



ICRI Member's Report

Myanmar

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](#)).

Myanmar has long coastline of about 2800km fringing with large areas of mangroves and coral reefs. Myeik Archipelago are well known for its high biodiversity of corals and Ayeyawady Delta is favour for good condition of mangrove establishment.

The national coastal resources management Committee (NCRMC) is organized in 2017 and is lead by Vice President. Six sub-committees which are lead by regional government are seeking for conservation works the coastal resources especially on Mangroves and Coral Reefs.

FFI (Fauna and Flora International) and Marine Science Department are having joint collaborative works on the assessments of corals, seagrass and mangroves along the coast (2016-2019). Doing for five LMMA (Locally Management Marine Areas) in Myeik Archipelago is on the processing.

World View International and Marine Science Department also have joint works on Mangrove Conservation along the Lower Rakhine Coast. Magyi Marine National Park (1800 ha) and mangrove gene bank (more than 60 spp.) is already protected the mangroves. Many more areas are being trying to restore and conserve along the Rakhine Coast and Ayeyawady Delta.

MYSAP (Myanmar Sustainable Aquaculture Program) and Marine Science Department also having joint works on Mangrove and Aquaculture development project in Rakhine and Ayeyawady.

Assessment and surveys on coral reefs are being done by Marine Science Department joint with many agencies.

MFF (Mangrove for the Future) is also have the project on the CRM (Coastal Resource Management) collaborative with Ministry of natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) and other stake holders.

There are three protected areas designated as MPA related with coral reefs and mangroves, such as
Lampi Marine National park (204.84 km²)

Meinmahla Wildlife Sanctuary (136.69 Km²)
Thamihla Wildlife Sanctuary (0.88 Km²)

- 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](#)):

No.

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](#)):

Yes, Improved.

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

Yes, Improved. Any fishery devices which are destructed the underwater seabed are prohibited and the law enforcement is improved recent years.

- 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](#)):

Our Marine Science Department, Patheingyi University, Myanmar celebrated the International Year of the Coral Reef in 28th October, 2018. University researchers, students, some representatives from Department of Fishery and Department of Forestry, NGO, CSO, and many local people who interested in Coral Reefs participated in the celebration. The celebration focused on somehow to get the awareness for the conservation. It included video show, student's performance, display for corals samples, literatures and Thesis books, presentation by Dr. Cherry Aung and provided the souvenirs.

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.

VMS, drones, under water mapping camera, Scuba diving

- 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.

- 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.

Regarding coral reefs, we started underwater surveys since 2009 (More than 500 species of hard corals) however could do the assessment of coral species and coverage, mapping and somehow on health in the past due to difficult assessment and limited fund. Recently, getting fund and projects on the capacity building project

on coral reefs survey, now we have train many students and staffs and have infrastructure and equipments.

Myanmar Dive Association and Marine Science Department having activities in every year on the clean of marine coastal debris along the beaches and shallow water.

Only recently, we start for survey on coral reef s health and resilience. We are planning to apply the project on Ocean Acidification effects on Coral reefs from UNESCO-Westpac.

This year we celebrate the IYOR in marine Science Department with the help of (MONREC) and MFF.

Also, Coral reefs Alliance of Myanmar will organize in very soon.

- 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.

MPA, LMMA

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.

Yes. It is challenging recent years. (Constructions, dredging, curios trading, snorkelling, other pollution, more consumption on marine resources)

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

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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.

VMS.

Bottom trawlers are prohibited.

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

Trash Hero (Local organization)
Myanmar dive Association and Marine Science Department

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

Y/N

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.

I attached some reports of our researches on coral reefs and mangroves.

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:

7. **General Information.** (Note that this information will be posted on the ICRI website on your member page: <http://www.icriforum.org/about-icri/members-networks>.)

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