



International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)

Member's Report | 38th General Meeting

9th – 13th September 2024 Jeddah, – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Reporting Period: 2023 & 2024

A. Member Information:

- Name of ICRI member: Monaco
- Name of person(s) completing member's report: Wilfrid Deri/ Didier Zoccola
- Position/Title:
- Email: wderi@gouv.mc / zoccola@centrescientifique.mc
- Are you a designated ICRI Focal Point: Yes No
 - If no, please indicate who you are completing the form on behalf of:
- Which was the last General Meeting you attended:
- Will you be attending the 38th ICRI General Meeting in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Yes No
- Member social media:
 - Twitter/X: @
 - LinkedIn:

B. Reporting on the implementation of the 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. You can download the ICRI Plan of Action here: <https://icriforum.org/documents/plan-of-action-2021-2024/>*

What are the main contributions you, as an ICRI member, have made to the ICRI Plan of Action?

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

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

Theme 3 - Local Threat Reduction: Integrating Response Planning Frameworks

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

Answer:

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

For more than 15 years, we are studying ocean acidification mechanisms by selection of resistant strain. The goal is to understand but also to transfer these mechanisms to sensitive strains. We are also working on heat stress, and effect of food on resistance and resilience to stress (CORDAP grant obtained in 2023).

CSM, , in collaboration with various partners, is developing the World Coral Conservatory program that consists of creating a world reference center for coral that will house, in a network of public and private aquariums, a unique worldwide collection of most species and strains of corals described to date, in the form of living colonies.

We have also ongoing studies on UV filter effects on corals. We are also developing studies on the impacts of plastics on corals.

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

CSM performs basic science to study the effects of temperature, acidification, nutrition and some other environmental stressors by using -omics tools (RNAseq, transcriptomics, epigenomics, proteomics)

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

Through classroom activities and conferences, we raise awareness among young people of the dangers of climate change and their impact on corals. We also take part in the Fête de la Science, a day when we raise public awareness of the dangers of climate change.

In addition, CSM is building capacity in several countries and regions, such as the Dominican Republic, The Seychelles and Martinique. It enables the creation of reserve aquariums for corals in the concerned regions, by transferring the coral culture technologies that the CSM has developed for over 30 years.

- (ICRI) What are your upcoming priorities for coral reefs?

Answer:

Developing new technologies to increase resistance and resilience.

Maintaining biodiversity of reef-building coral species through an international aquaria network

C. Reporting on the Restoration of Coral Reefs (*Target 2 GBF/Action Point 3 Coral Reef Breakthrough*)

- (ICRI) Are you able to estimate the total area (km²) of coral reef under active restoration and the total area you consider to be 'restored', as a result of your organisation/country's in 2023?
 - Total area under active restoration in 2023: km²
 - Total area considered to be restored in 2023: km²
- (ICRI) If available, please provide further information on the total area considered to be restored, and under active restoration for the total period of the restoration programme, including the timeframe:

Answer:

Not applicable

- (ICRI) For the purpose of the above, please provide definitions for how your programme/organisation/country considers coral reefs to be:
 - A) Under active restoration
 - B) Restored

Answer:

Under active Restoration:

Restored:

Does your country have any restoration policies or regulations?

Many locations have outdated and insufficient regulations for coral reef restoration, resulting in inadequate oversight of restoration efforts. In addition, the absence, limitations, or differences among regulations between countries prevents the development and implementation of effective regional coral reef conservation strategies.

- (ICRI) Please describe the restoration policies or regulations (if any) that are in place in your country.

Answer:

D. The Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN)

The production of future GCRMN reports, both at the regional and global level, relies on the ongoing support of data contributors who are willing to share their coral reef monitoring data for this purpose. As such, from 2024 to 2026, the GCRMN will undertake the rigorous process of developing the **Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2025** global report, including an extensive data collation process.

Do you have data to contribute to the upcoming GCRMN global report?

- Please provide the contact information for the data providers to allow for the GCRMN data collation team to request data and discuss the process of data contribution.

Please add further contacts as needed.

Answer:

Contact Name:

Organisation:

Email Address:

Contact Name:

Organisation:

Email Address:

Contact Name:

Organisation:

Email Address:

E. Capacity Building & Communications

Have you found the ICRI #ForCoral Webinar Series useful?

Through 2024, ICRI has hosted multiple webinars that aim to share knowledge and foster collaboration across critical topics concerning the conservation, protection, and restoration of coral reefs. These webinars form the #ForCoral webinar series, and topics include the 4th Global Bleaching Event, impacts of land-based sources of pollution and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.

The full list of webinars and recordings can be found here: <https://icriforum.org/forcoral-webinar-series/>

- (ICRI) Did you attend any of the series' webinars, and if so which topics have you found the most useful and engaging? If you did not attend the webinars, please explain why, and how what we could have done better.

Answer:

Yes and "4th Global Bleaching Event" and "National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans" were very engaging.

- (ICRI) Do you have any suggestions or request for topics that you wish for ICRI to host as part of this series? If you have a specific topic in mind, and would like to host a webinar, please indicate below.

Answer:

No but we are waiting for the "scaling up" of restoration that will be very interesting

Have you found the ICRI communications useful?

- (ICRI) Do you find the ICRI Monthly Round of News Useful? If yes, what do you like about it and how would you suggest improving ICRI's communications?

Answer:

Yes, the coral reefs news are useful and of course "the save the date" news about next conferences are useful.

F. Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

ICRI has continually supported the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Post-2020 process, developing a recommendation for coral reef indicators to be included in the Global Biodiversity Framework and supporting Parties during the negotiation process. Following the Framework's adoption in 2022, ICRI's support now aims to support parties in implementing the framework, especially through National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPS) and the Marine and Coastal Work Programme.

In 2024, ICRI released [A Guide for Integrating Coral Reefs and Associated Ecosystems into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans](#) to support coral reef countries to integrate coral reefs and associated ecosystems into their NBSAPs.

- (ICRI) Did you use read, use, and/or apply the Guide on integrating coral reefs and associated ecosystems into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) useful? *Where possible, indicate specific elements that were useful or alternatively provide information if you did not find the guide useful.*

Answer:

- (ICRI) Did you revise your current National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) to include coral reefs? ***N.B.** if you are not a country representative, are you working with national focal points to help update their NBSAPs? Please provide further details.*

Answer:

- (ICRI) How are you planning to implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework? Please list the target(s) and decisions that your work attributes to.

Answer:

G. Upcoming events

Please tick the most any events that you will be, or are planning to attend:

- September 10th – 24th: 79th Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 79)

- September 23rd – 26th: GEF International Waters Conference
- October 13th – 18th: 7th International Marine Conservation Congress (IMCC7)
- October 21st – November 1st: CBD COP16
- November 4th – 8th: 77th Annual meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI77)
- December 10th – 12th: The International Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Conference
- December 9th – 13th: Reef Futures
- June 9th – 13th 2025: United Nations Ocean Conference
- October 9th – 15th 2025: IUCN World Conservation Congress
- Other

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

Answer:

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

Publication	URL
Allison et al., Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta 2023	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gca.2023.07.005
Chatin et al., Coral Reefs 2023	https://doi.org/10.1007/s00338-023-02439-8
Noel et al., Genome Biology 2023	https://doi.org/10.1186/s13059-023-02960-7
Willard et al., Journal of Theoretical Biology 2023	10.1016/j.jtbi.2022.111382
Armstrong et al., Nat Commun 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-38610-6
Belser et al., Sci Data 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-023-02204-0
Canesi et al., Scientific reports 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-37598-9
Galand et al., Nat Commun 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-38500-x
Hochart et al., Nat Commun 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-38502-9

Lombard et al., Sci Data 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-022-01757-w
Porro et al., Communications Earth & Environment 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-023-00946-8
Reddy et al., Commun Earth Environ 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-023-00942-y
Rouan et al., Nat Commun 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-38499-1
Veglia et al., Commun Biol 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s42003-023-04917-9
Voolstra et al., 2023	https://doi.org/10.1038/s44185-023-00020-8
Tignat-Perrier et al., Environmental Microbiome 2023	https://doi.org/10.1186/s40793-023-00525-6
Förster et al., Science of The Total Environment 2024	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.168694
Voolstra et al., EMBO reports 2023	https://doi.org/10.15252/embr.202356826
Gori et al., Deep Sea Research Part I: Oceanographic Research Papers 2023	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dsr.2023.104052
Blanckaert et al., Science of the Total Environment 2023	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2022.159944
Lange et al., Front. Mar. Sci. 2023	https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2023.1236164
Blanckaert et al., International Journal of Molecular Sciences 2023	https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms24043119
Lange et al., Limnology and Oceanography 2023	https://doi.org/10.1002/lno.12456
Prioux et al., Microbiome 2023	https://doi.org/10.1186/s40168-023-01711-x
Ouédraogo et al., Environmental Evidence 2023	https://doi.org/10.1186/s13750-023-00298-y
Landrigan et al., Annals of Global Health 2023	https://doi.org/10.5334/aogh.4056

I. 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:

J. 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:	ZOCCOLA DIDIER



<i>Title/Organisation:</i>	Centre Scientifique de Monaco
<i>Email:</i>	zoccola@centrescientifique.mc
Focal Point 2:	
<i>Name:</i>	DERI WILFRID
<i>Title/Organisation:</i>	Département des Relations extérieures et de la coopération
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Focal Point 3:	
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<i>Title/Organisation:</i>	
<i>Email:</i>	
Member page updates:	
<i>Section</i>	<i>Update</i>

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/>