

# US Funding Approaches to Turn the Tide for Coral Reefs







Photo credit: 2023. Nicholas Austin, U.S. Embassy/Jakarta

# Tropical Forest and Coral Conservation Act

Established in 1998, to date, \$264 million in appropriated funds have supported 23 debt treatment agreements, which will generate an expected \$415 million to help conserve and sustainably manage tropical forest and coral reef ecosystems in beneficiary countries.



# 2024 US-Indonesia TFCCA Agreement – first solely-focused on coral

Largest TFCCA  
agreement to date with  
\$35 million to support  
reefs in Eastern  
Indonesia.





# USAID initiatives to support Coral and livelihoods

- USAID works in more than 60 countries to conserve biodiversity, fight nature crime, and support sustainable fisheries.
- USAID recognizes that gender equality and women's empowerment are critical levers for change. In the Philippines, USAID supported the establishment of more than 1,000 hectares (almost four square miles) of mangroves and seagrass beds where women, especially Indigenous women, have priority access to fish and harvest oysters.



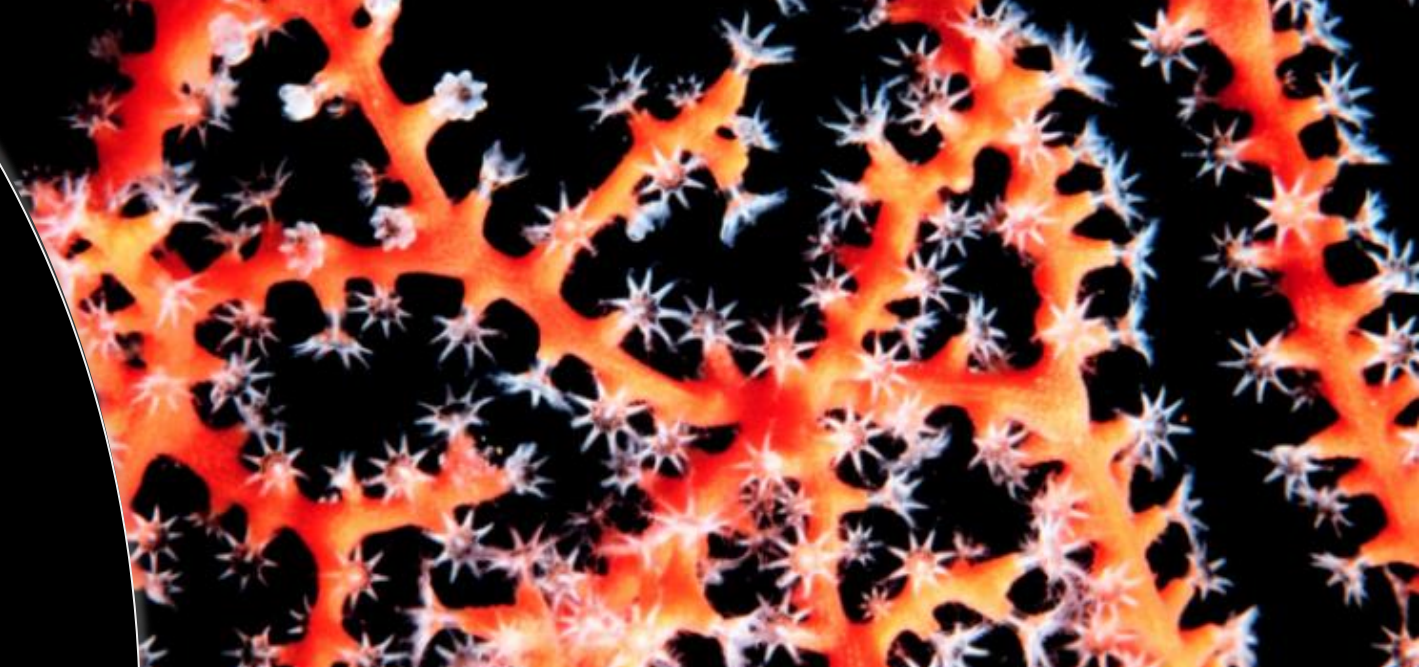




# Egyptian Red Sea Initiative

Supported by a \$15 million USD grant from USAID, ERSI will establish a landmark Egyptian Fund for Coral Reefs to leverage up to \$50 million USD in private and public funding.

Aimed at promoting high-value, low-environmental impact ecotourism and reef-positive businesses to conserve the Red Sea's coastal ecosystem.



NOAA Flickr: Gulf of Aqaba, Red Sea, Photographer: Mr. Mohammed Al Momany, Aqaba, Jordan.





The US International Development Finance Corporation  
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# Derisking investments in coral through DFC -

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## The US development finance corporation



Photo credit: NOAA: Voyage To Inner Space - Exploring the Seas





## DFC role in Blue Finance for Ecuador, Gabon and Belize

2023, DFC provided more than \$656 million in political risk insurance that enabled **Ecuador** to exchange \$1.6 billion of its international bonds for a \$656 million loan financed with the issuance of a Galapagos marine conservation-linked bond (Galapagos Marine Bond).

The transaction is expected to generate more than \$450 million for marine conservation in the Galápagos Islands and more than \$1.1 billion in lifetime savings for Ecuador through reduced debt service costs.

2023 — DFC Political Risk Insurance to Support a Blue Bond Providing \$500 Million for Ocean Conservation in **Gabon**

2021 — DFC Provides \$610 Million in Political Risk Insurance for Innovative Debt Conversion in Support of Marine Conservation in **Belize**.



Credit: NOAA/NMFS/Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center Blog

Strong  
partnerships,  
innovative  
financing, and  
locally-led  
conservation  
efforts are key



NOAA Photo Library - Photographer: David Burdick



Thank you.



Georgia, Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary. Summer, 2006.  
Photographer: Greg McFall, Gray's Reef NMS, NOS, NOAA