



Arabian angelfish (*Pomacanthus maculosus*) and massive coral.

© Roger K. Uryu



Blast fishing

© Thomas Hoeger



Damaged coral head possibly due to blasting, *Psammocora digitata*

© Marc Kochzius

## ICRI: A Framework for Action

It is internationally accepted that coral reefs are in serious decline across the world, especially in very shallow coastal waters, and near dense populations. Coral reef survival depends upon the world community working together to protect reefs and their related ecosystems.

**We must ensure that people's demands on reefs are not more than their natural ability to produce and regenerate in future years.**

Such action requires co-ordination of efforts across the world. ICRI has proposed a framework to help mobilise governments and other interested parties to make their actions count.

The framework is based on four elements which are being put into action by ICRI and its operational networks: the need for **management**, for **research and monitoring**, for the **development of capacities** in countries with coral reefs and **regular review of the status of coral reefs**.



Califfisherman with bag of sea urchins.

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### The Significance of Coral Reefs

Coral reefs provide livelihoods and food for more than one billion people in over 100 countries and territories world wide.



School of *Zanclus cornutus* among bleached *Acropora* thickets.

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### The Threats to Coral Reefs

The impacts of human activities such as global warming, pollution, destructive fishing and unsustainable coastal development are the biggest threats to coral reefs.



Boracay, Coral Garden

© Mick Prein

### Reducing the Threats

ICRI is working towards healthier coral reefs by promoting awareness of coral reef issues and co-ordinating the actions of all stakeholders at the national, regional and international level.



Healthy coral cover at OCC's survey site, Tanjung Biring, Sulawesi, Indonesia

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Photos provided by ReefBase (<http://www.reefbase.org>).

<http://icriforum.org>