



GCRMN 10 Month Report to ICRI: November 2010 (A)

Presented by Clive Wilkinson and Jerker Tamelander, GCRMN

Reporting period January 2010 – November 2010

General Information

Are you an ICRI Member?	Yes
Representation to ICRI (Country / Organization):	GCRMN
Focal Point 1:	
<i>Name:</i>	Jerker Tamelander
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Focal Point 1:	
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Focal point 2:	
<i>Name:</i>	Gregor Hodgson
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Last meeting attended:	Monaco January 2010
How do you circulate ICRI information within your country and/or organization?	Regular email communication with network and via Status reports etc.
Budget allocated for coral reef related activities (please mention for year/period):	US\$ 180,000 (approx) for calendar year 2010

There are 2 parts to this report:

- A. reports on progress and activities; and
- B. requests advice and assistance from ICRI GM participants to restructure the GCRMN.

GCRMN activities during 2010 are summarised in (A) for the Samoa ICRI General Meeting, and updates the report presented to the Monaco meeting in January 2010. This report adds to that submitted to UNEP from the Reef & Rainforest Research Centre acknowledging finance from the USA as counterpart contributions supporting the GCRMN and Reef Check Asia-Pacific.

GCRMN Reports: ‘Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2008’ and ‘Socioeconomic Conditions along the World’s Tropical Coasts’

- Copies of the Status 2008 and SocMon reports are still being distributed. Central coordination has virtually no hard copies of Status 2008, but there remains approximately 350 copies of the expanded CD version.
- Copies (books and CDs) have been presented to the following: Global Oceans Conference, Paris, 3 to 7 May 2010; Reef and Rainforest Research Centre final meeting, Cairns, 18 to 21 May 2010; 2nd Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium and 6th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop, 20-28 June 2010, Phuket, Thailand; and the APN Global Change and Coral Reef Management Capacity in the Pacific Engaging Scientists and Policy Makers in Samoa 10 to 11 August 2010.
- Some copies will be made available at the ICRI General Meeting in Apia, November 2010.

‘Climate Change and Coral Reefs’

- Supplies of the 6 page illustrated brochure on global climate change and coral reefs prepared for the Copenhagen FCCC meeting in December are similarly almost exhausted, however there may be copies remaining with Olof Linden in Malmo Sweden.

GCRMN Report: 'Effective Catchment Management and Coral Reef Conservation: Best Practice Case Studies' (provisional title) by Clive Wilkinson and Jon Brodie.

- A review draft of the book is presented to this ICRI General Meeting. ICRI partners are requested to review this material and provide critical comment and additional information. The book is a response to a request from the UNEP GPA programme.
- The book will be approximately 100 pages of text, recommendations, case studies, literature sources and useful websites. It is anticipated that the book will contain approximately 25 Case Studies (11 from the Caribbean; 10 from the Pacific; and 4 from Asia- Australia).
- The scheduled launch is at the International Marine Conservation Congress in Victoria BC, Canada on about 14 May 2011. ICRI partners are invited to participate in this launch and also to indicate how many copies they require.
- Funding has been provided by the US State Department, NOAA and the UNEP GPA programme. More funding will be required to complete the production and ensure a sufficiently large print run. The previous GCRMN guide book on Monitoring Coral Reef Marine Protected Areas was particularly popular and the 3000 copy print run was quickly exhausted.

GCRMN Report: 'Status and Outlook of Coral Reefs of the Pacific: 2011' (provisional title).

- A detailed concept draft is presented to this ICRI General Meeting for comment and suggestions by ICRI partners. This is the first regional report to be produced under the 'new look' GCRMN which has an increased focus on emphasising coral reef monitoring and reporting in the 4 major coral reef regions.
- This regional status report will be a cooperative effort by the GCRMN, CRIOBE and Pacific Coral Reef Initiative (IPRC) in Moorea, SocMon, World Resources Institute (Reef at Risk), SPC (through the CRISP program), Reef Check, ReefBase and other partners. The format will change to add *future outlook* and *case study* themes to the synthesis report on the status of Pacific coral reefs.
- This report will be launched in mid-2011 and we request ICRI partners to suggest a suitable event for the launch. In addition the report will be launched simultaneously in as many countries of the Pacific and elsewhere by national leaders.
- Funding has been provided by the US State Department, NOAA and the French government supported programmes above. Additional funds are required to complete production, printing and distribution.

GCRMN Thematic Report: Enhancing the management relevance of reef monitoring in a changing world.

- While coral reef assessment and monitoring has expanded over the past 20 years it is not clear whether these activities sufficiently capture trends in reef ecosystems, the many effects of direct anthropogenic stress, and how this affects the ability of reefs to adapt to climate change and ocean acidification. Consequently, the usefulness of coral reef monitoring data to management is constrained.
- The study will reassess GCRMN data and outputs in light of peer-reviewed resilience science as well as resilience monitoring datasets, and lead to a GCRMN thematic report, at least one scientific journal article, and policy/opinion articles or editorials.
- The results of the research and the report will help enhance reef assessment and monitoring, in support of more effective reef management and conservation in the face of climate change.;
- The study will be led by Dr. Jeremy Jackson, supported by an assistant at IUCN and working closely with GCRMN partners.
- The report is expected to be finalized by the end of 2011

Other products:

- The GCRMN is assisting the World Resources Institute in producing 'Reefs at Risk Revisited' in 2011, with a scheduled launch in February. We have provided summaries of the status of the regions extracted from the Status 2008 report and assisted with other data gathering and review.
- The GCRMN has played a significant role in the preparation and review of the 'GLOBE Action Plan for Coral Reefs'. This 60 page strategic plan was released at the CBD COP meeting in Nagoya Japan in October 2010 as a contribution from the Global Legislators Organization for

a Balanced Environment (GLOBE International) and the Zoological Society of London (ZSL). The GCRMN is listed as one of the principle contributors.

Activities

GCRMN was represented in the following meetings and symposia from January to November 2010:

- The ICRI General Meeting in Monaco, January 2010;
- An informal meeting of GCRMN Management Group and Supporters on revising GCRMN Structure and Terms of Reference was held 4 May 2010, Paris, in association with the Global Oceans Conference, Paris, 3 to 7 May 2010.
- Global Oceans Conference, Paris, 3 to 7 May 2010. The GCRMN coordinator organised the 'Improving Governance of Pacific Island Coastal Resources by Integrating Different Governance Approaches' in partnership with Marion Henry, Federated States of Micronesia and Etika Rupeni, Fiji. This symposium focussed on improving management decision making for Pacific coral reefs and other coastal resources. The invited experts and decision makers came from Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Niue and Samoa;
- Global Oceans Conference, Paris, 3 to 7 May 2010. The Coordinator presented a talk on Climate Change management and adaptation of coral reef countries at the 'Ensuring Survival of Coasts and Inland Areas from Global Warming and Anthropogenic Threats' Symposium (Organized by the Conservation for the Oceans Foundation). He was also invited as a panelist at the Regional, Provincial, and Local Authorities Roundtable, 05 May 2011.
- 2nd Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium 20-24 June 2010 in Phuket where the Coordinator gave an invited Plenary Address and also represented the GCRMN at the 6th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop, 26-28 June 2010 also in Phuket;
- Asia Pacific Network (APN) Project, 'Global Changes and Coral Reef Management Capacity in the Pacific – Engaging Scientists and Policy Makers in Fiji, Samoa, Tuvalu and Tonga' in Samoa, in August 2010. The Coordinator was invited as an expert. Participation at the Tuvalu meeting was cancelled due an airline bungle in Fiji;
- General Assembly Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to recommend a course of action on the regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, 30 August – 3 September 2010. GCRMN ecological and socioeconomic monitoring was highlighted as a foundation on which the regular process can be developed.
- International Workshop on Climate Change & Island Vulnerability, Kadmat, Union Territory of Lakshadweep, India, 28 - 31 October 2010. The Indian Government sponsored the Coordinator to act as a visiting expert to advise on policy adaptations.

The French Agency for MPAs (AAMP) is reviewing the database program COREMO with a view towards continued development and distribution. More information on progress will be presented by the French delegation at the ICRI GM.

Regional Nodes

The attached request for advice and decisions is presented to the ICRI GM to launch the GCRMN onto the next phase of operations after 14 years of current practices. ICRI participants are requested to provide this advice and support the GCRMN into the future.

GCRMN Funding

The bulk of funding to support operations and products of the GCRMN since its inception in 1996 has been provided by the Government of the USA, particularly through the Department of State. This funding support is continuing through UNEP to IUCN, which was asked to manage GCRMN during its transition phase to a new coordination structure. Some of these aspects are outlined in part (B) to this report. We are particularly appreciative of this support and would like to specifically thank those responsible for making these funds available.

The National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration has also made substantial contributions, along with UNEP, IUCN, IOC-UNESCO, the World Bank, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, the governments of France, Japan, Norway and Sweden, and support has been received from other foundations and NGOs.