

Icforum.org



INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF INITIATIVE

ICRI ONLINE MEETING – SESSION 1

ACCELERATING ACTION #FORCORAL

14th April 2025

09:00 EDT | 14:00 BST | 16:00 AST



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shams

UPCOMING EVENTS, 2025



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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dr Abdulaziz Alsuwailem

General Organization for Conservation of Coral Reefs and Turtles in the Red Sea (SHAMS)



39th ICRI GENERAL MEETING

Hybrid event

- Recognizing that 2025 will be a particularly eventful year, we are pleased to offer ICRI members the option to participate either remotely or in person in Riyadh. In addition, we plan to sponsor a number of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to attend the General Meeting.
 - 8-12 September 2025
- To further support our shared goals, we are also organizing GCRMN and GFCR workshops before and after the General Meeting, providing additional opportunities for collaboration and knowledge sharing.
 - GCRMN RED SEA (potentially week before)
 - GFCR workshop - TBC

ITMEMS-6 Announcement

- Previous ITMEMS have been hosted around the world, highlighting global importance
- ITMEMS-6 was planned for 2020 but cancelled due to COVID-19
- Now to be held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, February 2026
- First ITMEMS in the Middle East
- Key Activity of KSA's Chairmanship



ITMEMS-6



Ian Mcleod

General Organization for Conservation of Coral Reefs and Turtles in the Red Sea (SHAMS)



INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL MARINE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM (ITMEMS)

- Flagship Activity of the International Coral Reef Initiative
- Typically held every four years
- Promotes the conservation and sustainable use of coral reefs and associated ecosystems including seagrasses and mangroves
- Targeted towards marine and coastal managers
- Aims to strengthen their knowledge and capacity through:
 - Encouraging knowledge exchange and cooperation
 - Demonstrating relevant application of technology and science
 - Providing targeted training and skills development
 - Developing networks for professional development and onward learning



ITMEMS-6 Format

- Held over 5 days
- Aiming for 150 attendees – marine park managers
- Combination of practical activities and targeted training
- ~6 themes each with a dedicated training team and space
- ITMEMS attendees will choose 5 trainings and rotate between them each day
- Support for lasting professional networks



ITMEMS-6 Steering Committee

- Made up of ICRI Secretariat, SHAMS staff, ICRI members, other invited parties
- TOR will include:
 - Selecting themes
 - Review concepts for sessions
 - Developing and reviewing the program
 - Identifying and contacting trainers
 - Assisting with promotion and fundraising
- Monthly meetings

ITMEMS-6 Participant selection

- Aiming for global representation including Small Island Developing States
- Our target is marine protected area managers
- There will be an application process as ITMEMS-6 is likely to be oversubscribed
- Applicants will fill in a questionnaire that will allow for:
 - The equitable selection of attendees
 - An understanding of attendee priorities and needs to help tailor the program

ITMEMS-6 Fundraising

- Great return on investment to enhance conservation outcomes through improved management
- Support needed for attendees from low-income countries
- Sponsorship opportunities for key components such as the gala dinner
- In-kind support from trainers gratefully received
- Thanks to SHAMS and the Principality of Monaco for their generous support
- All ideas and support welcomed

ICRI ACTIVITIES AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS



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ICRI ACTIVITIES AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS



Vincent Kneefel

General Organization for Conservation of Coral Reefs and Turtles in the Red Sea (SHAMS)





OUR OCEAN CONFERENCE

- **Date:** 28 – 30 April
- **Location:** BEXCO, Busan, South Korea
- **Theme:** Our Ocean, Our Action

The ICRI Secretariat, along with the ICRI Chair, will be attending the OOC and would be pleased to meet ICRI members attending. Please reach out to the ICRI Secretariat.

Side Event

- **Title:** Scaling Coral Reef Conservation
- **Organisers:** Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) and ICRI
- **Date:** 28 April
- **Time:** 14:30 – 16:00
- **Location:** Exhibition Centre 1, Room 215

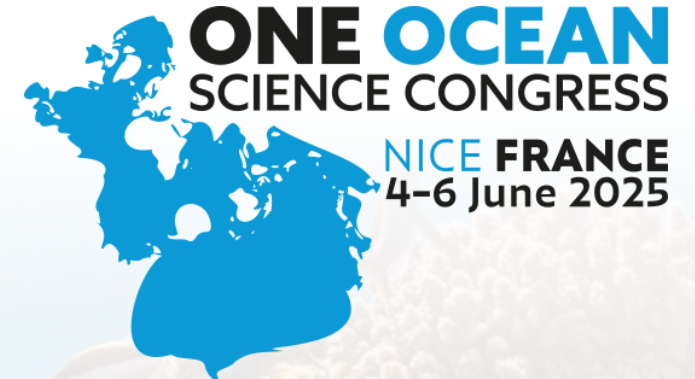


ONE OCEAN SCIENCE CONGRESS

- **Date:** 3 – 6 June
- A UNOC3 Special Event dedicated to Science
- It will offer comprehensive scientific insights on the Ocean's health and future trajectory. Science-informed decisions should enable the conservation and sustainable use of the Ocean, optimize the solutions it offers, and safeguard the services and benefits it provides to humanity.
- GCRMN will host an event, led by AIMS:
 - OOS2025-938 | Orals | T3-6
 - **The status and trends of coral reefs around the world – connecting science to conservation action**
 - Wed, 04 Jun, 14:40–14:50 (CEST) | Room 7



UN OCEAN
CONFERENCE
NICE 2025
FRANCE



BLUE ECONOMY & FINANCE FORUM

- **Date:** 7 – 8 June
- **Location:** Grimaldi Forum, Monaco
- The blue economy and finance forum (BEFF) will showcase the key actors involved in developing the enabling environment that will allow investments in the millions and billions to make this blue transformation a reality.
- ICRI partnering with GFCR for:
 - **Coral Reef-Positive Finance: Protecting Earth's Climate Refugia**
 - **Date:** Saturday, 7th June
 - **Time:** 11.30 am to 1.00pm, after the coffee break, following the plenary session
 - **Description:** Showcase the very best-in-class, scalable financial solutions that require greater investment and a global approach to protect the world's most climate-resilient coral reefs.



**BLUE
ECONOMY
& FINANCE FORUM**

UN OCEAN CONFERENCE

- **Date:** 9 – 13 June
- **Theme:** Our Ocean, Our Action
- Blue Zone: Port Lympia
- La Baleine: Palais des Expositions
- To help us better understand the engagement of ICRI members and proposed **events at UNOC-3**, related to coral reefs and associated ecosystems we kindly request that ICRI members and partners **add their events to the provided Excel sheet** in the following Google Document.
- This will not only keep all members well-informed but also assist us in tracking engagements effectively.
- ICRI is also planning to hold an informal Online Meeting dedicated to showcasing coral reef events at UNOC in May.

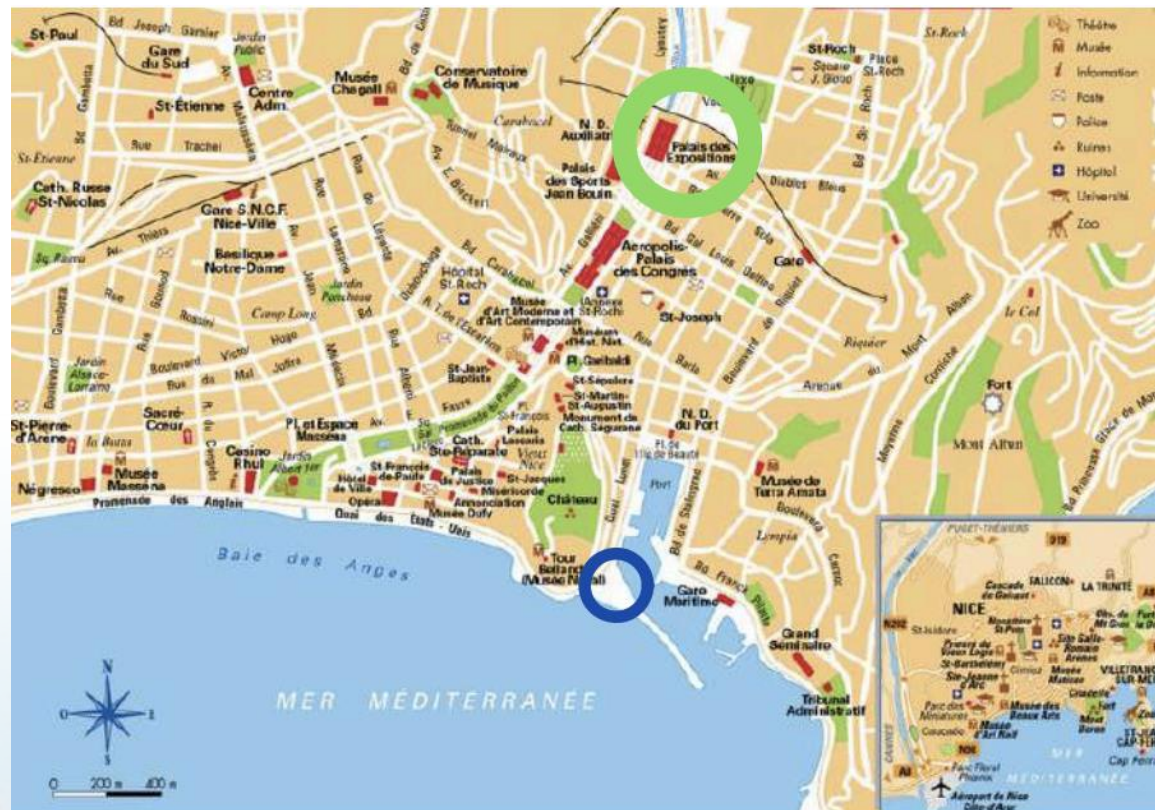


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Location of the Reef Action Hub



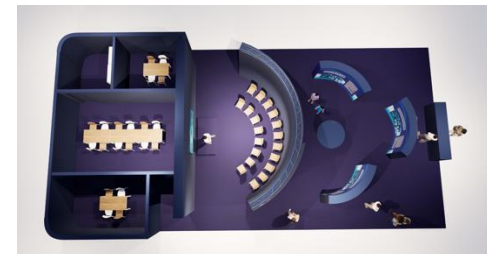
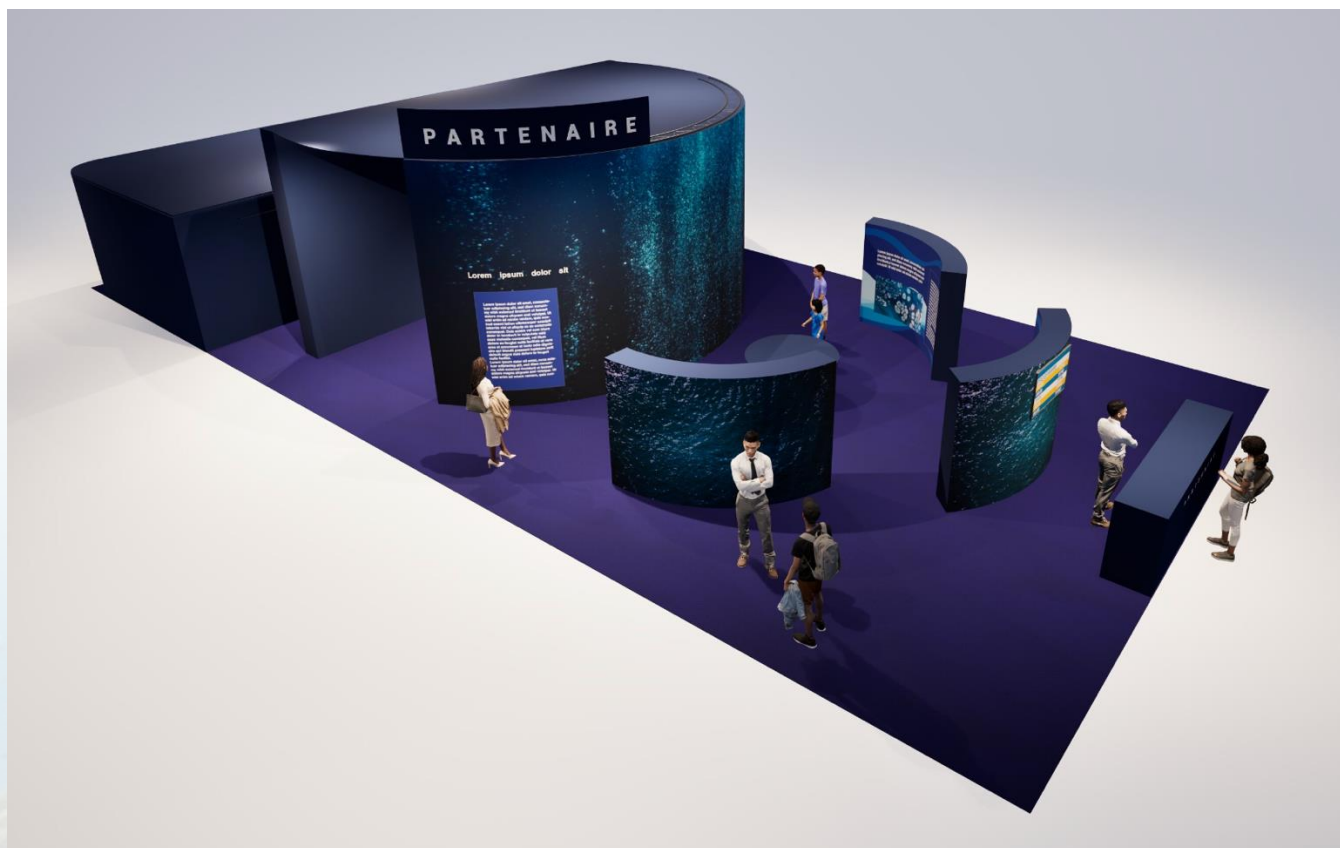
Zone verte dite "La Baleine"



Zone bleue au Port Lympia

UN OCEAN CONFERENCE

Reef Action Hub – La Baleine



IUCN WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS

- **Date:** 9 – 15 October
- **Location:** Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC)

The IUCN World Conservation Congress is the largest gathering of nature conservation experts, leaders and decision-makers in the world. It will help shape global priorities for nature conservation and climate change for the coming decade and beyond.

#ForCoral Pavilion

Building on the success of the #ForCoral Pavilion hosted at the occasion of the Sixteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP16), Colombia, ICRI has secured a 60m² **pavilion space to ensure a voice for coral reefs**. The #ForCoral Pavilion will bring together spokespeople for coral reefs, policy makers, indigenous peoples and local communities, investors, and conservation practitioners from around the world to showcase their work and to continue to **raise awareness on the importance of healthy coral reefs**.

