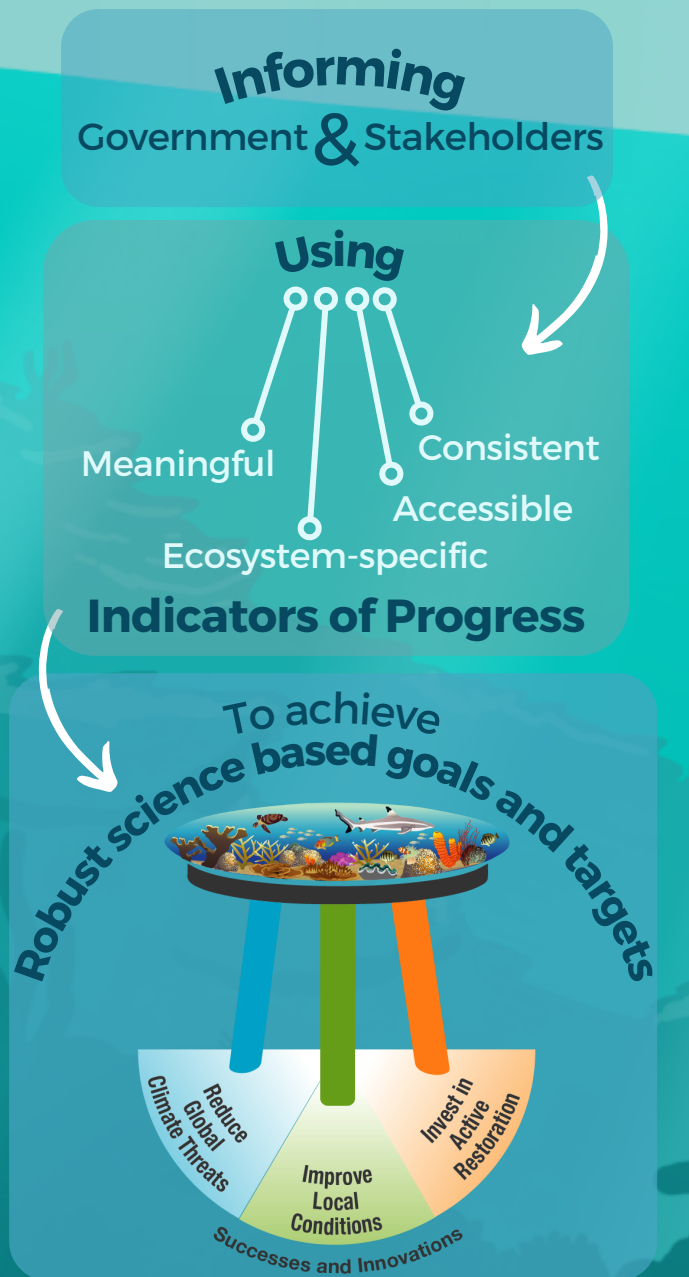


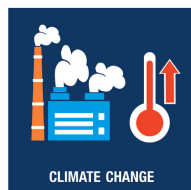
ICRS science-to-policy paper:



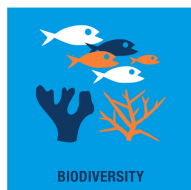
@ICRSCoralReefs



@InternationalSocietyforReefStudies



CLIMATE CHANGE



BIODIVERSITY



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

REBUILDING CORAL REEFS

A Decadal Grand Challenge

Tropical coral reefs are planetary flagship ecosystems. They are uniquely high in biodiversity despite being geographically restricted and have enormous value to people. However, coral reefs and the ecosystem services they provide have been severely degraded over past century by human-caused climate change and coastal degradation. These negative impacts continue to increase due to unsustainable growth in human population and consumption, resulting in worsening climate change stress and habitat degradation. Thus, steps taken during upcoming global negotiation and decision-making events to limit warming by 1.5°C, followed by the implementation of policies shaped by existing and new goals and targets, will have enormous importance for the future of coral reefs.



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International
Coral Reef Society

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UN
environment
programme



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety



PRINCE ALBERT II
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TREUHANDSTIFTUNG DER STIFTUNG DER UNIVERSITÄT BREMEN

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Coral Reef Society
coralreefs.org



SAVING THE WORLD'S CORAL REEFS starts with LIMITING WARMING TO 1.5°C.



SCAN HERE

to read the full
science-to-policy paper with
ICRS recommendations:

http://coralreefs.org/publications/rebuilding_coral_reefs/





A PLAN TO SAVE THE WORLD'S CORAL REEFS

Establish Commitments - Promote Coherence - Drive Innovation



slow climate
change



improve local
conditions



actively
restore

Slow Climate Change and Limit Warming To 1.5°C

Improve Local Conditions To Build Resilience

Invest In Active Restoration and Support Innovation

↓ **Substantially reduce** CO₂ emissions.

↓ **Reduce** ocean acidification
and warming.

↓ **Halt** fossil fuel dependence and
transition to green energy.

↑ **Increase carbon storage** via
conservation of tropical forests.

↑ **Increase blue carbon**
sequestration with
nature-based solutions.

↑ **Improve filtration of coastal run-off**
to protect mangroves, seagrass
meadows, and coral reefs.

↓ **Empower** local communities
to promote **stewardship**.

↓ **Reduce** negative impacts of human
activities, such as **over**
exploitation of reef resources,
pollution and **habitat change**.

↓ **Implement and enforce**
sustainable Marine
Protected Areas.

↓ **Commit to coherent action**
across National, Regional and
Local **levels**.

↓ **Remove barriers to** cross-sector
and jurisdictional **cooperation**.

↓ **Sustain** corals through current
period of stressful climatic
conditions with **active restoration**,
rehabilitation and **conservation**.

↓ **Invest** in technology to
facilitate **remote monitoring**
and more frequent **reef**
health updates.

↓ **Develop** scalable and cost-effective
technologies to fast-track natural
reef **recovery**.