



Canoes and slipway - Aruligo

© Mike McCoy

HOW ICRI OPERATES

ICRI's Co-ordination and Planning Committee (CPC) enables the member countries, organisations and groups to meet and debate. The CPC meets once or twice a year, usually in conjunction with other coral reef conferences or workshops, each time in a different geographical region to ensure accessibility to all partners. Meeting discussions result in a consolidated expert opinion which take the shape of decisions and resolutions to put forward to the International community, such as the *Resolution on the importance of coral reefs to Small Island Developing States*, agreed in 2003.

Virtual working groups and ad hoc committees are established by the CPC, through the ICRI forum (www.icriforum.org), to enable ICRI to provide the international community with guidance on particular issues, such as the trade in coral reef organisms and the establishment of no anchoring zones in protected areas.

A number of operational networks are recognised by ICRI to assist in achieving the Framework for Action. Two examples are **The Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN)** and **the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN)**.



Periodic and transect line for coral reef monitoring © Roger K. Uvate

The **GCRMN** reports to ICRI on the status of coral reefs and raises awareness on their current status and provides data from 80 countries to assist resource managers in coral reef conservation.



Line transect survey demonstration on reef flat © James Oliver



The Sian Ka'an Biosphere reserve, Mexico, an ICRAN demonstration site © James Oliver

ICRAN seeks innovative ways to manage coral reef ecosystems to meet the needs of the people depending on them. It assists local communities to continue building on successful management techniques though sharing experiences and lessons learned with other communities.

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

<http://icriforum.org>