
Fwd: ICRI Newsletter October 2021

1 message

Grick Cordero <grick.cordero@bmb.gov.ph>

Tue, Oct 5, 2021 at 12:07 PM

To: CRFMS CDD <crfms4a2020@gmail.com>, queen cena <queencena@gmail.com>, Julie Tanguilig <jntanguilig@gmail.com>, R4b@denr.gov.ph, R4a@denr.gov.ph

Cc: Maria Katrina Apaya <katrina.apaya@bmb.gov.ph>

Dear madams/sirs,

Attention: Green Fins focal persons

Good morning!

May I share with you the below ICRI Newsletter for October. Part of it says Green Fins has developed/launched new guidelines to help dive and snorkel operators assess when to conduct Crown-of-Thorns sea star (COTS) cleanups and how to do so in an environmentally-friendly way. You may want to go over and check applicability in your respective areas.

For your information

Warm hugs,

GRICK CORDERO, LPT

Ecosystems Management Specialist I

DENR Biodiversity Management Bureau

Coastal and Marine Division



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **ICRI Secretariat** <thomas.dallison@icriforum.org>

Date: Mon, Oct 4, 2021 at 8:52 PM

Subject: ICRI Newsletter October 2021

To: Desiree Eve Maaño <desireeeve.maano@bmb.gov.ph>



INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF INITIATIVE NEWSLETTER



Hannes Klostermann | Ocean Image Bank

October 2021

The GCRMN Launch & Handover Ceremony

Have you registered?

On **October 5th**, ICRI will host two events; the launch of the [Sixth GCRMN Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2020 report](#) and the [ICRI Secretariat Handover Ceremony 2021](#).

ICRI Secretariat Handover Ceremony

11:00 - 12:15 CEST

On **October 5th 2021**, the [ICRI co-chairs of Australia, Indonesia and Monaco](#) will

handover the ICRI Secretariat to the [United States of America](#) following a highly productive four years. The United States of America, a founding member, will chair the ICRI Secretariat for the third time.

During this virtual ceremony, the current Secretariat will present the achievements and advances in coral reef conservation throughout the previous four years implementing the ICRI Plan of Action. [The ICRI plan of action 2018-2021](#) was adopted during the first General Meeting, under the Australia, Monaco, and Indonesia chairmanship, held in Monaco, in December 2018.

Register

Launch of the Sixth GCRMN Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2020

12:30 - 13:45 CEST



Live Streamed

The [Sixth GCRMN Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2020 report](#) is the first global status of coral reefs since 2008, and the first based on a quantitative analysis of a global dataset produced from contributions from several hundred scientists and organisations from 73 reef bearing countries.

A **social media toolkit** and **animation** will be available at www.gcrmn.net/2020-report on **October 5th 2021**.

Register

Join the coral reef discussion using
#WorldCoralReefStatus & #ForCoral



The events will be held online and simultaneous translation will be provided in English,

French and Spanish. **Please note that both events require registration.**

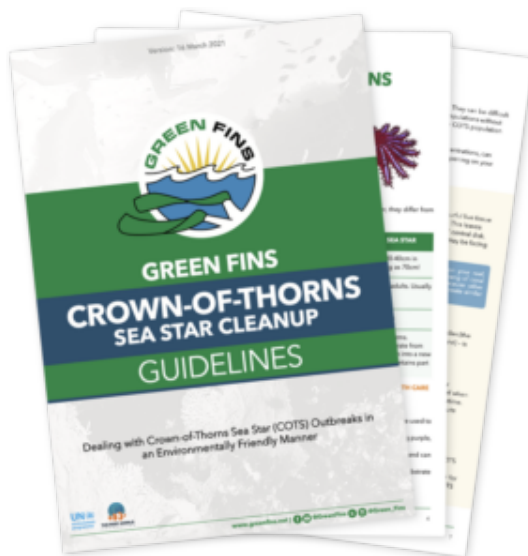
We look forward to welcoming you!

The International Coral Reef Initiative Secretariat

WITH SUPPORT FROM



News from ICRI members



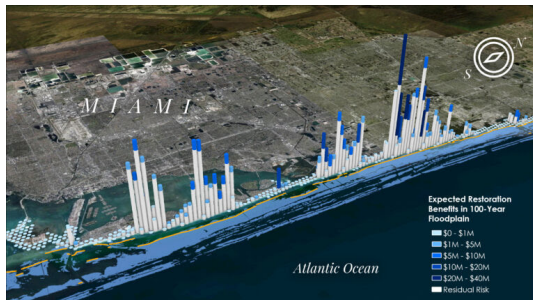
The UK Joins the Global Fund for Coral Reefs

Scuba Divers can Become Environmentally Certified Through Green Fins

The [Global Fund for Coral Reefs \(GFCR\)](#) has announced that the UK has joined the Fund's coalition with a

[The Reef-World Foundation](#) – the international coordinator of [Green Fins](#) – announced the launch of a new [Green Fins Diver e-Course](#). This new online course is designed to help recreational divers protect coral reefs by learning how to conduct more environmentally friendly dives.

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Quantifying Flood Risk and Reef Risk Reduction Benefits in Florida and Puerto Rico

There is growing recognition of the role of nature-based solutions, such as coral reef restoration, to reduce coastal risks. One of the biggest limitation to advancing the use of natural defenses in coastal management, however, is the lack of quantitative assessments of their engineering performance and the social and economic benefits.

To address this limitation, the USGS, UCSC, and NOAA investigated the role of U.S. coral reefs in coastal hazard risk reduction.

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commitment of GBP £5 million. This new commitment is from the [UK's Blue Planet Fund](#), launched at the 2021 G7 Leader's Summit to support developing countries in protecting the marine environment and reducing poverty.

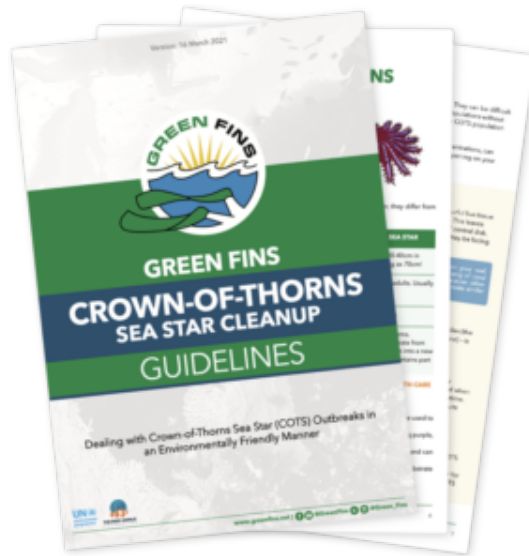
[Read More](#)



The Allen Coral Atlas Completes Map of the World's Coral Reefs

The [Allen Coral Atlas](#) partners announced that after three years, 450+ research teams and counting, and two million satellite images, the habitat mapping of the world's shallow coral reefs is complete. Combined with the Atlas' monitoring system launched earlier this year, the Allen Coral Atlas is now the most complete, consistent, accurate and continually updated resource for coral scientists, policy makers and regional planners.

[Read More](#)



New guidance helping marine tourism operators conduct Crown-of-Thorns sea star (COTS) cleanups in an environmentally friendly way

[The Reef-World Foundation](#) – the international coordinator of the [UN Environment Programme's Green Fins initiative](#) – has launched new guidelines to help dive and snorkel operators assess when to conduct Crown-of-Thorns sea star (COTS) cleanups and how to do so in an environmentally friendly way.

The guidelines give some basic ecological information about Crown-of-Thorns sea stars (*Acanthaster planci*) to help marine tourism operators learn more about the species and how they're different to other sea stars.

[Read More](#)

For your interest



Small Island Developing States must increase their capabilities to preserve the critical ecosystem services provided by coral reefs. Being located in Hurricane Alley, our very survival literally depends on our preservation of these habitats. Our ability to provide food and security to our people is directly linked to the health of our reefs.

Jean W. Wiener, Executive Director

FOUNDATION POUR LA PROTECTION DE LA
BIODIVERSITE MARINE, HAITI

WWW.CORALPOST2020.ORG



Food security should open the conversation about biodiversity for coral reef-dependent countries

Led by ICRI and [Vulcan Inc.](#) following a call by IUCN for Open Letters to IUCN Members, Jean Weiner, Executive Director of FoProBiM, authored a moving letter regarding the importance of coral reefs for food security in the context of Haiti. The open letter calls on IUCN Members for an on-the-ground path of positive impact following the release of IUCN's Resolution 105.

"Let Resolution 105 be the starting point. It is my hope and the hope for coral reefs that IUCN, ICRI, NGOs and governments across the world will commit to on-the-ground practices to finance and develop the intended solutions. If we protect livelihoods and food security, the coexistence of people and nature is possible"

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The Road to Kunming

The long awaited [draft 1 of the Global Biodiversity Framework](#) was published in July 2021 and discussed at the 3rd Open Ended Working Group that convened virtually from 23 August and recessed on the 3 September 2021.

The ICRI Post-2020 ad hoc Committee prepared an [initial reaction to this first draft](#), proposing a number of amendments to strengthen the text of the GBF on the basis of the [ICRI Recommendation](#) for example increasing recognition of particularly vulnerable ecosystems; and an update of the [table of Recommended ICRI indicators](#) for inclusion in the monitoring framework. A number of these proposed amendments were put forward by Parties in the discussion, and will be carried forward to the next stages of the

negotiations.

A new element in the draft 1 GBF was the introduction of a target on restoration. Given the significance of this issue to the future of coral reef ecosystems, ICRI will hold a technical consultation to develop guidance relating to the application of this target for coral reefs and availability of suitable metrics. The aim is to ensure this is available in time for preparations of the Geneva CBD meetings provisionally scheduled for January 2022.



The KLSOF Completes the Global Reef Expedition

After traveling over 50,000 kilometers, conducting more than 12,000 scientific dives, and educating over 6,000 local students and community leaders, the [Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation](#) has completed the Global Reef Expedition - a 10-year research mission that assessed the status and major threats to coral reefs around the world.

Using a three-pronged approach of science, education, and outreach, the [Global Reef Expedition](#) circumnavigated the globe, surveying and mapping over 1,000 reefs in 16 countries across the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans as well as the Red Sea.

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Reef Futures Postponed until 2022

The [Reef Futures](#) Planning Team has continued to track the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and has been actively engaged in contingency planning. International participation is essential to the CRC and over the last several weeks, we have realized that we will not be able to host an in-person gathering with robust international participation this December and the difficult decision has been made to **postpone Reef Futures to the second half of 2022**.

While rescheduling Reef Futures is not ideal, the CRC is committed to ensuring that the Symposium is a diverse event where partner organisations and CRC members from around the world can come together in-person, safely.



Friends of Ocean Action Launches New Initiative to

Conserve and Restore Mangrove Forests

The Mangroves Working Group, led by [Friends of Ocean Action](#) in collaboration with [1t.org](#), aims to raise ambition and deliver action towards the conservation and restoration of mangrove forests, by enabling companies and investors to enhance the blue carbon market with support from non-profit leaders and experts. Objectives include: delivering actions towards the group's ambition, knowledge sharing and capacity-building among members, connecting investors with projects, and, ultimately, enabling the flow of more blue carbon credits into the voluntary carbon market

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To watch



Animal? Mineral? Vegetable? I'm all three! (What is, and is not, a coral.)



Inger Anderson's, Executive Director, UNEP, address at the sixth GCRMN Status of Coral Reefs of the World event, IUCN WCC, Marseille.



Elizabeth Maruma Mrema's, Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the CBD, address at the sixth GCRMN Status of Coral Reefs of the World event, IUCN WCC, Marseille.

Save the Date!



5th October 2021: ICRI Secretariat Handover Ceremony

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[Learn More](#)



5th October 2021: Launch of the sixth GCRMN Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2020

On October 5th 2021, following the ICRI Secretariat Handover Ceremony, the GCRMN will officially launch the [sixth GCRMN Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2020](#) report.

[Learn More](#)



8th - 12th November 2021: 74th Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute Meeting

The 74th Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI74) will be held between the 8th - 12th November 2021 virtually.

[Learn More](#)



27th June - 1th July 2022: UN Ocean Conference

The General Assembly adopted the draft decision (A/75/578) entitled “2022 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,” by which the Assembly decides to convene the Conference from 27 June to 1 July 2022 in Lisbon, Portugal and that the Governments of Kenya and Portugal shall retain co-hosting responsibilities.

[Learn More](#)



IMPAC 5

1st - 8th September 2022: 5th International Marine Protected Area Congress (IMPAC5), Canada

The IMPAC is the top global gathering for marine conservation professionals to share knowledge, experience and best practices to strengthen marine conservation and protect the natural and cultural heritage of the world ocean. Two key focus areas for IMPAC5 are to highlight the leadership role of Indigenous Peoples in marine protected areas around the world and to engage the next generation of marine conservation professionals.

[Learn More](#)



19th - 23rd June 2023: 5th Asia-Pacific Coral Reef Symposium, Singapore

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic that have impacted economies and communities, and with protracted travel restrictions likely to extend through 2022, the 5th Asia-Pacific Coral Reef Symposium slated to be organised in Singapore will be held in 19th – 23th June 2023.

[Learn More](#)

Do you want to feature in the next newsletter?

If you, or your organisation, has an update on your conservation actions, a new publication or upcoming event, please send your update to thomas.dallison@icriforum.org if you would like to feature in the next issue.



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