

Global Coral Reef Data:

What have we got – and what do we need?



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Marine Assessment and Decision Support

Marine Assessment and Decision Support at UNEP-WCMC

- Our work
 - Guides decisions impacting on the marine and coastal environment
 - Through collaboration we create and improve critical marine and coastal datasets
- <http://data.unep-wcmc.org>

Global Distribution of Coral Reefs (2010)

Ocean Data Viewer

16
DATASETS

686
DOWNLOADS

EXPLORE THE DATA ABOUT CONTACT BUSINESS

Showing 1 dataset



Dataset detail

Global Distribution of Coral Reefs (2010)

Access

Enhancing Data Use and Value

- Spatial extent estimates
- Variable attributes
- Potential to provide information on:
 - Coral type
 - Status
 - Health
 - Trends
- Potential for use as a standard framework for local monitoring activities

First Step

- Collaborative review
- Standardisation

Validated data – Classification levels

L2	L3	L4
Oceanic island	bank barrier	barrier reef pinnacle/patch
Patch complex	bank lagoon	faro enclosed lagoon
Shelf bank	bank patch	faro reef flat
	intra-archipelagic/seas expose	forereef
	Intra-lagoon patch-reef comple	haa subtidal reef flat
	Intra-seas patch-reef complexe	immature reef flat
	lagoon sheltered fringing	intertidal patch reef flat (faru)
	ocean exposed fringing	intertidal reef flat (faru)
	Outer Barrier Reef Complexe	linear reef flat
	Shelf patch-reef complexe	outer slope
		patch forereef
		pinnacle
		reef flat
		reef flat (intertidal)
		reticulated fringing
		shallow lagoon terrace with constructions (reticulated)
		shallow terrace
		subtidal patch reef flat (Thila)
		subtidal reef flat (shallow pass)
		subtidal reef flat (thila) (shoal)

Short Term Objectives

- Standardize current coral reef data attributes
 - existing coral attributes grouped
 - standardized version across all regions
 - scalability and interoperability with other data
- Define core data and metadata attributes
- Develop data and metadata templates

Mid – Long Term Objectives

- Validation of dataset - develop tools

Marine Habitat Validation Tool

MANGROVE DATA VALIDATION

- decioferreira (1st) 00007470m (+520)
- simaob (2nd) 00000000m (-68)
- craigmills (2nd) 00000000m (-68)
- mikel (2nd) 00000000m (-68)
- lousa.wood (2nd) 00000000m (-68)
- test (2nd) 00000000m (-68)
- onlysmith (2nd) 00000000m (-68)
- clalref (2nd) 00000000m (-68)

map ranking user profile

Draw polygon Send

Further Mid – Long Term Objectives

- Improve integration of GCRMN data where relevant/possible
- Enhance use of data by local managers

Usage to date

- Global-scale analyses
- Global Risk Assessments
 - Reefs @ Risk Revisited
- Scientific research projects
- Planning and assessment, both regional to national

Potential use

- Planning
- Assessment
- Research
- Monitoring - local and global
- GCRMN Activities
 - Objective 2 - as a coral reef spatial distribution baseline
 - Objective 3 – development of core attributes provide comparable, useful and high quality coral reef status information

Collaborative Effort

UNEP-WCMC is requesting support and collaboration from the coral reef community to form a technical working group (perhaps under the auspices of GCRMN) to consolidate and standardise core attributes for the coral reef layer.