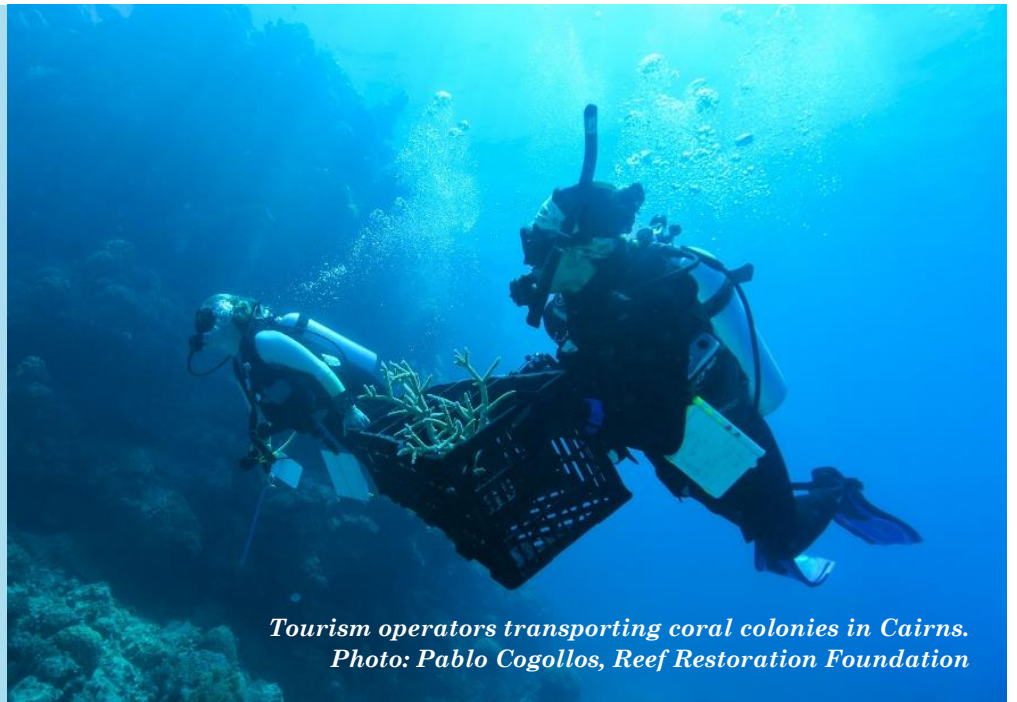


# Reef Restoration Hub for Cairns-Port Douglas.

**June 2020**

*Australia's first Reef Restoration Hub has been established in the Cairns-Port Douglas region, connecting coral reef restoration activities with local knowledge and larger-scale reef restoration and adaptation efforts.*



*Tourism operators transporting coral colonies in Cairns.  
Photo: Pablo Cogollos, Reef Restoration Foundation*

The Cairns-Port Douglas region is home to a number of coral reef restoration and stewardship projects led by Traditional Owners, scientists, tourism operators and the community.

With support from the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, the Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Restoration Hub will bring these groups together to share experience, knowledge, resources and cutting-edge technologies.

The Hub will also link local restoration partners with research under way through the Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program (RRAP).

## Reef Restoration Hub Investment

\$1.7m is being invested in total to establish the Hub as well as to deliver an integrated suite of local-scale restoration projects through to 2024.

The Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Restoration Hub is a partnership between the Great Barrier Reef Foundation and the Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program (RRAP), supported by funding from the Australian Government's Reef Trust Partnership.

It will be supported with in-kind investment through the National Environmental Science Program's Tropical Water Quality Hub's local-scale restoration toolkit.

## Great Barrier Reef Foundation

The Great Barrier Reef Foundation is partnering with the best minds and investing in cutting-edge technologies to fund science-based, high-impact projects for the long-term health of the Reef.

As the lead charity for the Reef, the Foundation brings everyone together – from science, government, business, community and Traditional Owner groups – to save the Reef and its wildlife for future generations.

Find out more at:

[barrierreef.org](https://barrierreef.org)



Great Barrier  
Reef Foundation

## Delivering Four Key Objectives

### 1. Coordinating local science-based efforts.

A range of initiatives in the region are supporting reef restoration and protection. The Hub aims to build on this existing work, strengthening coordination, information exchange and partnerships.

### 2. Creating a forum for Traditional Owners, the tourism industry and community.

Local reef restoration projects deliver a range of benefits to the community including site-based stewardship, partnerships, and new engagement channels. Rapid growth in this activity has created the need to coordinate and strengthen processes for Traditional Owner, industry and community engagement.

The Hub will encourage opportunities for community collaboration and knowledge-sharing between scientists, Great Barrier Reef managers and communities. It will engage in culturally appropriate ways that recognise rights and values of Traditional Owners, stakeholders and communities and provide opportunities for communities to engage in decision-making.

### 3. Connecting with the larger-scale Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program.

The Hub will provide a network for connecting local researchers and practitioners with larger-scale programs such as the recently announced Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program (RRAP). By supporting information exchange and partnerships the Foundation seeks to strengthen approaches and positive outcomes.

### 4. Applying a local-scale reef restoration toolkit.

The local-scale coral restoration toolkit will include live digital resources that incorporate research from participants and partners into practical tools to support the design, implementation and monitoring of restoration projects.

Leading this effort will be the National Environmental Science Program's Tropical Water Quality Hub which recently completed a project that assessed coral restoration activities across the globe.

Resources will be co-designed with Traditional Owners and stakeholders.

Toolkit resources will help support projects that are funded in the region.

*More information about the Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program (RRAP) and the local-scale restoration toolkit is available overleaf.*

## How can I get involved?

There will be opportunity to share feedback and shape the design of the Reef Restoration Hub and its activities, supported by a locally based Engagement Coordinator.

A Request for Proposals for the **Engagement Coordinator** is open until 2 July 2020.

An Expression of Interest (EOI) for **on-ground local restoration projects** is open until 17 July 2020 – eligible to both continuing current projects and starting new projects. Successful EOIs will be invited to further develop projects and apply for funding in August 2020 as part of an integrated suite of projects that will apply the toolkit resources.

Nominations for a **Reef Restoration Hub Reference Group** including representatives from a range of science, industry, Traditional Owner and community partners will be announced soon. These representatives will help guide the design and commencement of the Hub for the first 12 months.

A future round of investment is planned specifically for **Traditional Owner co-designed and led projects**.

Find out more at: [barrierreef.org](http://barrierreef.org)



## Community & Traditional Owner Reef Protection – Reef Trust Partnership

The Foundation’s six-year, \$443.3 million partnership with the Australian Government’s Reef Trust is funding new and existing projects to protect and restore the Reef.

Local restoration projects selected through the current Expression of Interest are being funded through the Reef Trust Partnership’s Community and Traditional Owner Reef Protection components. The Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Restoration Hub and Engagement Coordinator are being established through a co-investment with RRAP.

To receive updates on project and grant opportunities subscribe at [barrierreef.org.au/subscribe](http://barrierreef.org.au/subscribe).



Great Barrier Reef Foundation

## Local-scale restoration toolkit for the Great Barrier Reef

The Australian Government’s National Environmental Science Programme Tropical Water Quality Hub funded project, ‘Best Practice Coral Restoration for the Great Barrier Reef’, commenced in late 2017.

The project team has spent two and a half years scouring the globe to collate evidence about the effectiveness of coral restoration techniques and assessing their suitability in the Great Barrier Reef context.

For more information on the toolkit visit [gbrcoralrestoration.org/](http://gbrcoralrestoration.org/).



National Environmental Science Programme

## Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program

The Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program (RRAP) brings together the best minds and technologies, Australia’s leading marine science organisations, national and international experts to investigate new techniques to restore coral reefs and help them adapt at unprecedented scales.

It’s the world’s largest coral reefs restoration program, at the cutting edge of science. The results will have global impact for the world’s coral reefs and help the Great Barrier Reef resist, adapt to, and recover from the impacts of climate change.

RRAP’s concept feasibility study completed in 2019 was the world’s most rigorous and comprehensive investigation into medium and large-scale reef intervention. It found successful intervention was possible and could double the likelihood of sustaining the Reef in good condition by 2050. It examined 160 potential options over two years and identified 43 concepts for further research and development (R&D).

RRAP is now embarking on a long-term R&D program to develop, test and risk-assess novel interventions to help keep the Reef resilient and sustain critical functions and values.

Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:



Great Barrier Reef Foundation

