

The International Year of the Reef (IYOR) 2008

ICRI Progress to date



ICRI Vision

The International Year of the Reef 2008 is an ambitious “program” designed to foster outreach and research activities with the purpose of raising worldwide public and political awareness on Coral Reefs

ICRI Role

1. Spread the word about the International Year of the Reef and **Motivate Actions** – all around the world...
2. Encourage creation of **IYOR National Committee**
3. Develop partnership with international organizations / events
4. Maintain an international web site

The IYOR is currently funded by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (co-host of the ICRI secretariat). The funding supports:

- Interim coordinator acting as contact person of IYOR 2008 for ICRI
- IYOR 2008 website (www.iyor.org)

The ICRI IYOR resolution has been widely disseminated to:

- the ICRI country Focal Points
- Regional/international organization
- NGOs
- Several mailing lists

Web site

The web site was launched early January with the following:

- Latest News
- What is the IYOR?
- IYOR Resources (Key documents, Educational materials, IYOR National Focal Points)
- Get involved (How to get involved?, Activity and event ideas, IYOR associated events)
- Newsletter

Possible partnerships

- Other International Year / Day such as:
 - World Wetlands Day (RAMSAR)
 - The International Day for Biological Diversity (CBD)
 - World Ocean Day, World Environment Day, World Tourism Day
 - International Coastal Cleanup (Ocean Conservancy)
 - International Year of Planet Earth 2008
- **11th International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS), July 2008**
- **CBD meeting in 2008**

Collection of existing educational materials

Whenever possible, IYOR 08 will encourage the use existing materials and programs rather than developing new ones:

- Gathering of existing materials
- Creating partnership to be able to re-print (with IYOR logo)– and translate them when appropriate-
- Listing them on the IYOR logo

ICRI Strategy for IYOR 08

- The ICRI strategy for the IYOR 08 is being developed
- It will be more a framework with guidelines
- It will be presented at the next ICRI General Meeting

IYOR Responses so far...

- Barbados has already defined a list of actions for the IYOR 08
- Germany has created a committee, and set up a web site
- Japan held its first Japan IYOR meeting and set-up a web site
- Focal points (Barbados, France, Germany, Japan, US...)

Next ICRI General Meeting

3 hours session on the IYOR with 3 working groups:

1. Review of communication strategy;
2. Funding mechanisms and potential sources;
3. Brainstorming on the launch of IYOR

Final thoughts...

- Already many exciting developments in the planning for IYOR 2008
- Lack of involvement of the international NGOs at the international level