



International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)



International Coral Reef Initiative



A **unique partnership** bringing together governments, international organizations (World Bank, UNEP, UNDP, UNESCO, IUCN ...), scientific organizations and private entities

Objective: **preserve and sustainably manage coral reefs and associated ecosystems** (mangroves and seagrass).

Created in 1994 by 8 countries (France, the United States, Australia, Japan, Jamaica, Philippines and Sweden).

Gathers today **37 countries** and a total of about **80 members**.

International Coral Reef Initiative



An **informal initiative**, including crucial actions to highlight the importance of coral reefs and associated ecosystems worldwide for:

- ✓ **maintenance of biodiversity,**
- ✓ **mitigation and adaptation to global warming,**
- ✓ **food safety,**
- ✓ **economy and well-being of coastal communities**
- ✓ **Etc.**

Turning presidency, for a fixed period (usually 2 years) **by the Member States**, on a **voluntary basis**. The Presidency advances ICRI towards its objectives through an action plan, and organizes general meetings, at least once a year.

Can also **organize workshops or side-events at major international conferences to promote ICRI and its work**. This is the object of the ongoing presentation 😊.

Organisation



- ✓ **Since June 1st, 2016 until June, 2018, chaired by France :**
 - Mr Xavier Sticker, French Ambassador for the Environment, with members of 3 ministries and a consultant.
- ✓ **3rd time that France chairs ICRI.**



Plan of action 2016-2018



Action plan for 2016-2018 adopted on November 4th, 2016, at the 31st ICRI General Meeting (Paris, France).

5 themes:

- “Help raise awareness of **how coral reefs and related ecosystems help to fight climate change**”
- “**Meet international requirements** regarding coral reefs”
- “Help to **reduce human threats** to coral reefs and associated mangroves and seagrasses, by making **greater use of regulatory tools**”
- “**Monitor the state of reefs** in order to better manage them”
- “**Progress through education**”

A few outcomes from the last General Meeting

- ✓ Recommendation to **reduce plastic microbeads pollution** in marine environment
- ✓ Recommendation designating **2018 third “International Year of the Reef”**
- ✓ Recommendation on **addressing the decline in coral reef health due to global bleaching events**



What keeps an ICRI Secretariat busy?

Some examples of ongoing activities:

- ✓ **“Analysis of international funding** for coral reefs, mangroves and seagrasses, inventory of projects to **identify thematic and geographic gaps in funding to better guide fund providers;**
- ✓ **Synthesis of the contribution of the RCEAs to the various SDGs,** identifying concrete examples that can be replicated;
- ✓ **Study of the impact of sunscreens and other endocrine disruptors on coral reefs. Encourage the production of “coral-friendly”.** Discussions with the cosmetics industry;
- ✓ **Inventory of innovative and ecological moorings (+ feedback)** for a recommendation to be proposed for adoption at the next GA;

What keeps an ICRI Secretariat busy?

- ✓ **Work on regulation and law enforcement to reduce direct anthropogenic damage from dredging and physical alteration of reef structures** with a view to recommending adoption for adoption at the next GA;
- ✓ **Supporting the development of new coral reef indicators**, as well as the **preparation of a global report on the status and trends of coral reefs**, through the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN);
- ✓ **Promotion of regional reports on coral reef health** (2 reports will be provided at the next GA: Indian Ocean and Pacific);
- ✓ **Mobilization of other coral countries to adopt or promote measures against plastic microbeads**. Call for action launched by the SPREP countries at their last meeting, in September, at the initiative of France. Another will be proposed by France at the next COP of the Nairobi Convention;
- ✓ Mobilization of other coral countries to join the Initiative (through the diplomatic channel);

ETC ...

- ✓ May 28, 2016 - **Departure of the TARA Pacific expedition 2016-2018**, (Lorient)
- ✓ September 2016 - **World Biodiversity Congress** (Hawaii)
- ✓ November 2016 - **22nd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** (Shkirat)
- ✓ December 2016 - **13th Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity** (Cancun)
- ✓ February 2017 - **First Meeting of the Alliance of Ocean and Climate Initiatives** (Paris)
- ✓ May 2017 - **50 Reefs Conservation Meeting** (New York)
- ✓ May 2017 - **Great Barrier Reef Summit - Managing for Resilience** (Australia)



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INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF INITIATIVE & UN ENVIRONMENT GRANTS PROGRAM



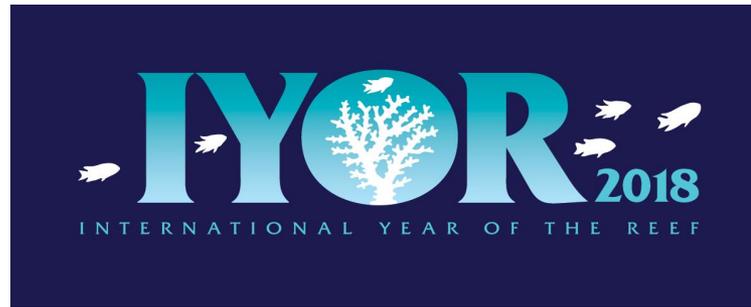
ICRI/UN Environment Grant programme



- ✓ Joint initiative ICRI/UN Environment, to **catalyze implementation of the Plan of Action 2016-2018 and the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution** on sustainable coral reefs management.
- ✓ **Grants up to USD 60,000** will be awarded to projects aimed at protecting and preserving coral reefs and/or related ecosystems, with a particular emphasis on building climate resilience and facilitating coral recovery.
- ✓ **Funded by contributions from France and Monaco.**
- ✓ **More than 240 concept notes received. 20 shortlisted. Final selection ongoing**
- ✓ **Announcement of results at next GA, 7-9 December, Nairobi, just after UNEA**



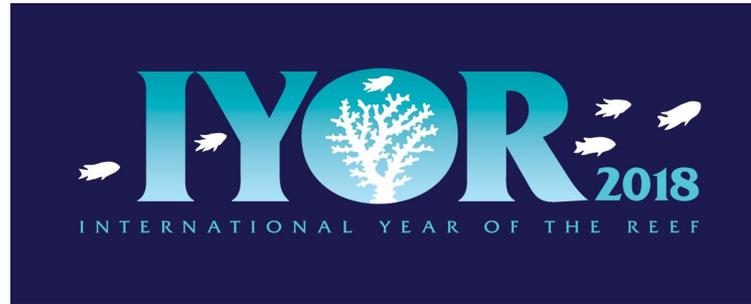
During the 31st General Meeting (November 2016, Paris), the ICRI declared
2018
as the third International Year of the Reef



A worldwide campaign to :

- ✓ **raise awareness** about the value of and threats to coral reefs and to **motivate** people to protect them.
- ✓ **promote partnerships** between governments, the private sector, academia and civil society on the management of coral reefs;
- ✓ **identify and implement effective management strategies**
- ✓ **share information on best practices** of sustainable management.

ICRI will provide overall direction and leadership for the campaign, but **IYOR activities in each region and country are decided upon and organized at national and local levels**



All individuals, governments, corporations, schools and organizations are welcome and actively encouraged to participate in IYOR 2018. The logo is available for use by any organisation taking part, and a website is being set up.

**YOU ARE ALL ENCOURAGED TO JOIN THIS
INTERNATONAL CAMPAIGN**



For more information, contact

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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

