



ICRI Member's Report

Costa Rica

Reporting period December 2017 – November 2018

1. Reporting on the ICRI Plan of Action 2016-2018. *Your responses will help inform the Secretariat about members' contributions toward the previous Plan of Action.*

- a. Please list any relevant examples from your organisation/country of investment/projects to protect and restore the natural infrastructure of reefs and mangroves.** (See Goal (1) 2 [ICRI Recommendation for supporting investments in the natural infrastructure of reefs and mangroves to increase climate resilience](#)).

Coral reef action

Costa Rica has been working in the integrate or synergies between different partners for the develop a national restauration coral reef project. In this concept, the Environment and Energy Ministry had integrated the efforts of CIMAR- Universidad de Costa Rica, Instituto Nacional de Aprendizaje, Parque Marino del Pacífico, Universidad Nacional, la Agencia de Cooperación Alemana (GIZ), el Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación, Raising Coral (ONG) and others locals ONG and privates companies. The activities make in this line are:

- Project of ex situ growing coral in Parque Marino del Pacífico. This project have experimental goal related the growing ex situ of two species. The results are successful.
- Two coral gardens: In the last year Csota Rica have two coral gardens in the Pacific coast. The success of growing and survive of species are satisfactory.
- In the framework of the project "Development of an innovative financial mechanism for the conservation of coral reefs in the Dominican Republic", of the Regional Fund for Triangular Cooperation in Latin America, which is supported in the management and coordination of the Biodiversity and Business Program implemented by the German Cooperation Agency, GIZ, on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany, Costa Rica develop the workshop "Advances in restoration and conservation of coral reefs in Costa Rica". This activity promoted the interchange or information and the synergy between partners who are working in coral reef restauration in the country.
- Workshop "Building the diagnostic of problematic of coral reef in Costa Rica. This were a step for the marine congress MARCOLAB.

- Workshop "Coral reefs and synergy with economy, conservation, research and climate change "

b. **Has your organisation/country made any progress in the following areas to target anthropogenic pressures?** Please give detail below. Note: If no change since your last ICRI member report, please write 'no change'.

Encourage ban of plastic microbeads in cosmetic products. (See Goal (3) 2 & [See ICRI Recommendation to reduce plastic microbeads pollution in marine environment](#)):

Improve regulation and enforcement to reduce direct anthropogenic damage due to dredging and physical alteration of reef structures. (See Goal (3) 3 & [ICRI Recommendation to reduce damage due to dredging and dumping on coral reefs](#)):

No change.

Deployment of mooring devices limiting the mechanical destruction of coral reefs and seagrasses. (See Goal (3) 4).

No Change.

c. **Did your organisation/country celebrate International Year of the Reef?** Please give details below. (See Goal (5) 1 & [ICRI Recommendation designating 2018 as the third International Year of the Reef](#)):

2. **Contribution to the ICRI Plan of Action 2018-2020 and upcoming ICRI general meetings.** *Your responses to the following questions will assist the Secretariat in assessing contributions towards the major themes of the draft ICRI Plan of Action 2018-2020.*

Theme 1 - Promote effective and adaptable solutions to improve the protection of coral reefs

a. **Which of the below topics do you consider to be the three top challenges that your organisation faces in managing coral reefs?** Please select from the options below:

Climate change impacts

Inadequate planning, zoning and management

Unsustainable resource extraction

Tourism and recreation

Shipping

Coastal development

Dredging

Illegal and destructive fishing

Fish and coral trade

Marine debris

Other. Please specify:

- b. **Please list any examples of innovative management practices that your organisation/country is involved in, such as use of VMS, drones & ecological mooring devices.** Include their limits, conditions of implementation, financing and an assessment of their results and links for more information if possible.
Reproduction ex situ, using micro fragmentation and gardener form fast growing of corals in situ.
- c. **Please list any examples of innovative funding for management that your organisation/country is involved in.** Include their limits, conditions of implementation, financing and an assessment of their results and links for more information if possible.

In this first year of the project of coral reef restoration, Costa Rica had integrated the resources of local partners with the technic support of GIZ. Then, the country to made synergies when the different partners (academy, private companies, ONG, government) had used their own resources, in the same objective. In this first step of the project, the local resources had been enough, but in next steps, the project will need external support.

- d. **Please list any examples of leading practices, techniques and strategies for building reef resilience that your organisation/country is involved in.** Include their limits, conditions of implementation, financing and an assessment of their results and links for more information if possible.
- *Costa Rica has been implementing a project for the fishing tournament of the lionfish in the Caribbean.*
 - Ecological monitoring in coral reef of Coco Island and Costa Rica pacific and Caribbean coast.

Budget amount:

- e. **Please list any examples of leading practice reef restoration mechanisms that your organisation/country is involved in.** Include their limits, conditions of implementation, financing and an assessment of their results and links for more information if possible.

Costa Rica established a marine laboratory for ex situ reproduction of corals in Parque Marino del Pacífico.

Two corals garden in Pacific coast of Costa Rica. (Sámara y Golfito)

Theme 3 – Support communities reliant on coral reefs

- f. **Is sustainable tourism development a significant challenge for your organisation?** If so please include detail below of the kinds of challenges faced and your strategies to deal with them.
Costa Rica has been working in the inclusion of private companies like a partner in

the coral reef restoration project. Two private companies have agreements for bring support to the project.

- g. **Is your organisation involved in activities to raise awareness and encourage action to support communities reliant on coral reefs?** Please include details below.

In Costa Rica, different organizations made actions for develop a commun effort in the coral reef restauration in Pacific Coast and control of lionfish in Caribbean.

Theme 4 - Help to reduce anthropogenic threats to coral reefs, particularly those that occur at a global or regional scale

- h. **What activities is your organisation involved in to elevate awareness of the global nature of the threat of climate change to coral reefs?** Please include details below

- i. **Has your organisation made any progress in dealing with destructive fishing and trade?** Please include details below.

- j. **Has your organisation made any progress in dealing with marine debris?** Please include details below.

3. **Would you like to report on your activities during the ICRI GM?** Please give details below.

Y / N for the moment

4. **International events.** Please list any upcoming international events relevant to ICRI which someone from your organisation plans to attend in 2018-2019.

- ICRI GM, Monaco, 5-7 Dec 2018
- Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 3-14 Dec 2018
- Reef Futures 2018: A Coral Restoration and Intervention-Science Symposium, Florida, 10-14 Dec 2018
- Global World Heritage Marine Managers meeting, Alaska, US, 26-31 May 2019

Other:

5. **Publications.** Please list relevant publications and reports you have released during this reporting period.

Title (Incl. author and date)	Website URL if available	Type of publication (paper, report, etc)
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6. ICRI Member Feedback. What do you find most valuable about the ICRI member reports? If you have any ideas for improvement please list below:

Costa Rica has started the road towards the restoration of coral reefs, adding the efforts of different national and international actors. This idea has rapidly grown and has become a priority theme in marine conservation for the country.

7. General Information. (Note that this information will be posted on the ICRI website on your member page:

Member type (Country / Organisation):	
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