of NBSAPs?
- (ICRI) How are you planning to implement the Kunming-Montreal Global biodiversity framework. For you, which targets are the most relevant for coral reefs?

Answer:

Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) is a critical priority for UNEP, and the pillar on Nature Action in the 2022-2025 UNEP Medium-Term Strategy '[For People and Planet](#)'.

The GBF targets most applicable to coral reefs are targets 1 to 11.

UNEP is actively working towards delivering towards these targets, for example through the GFCR, which is closely aligned with the goals of the GBF. Measuring progress against these targets through the M&E framework is also closely aligned with the GBF indicators related to coral reefs proposed by ICRI: <https://www.unep.org/technical-highlight/new-framework-launched-track-progress-coral-reef-biodiversity>.

D. Upcoming events

Please tick the most appropriate box/boxes:

- September 19th – 23rd 2023: 37th ICRI GM, USA, Hawaii
- 30th November – 12th December 2023: 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- 26th February – 1st March 2024: 6th session of the United Nations Environment Assembly
- 10th – 12th April 2024: 2024 UN Ocean Decade Conference, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2024: United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP16) of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Turkey.
- Other

Please list any upcoming regional / international events relevant to ICRI that your organisation plans to attend:

E. Publications. Please list relevant publications / reports you have released recently (+ add a link if possible)

Publication	URL
Coral reef restoration guide	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/coral-reef-restoration-guide-coral-restoration-method
Decades of mangrove forest change: what does it mean for nature, people and the climate?	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/decades-mangrove-forest-change-what-does-it-mean-nature-people-and-climate
Out of the Blue: The value of seagrasses to the environment and to people	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/out-blue-value-seagrasses-environment-and-people
Projections of future coral bleaching conditions using IPCC models	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/projections-future-coral-bleaching-conditions-using-ipcc-cmip6-models-climate
Blue ecosystems interactive	https://www.unep.org/interactives/why-blue-ecosystems-matter/
Coral reefs global status visual	https://www.unep.org/interactives/status-world-coral-reefs/
Analysis of policies related to the protection of coral reefs	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/analysis-policies-related-protection-coral-reefs
Seaweed farming: assessment on the potential for sustainable upscaling for climate, communities and planet	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/seaweed-farming-assessment-sustainable-upscaling
Into the blue: securing a sustainable future for kelp forests	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/blue-securing-sustainable-future-kelp-forests

F. ICRI Member Feedback. What do you find most valuable about being a member of ICRI as well as completing the ICRI member reports? If you have any ideas to improve the Member Reports, please list below:

Answer:

ICRI provides a unique and excellent forum for networking and sharing best practices with the coral reef community and stakeholders worldwide. ICRI's GCRMN provides the most up-to-date and scientifically accurate status and trends of the world's coral reefs, providing a valuable service to the global coral reef conservation community, from academics to policy-makers. ICRI provides a strong connection between science and policy. Membership of ICRI's committees and taskforces also provides excellent opportunities to network, learn about best practices and scientific or management advances globally, and share publications, lessons learned and information.

G. Contact information & member information. (Note that this information will be posted on the ICRI website on your member page: <https://icriforum.org/members/>).

Please use the table below to provide us updates to your member's focal points as well as the blank cells to indicate changes to information (please add more rows, as needed):

Focal Point 1:	
Name:	Leticia Carvalho
Title/Organisation:	Head of Marine & Freshwater Branch, UNEP

<i>Email:</i>	leticia.reisdecarvalho@un.org
Focal Point 2:	
<i>Name:</i>	Gabriel Grimsditch
<i>Title/Organisation:</i>	Programme Management Officer, UNEP
<i>Email:</i>	gabriel.grimsditch@un.org
Focal Point 3:	
<i>Name:</i>	Sinikinesh Beyene Jimma
<i>Title/Organisation:</i>	Head of Marine & Coastal Ecosystems Unit, UNEP
<i>Email:</i>	sinikinesh.jimma@un.org
Member page updates:	
<i>Section</i>	<i>Update</i>
Do you have new resources (reports, guidelines etc.) that you would like to display?	
<i>Resource description</i>	<i>URL</i>
Coral restoration guidelines	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/coral-reef-restoration-guide-coral-restoration-method
Interactive: why blue ecosystems matter	https://www.unep.org/interactives/why-blue-ecosystems-matter/
Interactive: status of the world's coral reefs	https://www.unep.org/interactives/status-world-coral-reefs/
A guide to assessing coral reef resilience	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/guide-assessing-coral-reef-resilience-decision-support
Analysis of policies related to coral reefs	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/analysis-policies-related-protection-coral-reefs
Projections of future coral bleaching conditions	https://www.unep.org/resources/report/projections-future-coral-bleaching-conditions-using-ipcc-cmip6-models-climate

Furthermore, UNEP developed the below communications products in support of the GFCR.

Activity in Support of GFCR	Timing	Link
Launch of GCRMN Coral Reef Status Report + interactive	Oct. 2020	https://www.unep.org/interactives/status-world-coral-reefs/ https://www.unep.org/resources/status-coral-reefs-world-2020
UNOC	May 30, 2022	Link Jason Momoa UNEP Advocate for Life Below Water welcome, funding appeal and photo opp, at Donor Breakfast; Nature Baton activities at the Youth Forum also highlighted GFCR.
UNOC		Press Release inputs with Inger Andersen High Level Quote
UNOC		– Susan Gardner, UNEP Director Ecosystem, attendance at High Level donor breakfast
UNOC	June 27, 2022	UNEP webstory on Momoa designation and GFCR

		https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/unep-names-jason-momoa-official-advocate-life-below-water
UNOC -	2022	Jason Momoa designation video with clip from UNOC GFCR breakfast/co-chair. https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/video/why-jason-momoa-committed-saving-seas
Pre COP 27 –	Oct. 2022	Impact Storytelling Mission with Ellie Goulding- UNEP Goodwill Ambassador Ellie Goulding traveled with UNEP to Sharm el Sheikh in late October to witness the Red Sea reefs for herself and to call on world leaders to act. Several films were made by UNEP in support of climate action, the Global Fund for Coral Reefs and Sustainable Blue Economy, as well climate and biodiversity explainers to support better understanding in the lead up to COP 15. Branding included COP27 at the request of the organizers. The film was used by GFCR for COP side event. Call to World Leaders to meet the Paris Agreement Call to help finance the Global Fund for Coral Reefs
COP27 Web Story UNEP FI	Nov. 11 2022	Link What we need from policymakers on financing nature at COP27: Listen to our experts
COP 27 Side Event- Hope for Coral Reefs		Ellie attended COP 27 to keynote the UNEP and Ocean Agency <i>Hope for Coral Reefs</i> side event opened by Inger Andersen, with panels hosted by Susan Gardner and UN Patron for Ocean, Lewis Pugh. Ellie’s keynote included a support appeal for GFCR. Lewis also swam the Red Sea from Egypt to Saudi Arabia to raise awareness for the plight of coral reefs. On the 16 th of November, Biodiversity Day, The Minister of Environment for Egypt announced that they would be extending greater protection for the Great Fringing Reef of the Red Sea. It was also declared the Red Sea's first Hope Spot by Sylvia Earle's NGO, Mission Blue.
WEB Google Search Engine Optimization	Dec 2022	People also ask What is UNEP Global Fund for coral reefs? The GFCR is the first UN fund dedicated to SDG 14, 'Life Below Water' and the only global blended finance instrument dedicated to coral reefs. The Fund's blended finance approach leverages grants to unlock private sector investment in the blue economy, incubate investable projects and scale up coral reef conservation.
Dec 2022 CBD COP15		ICRI 3 Asks from Ellie Goulding
Our Ocean	Mar 2, 2023	Support for GFCR announcements - Press Release



Web Story		https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/major-new-commitments-united-kingdom-and-minderoo-foundation-coral
Our Ocean PR	Mar 2, 2023	Ellie Goulding Quote directly supporting GFCR. Link
Monaco Ocean Week	March 24, 2023	Technical Highlight https://www.unep.org/technical-highlight/new-framework-launched-track-progress-coral-reef-biodiversity
Earth Day	April 22, 2023	Marine Ecosystems Report Launch Interactive- coral section link to GFCR. https://www.unep.org/interactives/why-blue-ecosystems-matter/
World Env Day/ World Ocean Day	June 5&8 2023	Elle Magazine feature GFCR referenced/linked.
World Oceans Day		WOD posts Jason Keynote for World Ocean Day Jason insta post for WOD Jason posts https://www.instagram.com/p/CtPZjzzN8QG/ 957,179 views. https://www.instagram.com/p/CtKklrKtZiu/

Thank you very much for sharing your valuable experiences and information with ICRI. Members reports, meeting outputs and resources will be uploaded to: <https://icriforum.org/events/37th-icri-general-meeting/>