



## **Theme 5: “Progress via education”**

### **Goal 5-1: prepare for the 2018 International Year of the Reef (IYOR)**

*The ICRI member’s report outlines the activities of ICRI members; their progress and contributions towards the ICRI Plan of Action 2016-18. Prior to the ICRI General Meeting December 2017, the member report also details the activities planned by contributing members for the International Year of the Reef 2018 (IYOR).*

*The contributions detailed below are taken from written responses by Brazil; Japan; Indonesia; Malaysia; Maldives; Monaco; UK; and the USA. The member report also includes responses from the Central Caribbean Marine Institute; Coastal Oceans Research and Development in the Indian Ocean; Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine; Great Barrier Reef Foundation; International Society for Coral Reef Studies; Reef-world Foundation; Science and Conservation of Fish Aggregations; The Nature Conservancy; UNEP Caribbean Environment Program; and the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (as of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017). For more information, you can check directly the member report.*

#### **Brazil**

The Brazilian Ministry of Environment is creating a communications plan for several IYOR2018 celebration actions next year. The actions will be carried out in partnership with NGOs, universities, research groups, private initiative, prefectures of important areas with coral reefs along the Brazilian coast. The plan consists of releases in social networks and diving magazines, awareness campaigns on coral reef conservation, exposure of photos and videos, and other activities. The Brazilian Coral Reef Monitoring Program will launch a book with more than 15 years of results and statuses of Brazilian coral reefs. The IYOR2018 celebrate plan will be aligned, when possible, with Ramsar Convention National Strategy to be carried out also in 2018.

#### **Japan**

Japan organized a kick-off meeting and will organize an opening symposium of IYOR in Japan. By doing so, Japan is inviting various parties interested (private companies, researchers, media, and policymakers etc.) to collaborate with each other and address conservation of coral reefs.

#### **Malaysia**

The Ministry through Department of Marine Park Malaysia will designate 2018 as the 3<sup>rd</sup>



International Year of Reef. The Department has carried out preliminary internal planning for the year. The plan includes:

- A national level launch in March/April 2018.
- Beach and reef clean-up.
- Education and awareness programs.
- Capacity building programs for local communities.
- Programs with partners including:
- Publication of first day cover to commemorate IYOR 3 with National Philately Association.
- Officiating collaboration with Aquaria Malaysia.
- Engaging corporates on CSR Programs (F&N, Petrosains, Malakoff) pertaining to reducing usage of plastic material or recycling programs.
- Research Seminar.
- High Level Forum on way forward on Coral Reef and associated marine ecosystem conservation.

This plan will be further developed and updated after further discussion with their partners and stakeholders.

### **The Republic of Maldives**

A photo competition and the Marine Science Symposium held by the Marine Research Centre will be dedicated to the IYOR 2018.

### **The Principality of Monaco**

Many actions are planned during the year 2018, including a photographic exhibition in Monaco, animations directed to the general public during the Monaco Ocean Week, animations and visits of the coral culture facilities of the CSM all year for schools.

### **United Kingdom**

The UK welcomes the designation of 2018 as the International Year of the Reef. The UK is exploring ways to raise awareness of threats to coral reefs and associated eco-systems as well as currently undertaking an ocean acidification research program.

### **United States of America (USA)**

The U.S. is currently considering a series of events and activities for IYOR2018 and will share information about these events at the 2018 ICRI meeting.



## **Central Caribbean Marine Institute, Caribbean Islands**

CCMI has developed a communications plan for IYOR2018 to increase local and international awareness of the IYOR and in support of UN Sustainable Development Goals 13 and 14. CCMI is currently seeking local partners who will help convey messages regarding the value of coral reefs and the threats they face. As per the UN Chronicle Article, “Can We Save Coral Reefs?” CCMI will be advocating the need for greater societal-level changes and individual actions to mitigate anthropogenic impacts to coral reefs.

CCMI will also launch Reefs Go Live in conjunction with IYOR. Reefs Go Live is an interactive telepresence educational programme, wherein students in classrooms and at informal science learning centres will be connected to researchers at work under the ocean in a two-way video dialogue. Topics focus on coral reefs will be tied into their school curriculum in an engaging, interactive format.

## **Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine (FoProBiM)**

FoProBiM are planning to integrate IYOR2018 into FoProBiM’s Ocean’s Day activities in 2018 as well as add components of the importance of reefs in FoProBiM’s coastal community environmental education activities. FoProBiM will also try to gain media access in order to promote IYOR2018 both before and during the year.

## **Great Barrier Reef Foundation (GBRF), Australia**

The Great Barrier Reef Foundation is a member of the GBR2050 Communication working group developing an integrated plan of IYOR2018 activities. GBRF is intending on running the following IYOR2018 events:

### Community Education & Engagement events

Three key events will be included with an installation and engagement activities.

- World Science Festival – March
- Commonwealth Games – April
- Royal National Show (Ekka) - August

Visitors to these events will have the opportunity to have a ‘reef experience’ while at the event to gain an understanding of how amazing the Great Barrier Reef is.

The events can also play a significant role in raising the awareness of the threats to Reef such as of single use plastics and what citizens can all do to help.



### Year of the Reef stamp

- An application has been made for a series of stamps issues by Australia Post to recognize the international Year of the Reef and GBRF's unique position as custodians to the Great Barrier Reef
- The stamps would profile the unique creatures on the Reef OR Well known Australian artists could be commissioned to create a series of stamps

### MyReef App (June)

- A digital game based application developed for primary school aged children that inspires a love and respect for the Great Barrier Reef, empower them to make positive change
- The app will integrate across the Australian curriculum (primarily in the areas of science, maths, geography, technology and art) allowing it to be used in conjunction with in-classroom learning and activities
- There is a great need in developing an educated and engaged Queensland community that understands and supports the protection and preservation of the Great Barrier Reef. No more is that seen than in children who already have a natural wonder and curiosity for what is essentially in their backyard. Through children, there is a flow on effect to parents, teachers and the wider community which can create further understanding and awareness.

Google Expedition on the Great Barrier Reef - With Google Expeditions, students can take field trips right from their classroom. In development are a series of additional expeditions on the Great Barrier Reef – to places students could normally never go to like Raine Island, the largest green sea turtle rookery in the southern hemisphere.

### Reef Hero Awards (September)

- An Awards program to recognise inspirational and passionate Reef Heroes
- Opportunity to profile those doing great things for the Reef & celebrate the good stories about the GBR
- Recognized with an event, badging & profile.
- Categories to include: Community; Tourism; Science; Farming; Boating / Fishing / Shipping; Business / Corporate; Indigenous; Leadership; Young Leader; Collaboration; Innovation and International.

### TEDxGreatBarrierReef (October)



TEDx has never been held on the Great Barrier Reef. TEDxGreatBarrierReef would be the curation of suite of short, carefully prepared talks that are Reef idea-focused to provoke conversations that matter. It would be – multidisciplinary, one day only and an invitation only event.

### **International Society for Reef Studies (ISRS)**

- An article promoting IYOR was published in Reef Encounter, and IYOR will continue to be promoted in the newsletter in 2018
- E-mail discussions have been held about key IYOR messages with ISRS members
- ECRS, which is sponsored by ISRS, will be holding an event to launch IYOR in Europe
- ISRS Conservation, Education and Student Committees are considering ways in which ISRS members can contribute further. The Education Committee, through its members have a variety of activities planned.

### **Reef-World Foundation**

The Reef-World Foundation are planning on specifically working alongside ICRI and UN Environment to promote and enhance awareness to IYOR2018. Plans are underway to develop specific awareness raising campaigns to be released throughout the year alongside established partners and networks in conjunction with regular Green Fins activities. Current initial ideas include:

- 4 action points / campaigns will be evenly promoted throughout the year for a 3-month period per action point with the aim to focus on each problem and associated solution.
- GF testimonials/ coral reef values
- GF film to be developed
- TED talk: using IYOR 2018 as a focus + collaborating with other partners
- Partner with Dive.in who have offered to create infographics for the IYOR2018 campaign
- Partners such as Divebooker and Deepblu have expressed interest in supporting Reef-World Foundation campaigns
- Advertisement (social media, magazines, etc)
- Use hashtags to monitor action

### **The Nature Conservancy**

TNC is still developing its strategy for 2018 IYOR of the Reef and will be able to report



more by the end of the year. TNC will be supporting targeted communications efforts to raise awareness and support action to conserve reefs during 2018.

### **UNEP Caribbean Environment Program, Jamaica**

CEP is exploring the possibility for the convening of a technical session at the 71th GCFI conference, to be held in San Andres, Colombia, in 2018, within the framework of the IYOR. This technical session would serve as a forum for the exchange of information and perspectives among decision-makers, scientists, managers, educators, resource users, and students on various issues of relevance to coral reef management.

### **UN Environment Program World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)**

UNEP-WCMC will host a section on their website to showcase their support and the importance of IYOR

Please note, UNEP-WCMC are open to other collaborations, projects and events to help celebrate and raise awareness.