

Great Barrier
Reef Foundation

CAIRNS-PORT DOUGLAS REEF RESTORATION

Tourism Roundtable
June 19 2020

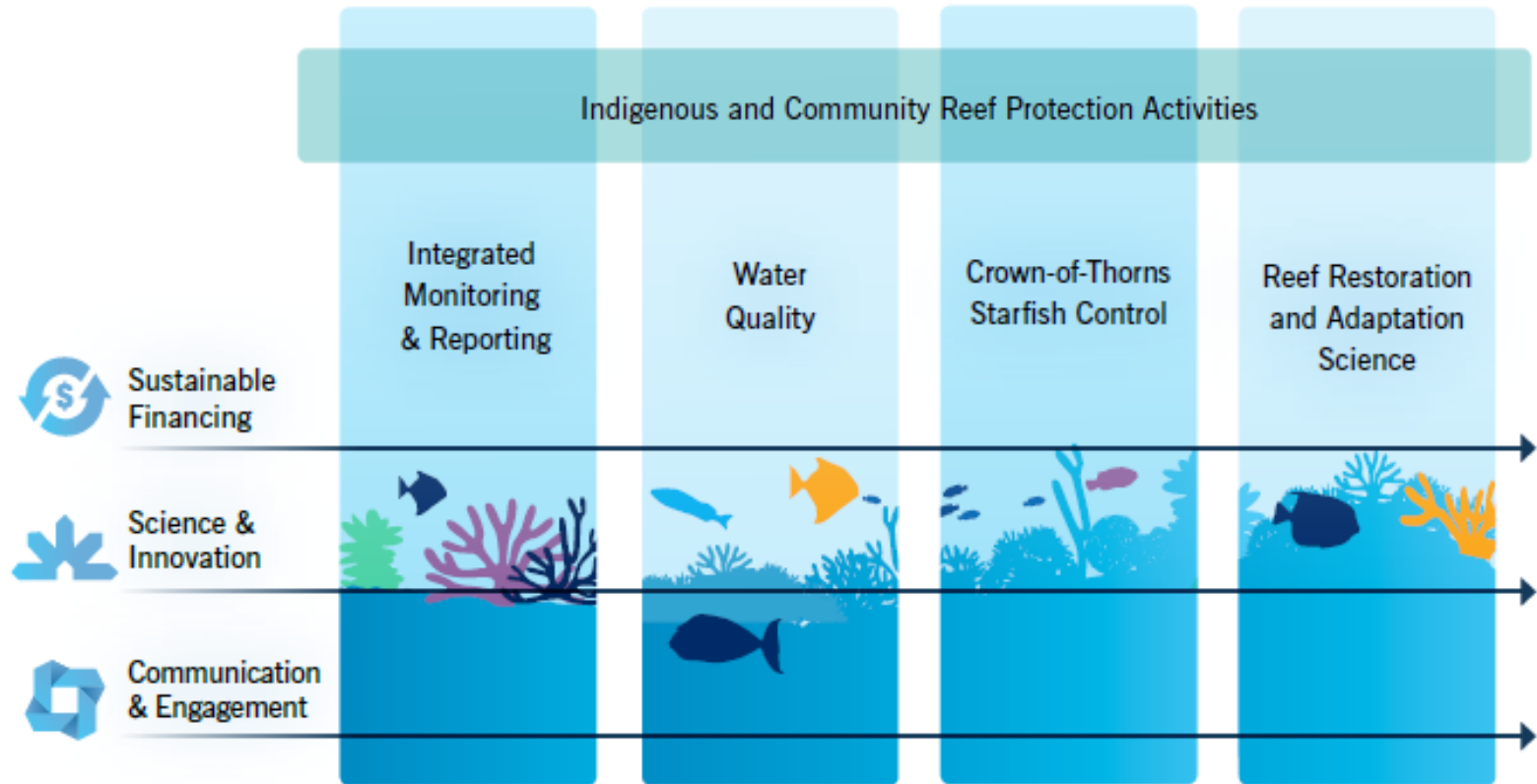


CAIRNS-PORT DOUGLAS REEF RESTORATION HUB & LOCAL SCALE PROJECTS



CONNECTING WORK TO STRENGTHEN OUTCOMES

Reef Trust Partnership components



BACKGROUND



RRAP program to launch FY 20/21 and announcement of RRAP feasibility work in April 2020



Proposed local-scale restoration work under the Community component



Traditional Owner aspirations in both informing and engaging in restoration work on Sea Country



WHY A HUB?

- The Cairns-Port Douglas region is home to a number of coral reef restoration and stewardship projects with Traditional Owners, scientists, tourism operators and the community.
- 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).
- The Hub will help support a coordinated and collaborative approach to local on-ground projects.



Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:

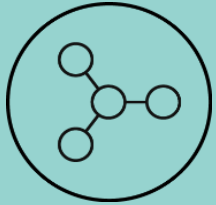


Great Barrier
Reef Foundation



Great Barrier
Reef Foundation

4 KEY HUB OBJECTIVES



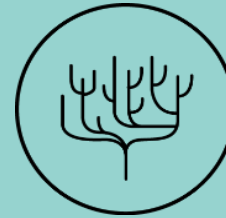
Coordination

Strengthening coordination, learning and sharing of local science-based efforts



Communication

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



Connection

Connecting local-scale projects with the larger-scale Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program

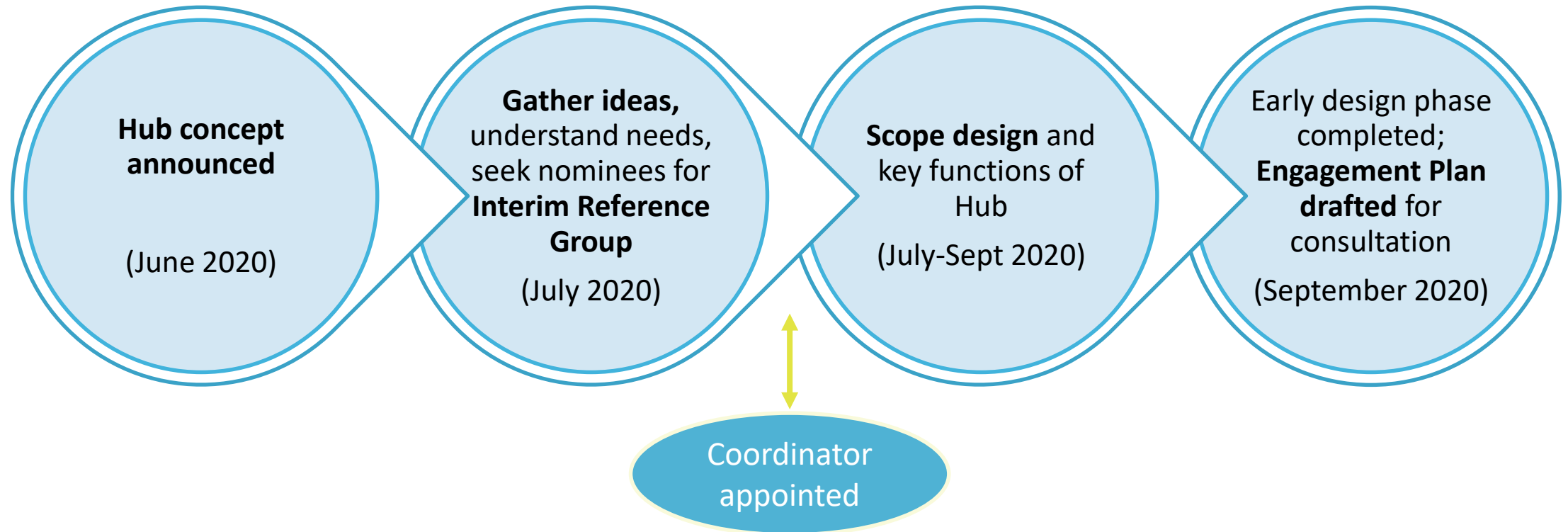


Tools

Applying a local-scale reef restoration toolkit with practical tools to support the design, implementation and monitoring of restoration projects



Roadmap and timelines



OPPORTUNITIES – ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR

This role is the central connection point across a range of partners with interests in Reef restoration activities, helping to operationalise collaborative approaches to design and deliver impactful activities.

The engagement Coordinator will:

- support engagement in the design and ongoing delivery of the Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Restoration Hub model and engagement plan
- provide ongoing coordination of engagement and knowledge exchange activities at multiple scales to support impactful and collaborative Reef restoration that delivers multiple benefits
- Support collaboration, communication and learning for the Hub model and for on-ground local-scale restoration activities funded through the Reef Trust Partnership



Q&A

How will the Hub build upon existing local efforts rather than start from scratch?

- The Hub is very much about support for information exchange and collaboration amongst projects in the area, and with RRAP (and beyond!)
- The Hub goals and framework will be designed working with a range of people and organisations over the coming months.
- The Hub will be supported through a locally-based Engagement Coordinator role.
- Existing projects are encouraged to apply for funding through the EOI process open now.



Q&A

Will there be consideration to streamline costs by supporting the already existing hubs with funding?

- Existing networks/platforms/groups will be considered in design of the Hub.
- The Request for Proposal for the Engagement Coordinator role looks for the role to ideally be hosted through a local organisation.
- Supporting a Coordination role and strengthening information exchange is designed to increase efficiencies by supporting collaboration and reducing duplication.
- The Hub also provides a streamlined connection point to the RRAP program.



Q&A

Does GBRF have a production team to produce regular communications?

- GBRF has an in house communications team.
- Projects will be communicating their story and GBRF will support where we can to provide additional reach and impact to amplify communications.
- The Engagement Coordinator will support cohesive communications for the portfolio of projects and where suitable for the Hub.



Q&A

Would you consider calling this a resilience building hub?

- We're using the term reef restoration to describe active intervention that aims to assist the recovery of reef structure, function, and key species in the face of rising climate and other human pressures.
- Restoration is one tool in supporting reef resilience. A resilience hub would have a much broader scope.
- We see restoration as a mechanism to support site stewardship at high value sites and to prompt broader resilience approaches – including linking with other management actions, building understanding, offering meaningful engagement and empowerment, and promoting action on climate change.
- The design of the Hub offers an opportunity to discuss terms, language, and communication in greater detail and then consider how this influences shared communications approaches.



OPPORTUNITIES



Get involved in Hub design – Opportunities for Interim Reference Group nominations soon or register your interest to stay in the loop and provide feedback



Request for Proposal for locally-based Hub Engagement Coordinator (Close July 2)



EOI for projects \$50k-\$500k (close July 17)



Q&A

How much funding is for on-ground projects?



\$1.13m Community Reef protection – on ground projects and support for Coordinator role (\$850k in current EOI round)



\$0.099m RRAP – Hub design and Coordinator role



\$0.5m Traditional Owner designed and led projects



OPPORTUNITIES - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST for PROJECTS

EOI's should clearly demonstrate how they propose to:

- apply practical, impactful **science-based local-restoration approaches** to accelerate the natural recovery of coral reef sites
- enable meaningful community, tourism and Traditional Owner **engagement and capacity building** in restoration activities and associated stewardship actions
- apply **collaborative project delivery** approaches that bring together a range of partners
- deliver economic, social, cultural and ecological **benefits with enduring outcomes**
- **monitor changes** to support enhanced understanding, learning, communications and project adaptation in the rapidly evolving coral reef restoration sector.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - TIMELINE

17 July 2020	Expressions of Interest close
Aug/Sept 2020	<p>EOI Applicants are advised of outcomes. Successful EOIs will have the opportunity to refine and strengthen their applications to submit for funding.</p> <p>Support for refinement will include facilitating Traditional Owner consultation and engagement with GBR Traditional Owners in the region and through the Traditional Owner Reef Restoration and Adaptation Science Technical Working Group.</p> <p>Additional support may include opportunities to refine project design and monitoring, further partnerships, and other topics identified through the assessment process. The assessment panel may recommend opportunities to support more collaborative delivery approach for stronger collective impact.</p>
Sept 2020	Successful projects are announced



Q&A

Who will be on the evaluation panel for EOIs?

- An independent assessment panel will review Expressions of Interest (EOIs).
- Panelist will have a range of skills and experience relevant to local restoration.
- Each EOI will be rated against the selection criteria by an Assessment Panel.
- Short-listed applications will be provided to GBRMPA rep(s) for feedback.
- The Traditional Owner Reef Restoration and Adaptation Science Technical Working Group will provide recommendations and support for Traditional Owner consultation and engagement.



Q&A

With new community projects will they have to have a science base or science partners to them?

- We have not outlined requirements for specific partnerships, but the guidelines outline that projects should apply practical, impactful science-based local-restoration approaches to accelerate the natural recovery of coral reef sites and support reef stewardship.
- There are additional criteria for robust plans for project monitoring and evaluation.
- Short-listed EOIs will also have a range of support for refining their applications including support for science and monitoring review.



Q&A

How do you intend to bridge the gap between the community projects (non-tourism) and tourism?

- Supporting collaborative approaches in embedded in the design for funded projects and the Hub.
- The EOI assessment panel may recommend opportunities for partnerships across projects.
- The Hub will support a platform for sharing and learning, including exploring strengths from diverse partnerships.



Q&A

Will new projects have to have strong public engagement, education aspect and if so how do you envisage that accurate information is communicated? How will the Hub support cohesive messaging about the health of the Great Barrier Reef?

- The selection criteria outlines that projects should:
 - enable meaningful community and Traditional Owner engagement and capacity building in Reef restoration activities and associated Reef stewardship actions, as well as
 - Offer compelling and measurable end of project outcomes (including social, cultural, ecological and economic outcomes) with enduring benefits
- We expect that project partners will carefully craft and deliver accurate information.
- There are opportunities through the Coordinator and Hub to support some shared key messaging.



Q&A

What are the key criteria that are weighted in the decision making basis for EOIs?

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	WEIGHTIING (%)
1. Applicant's demonstrated ability to implement the project	20
2. Applicant's proposed project rationale and impact, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong justification for the local-scale Reef restoration project• Clear project goals, objectives and methods• Compelling and measurable end of project outcomes (including social, cultural, ecological and economic outcomes) with enduring benefits	50
3. Applicant's project monitoring and evaluation	10
4. Project value for money: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The project demonstrates value for investment and integrates other funding or co-investment opportunities, including quantifiable in-kind and volunteer support• Project uses cost-effective local-restoration approaches• The project considers ways to become self-sustaining	20

See more detailed information in the EOI guidelines.



Q&A

It is important that companies can communicate their reef restoration and stewardship actions for PR benefit – how will this work for funded projects?

- Funded projects will be encouraged to communicate their activities for sharing outcomes and supporting learning across the sector.
- There are basic funding acknowledgement guidelines for projects funded under RTP. GBRF will ask that projects discuss media and communications so we can check acknowledgements and where suitable/possible help extend the communications reach.
- Through the Hub Engagement Coordinator, we will be looking to support cohesive key messaging and tell the broader story of impact about projects collectively.



Q&A

When applying for the grant, can you apply as a single organisation/company for a project or do you require organisations/companies to partner to apply for a grant?

- Applicants for smaller grants can apply individually.
- One selection criteria is collaborative project delivery approaches that bring together a range of partners, so this should be considered.
- Applications for larger grants are expected to be multi-partner collaborations with a suite of complementary reef restoration and stewardship approaches with a range of partners to deliver a fully integrated multi-year project.



Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program

A partnership helping the Great Barrier Reef resist, repair and recover:



Australian Government

Great Barrier
Reef Foundation



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE
OF MARINE SCIENCE



JAMES COOK
UNIVERSITY
AUSTRALIA



Southern Cross
University

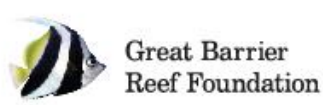


THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

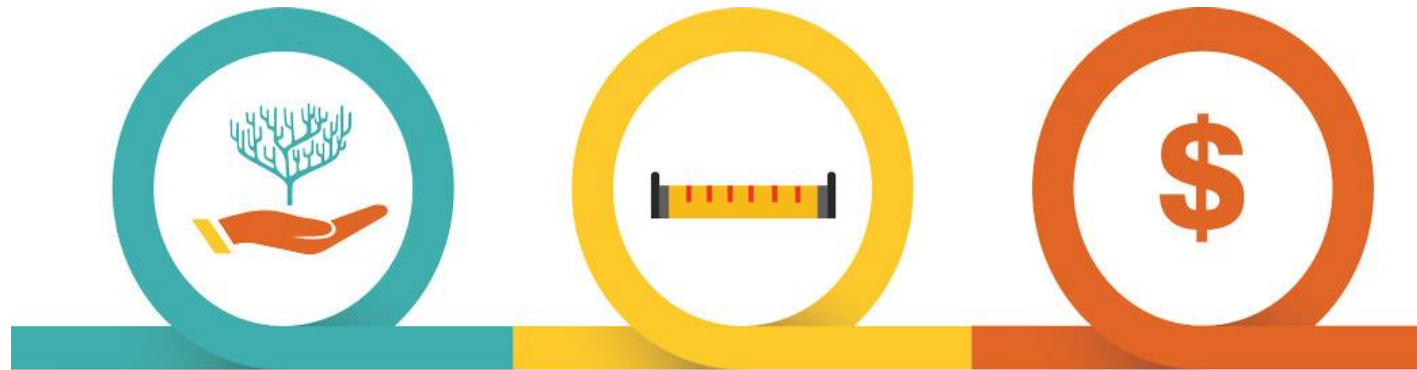
RRAP – Update

- **October 2019** - Concept Feasibility Phase and Investment Case completed
- **April 2020** - Reef Trust Partnership funding for next phase of RRAP announced
- **First half of 2020:**
 - Development of a detailed program design and collaboration agreement
 - Establishment of Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program Board
 - Recruitment of Independent Chairperson and Executive Director
- **Third quarter of 2020** – RRAP R&D Phase starting!

Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:



RRAP – Objectives

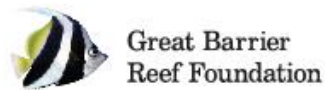


Protect key ecological functions and economic and social values of the Great Barrier Reef

Be logistically feasible to deploy at scale

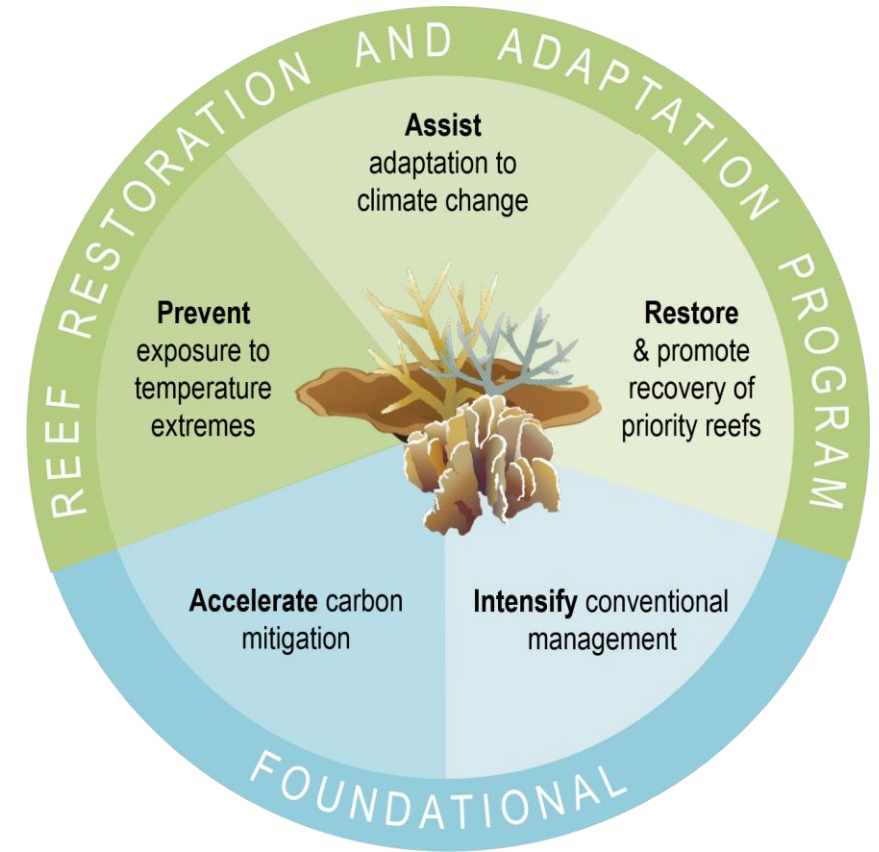
Be at a price point that is affordable to deploy across entire reef scapes

Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:



RRAP - A multi-pronged approach

1. Strong climate change mitigation,
2. Everything we can in terms of conventional management AND
3. Interventions are likely to be required, exploring an integrated three-point approach:
 - cooling and shading the Reef to help **protect** it
 - assisting Reef species to **adapt** to the changing environment → minimise need for ongoing intervention
 - **restoring** damaged and degraded reefs.

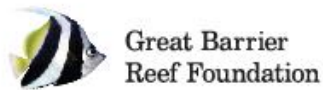


Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:

RRAP – A diverse range of disciplines

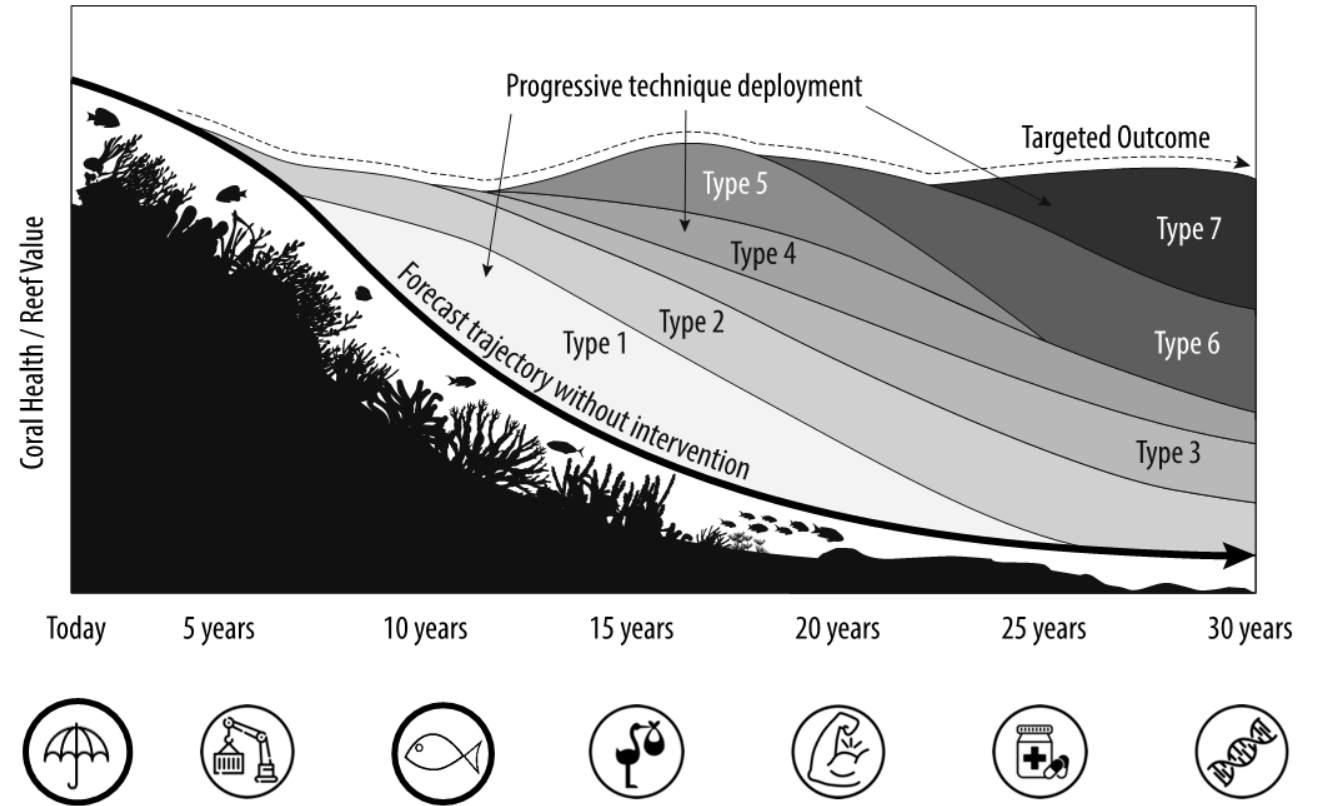


Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:

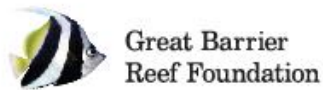


RRAP – Combining interventions is key

... alongside climate change mitigation



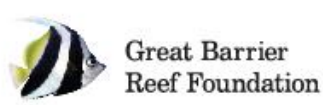
Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:



RRAP – Engagement and regulation

- Understand public perceptions, the distribution of risks and benefits arising from intervention R&D and implementation, and opportunities to deliver community and stakeholder co-benefits
- Design and evaluate best-practice, place-based, engagement opportunities for GBR communities and the public
- Involve stakeholders, GBR Traditional Owners and communities in co-design, evaluation and adaptive management of the sub-program
- Support the development of a robust and enabling regulatory environment, and a world-leading regulatory and policy best practice for reef adaption and restoration

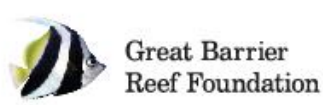
Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:



RRAP – Links to the Hub

- Putting into action key engagement principles identified in the RRAP concept feasibility phase:
 - Connecting with community by focusing on specific places and real issues
 - Working in ways that promote collaboration and knowledge exchange
 - Engaging in culturally appropriate ways that recognise rights and values of Traditional Owners, stakeholders and communities; and
 - Providing opportunities for communities to engage from decision making to delivery at different levels (e.g. local, regional, and program wide)
- Continuing to connect the science and R&D program to community driven initiatives and citizen science – Two-way communication and learning process to increase value

Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:





National Environmental Science Programme

Best practice coral restoration for the Great Barrier Reef

Dr Ian McLeod
TropWATER, James Cook University



Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program, a partnership:



NESP TWQ Hub - Best practice coral restoration for the GBR

- Bring together international knowledge
- Invest in knowledge gaps
- Knowledge sharing
- Best practice guidelines for the GBR



Ian McLeod,
TropWATER, JCU



Adam Smith
Reef Ecologic



Lisa Bostrom-Einarsson,
JCU



Margaux Hein, UNEP



Peter Harrison,
SCU



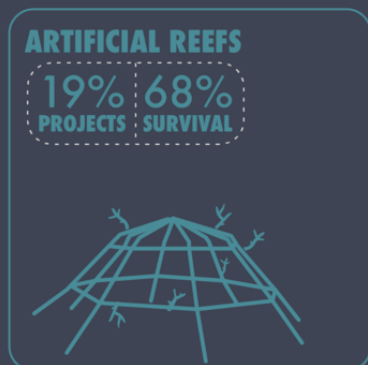
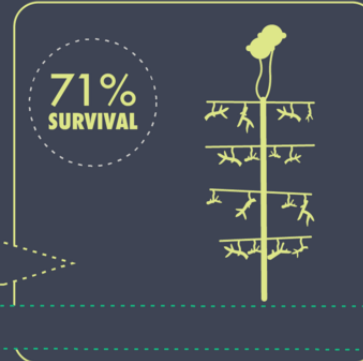
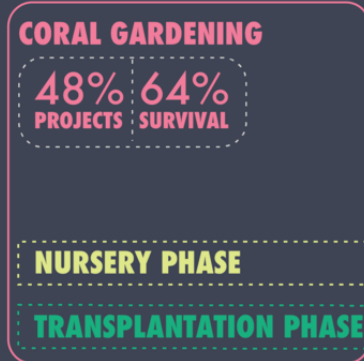
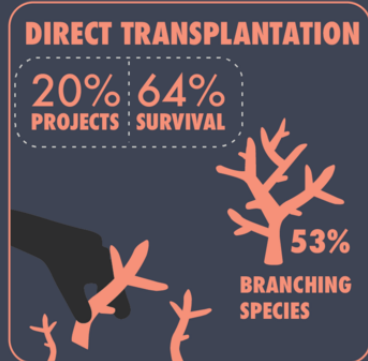
Boze Hancock,
TNC



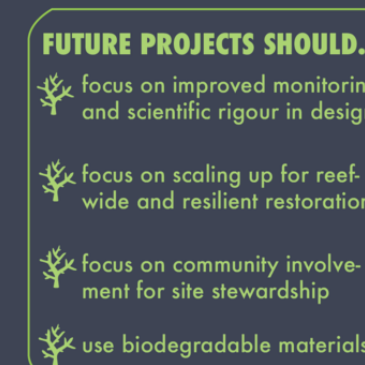
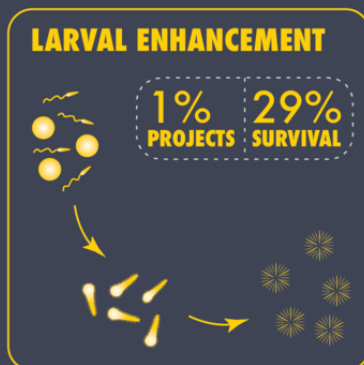
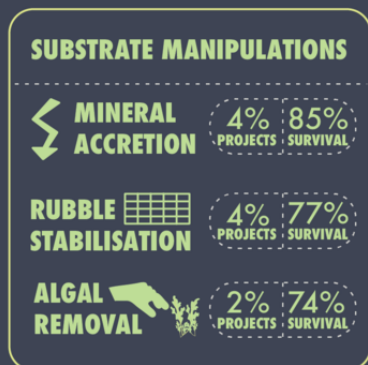
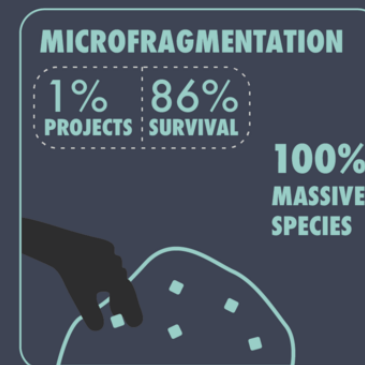
Nathan Cook,
Reef Ecologic



David Bourne
JCU, AIMS



Coral restoration METHODS



Common challenges

- Lack of clear goals
- Lack of appropriate monitoring
- Lack of appropriate reporting
- Poorly designed projects



Photo: Matt Curnock

The GBR is special

- Huge and relatively healthy
- Well managed
- Well researched
- High value sites
- No lack of space or coral recruits (now)
- Proactive and valuable tourism industry
- RRAP



Photo: Matt Curnock

Doing things our way

- No current tools for large-scale reef restoration (threat reduction + RRAP)
- Tools for site stewardship/resilience
- High value sites
- Emergency response
- Working with researchers and management
- Integrated program?
- Leading the world?

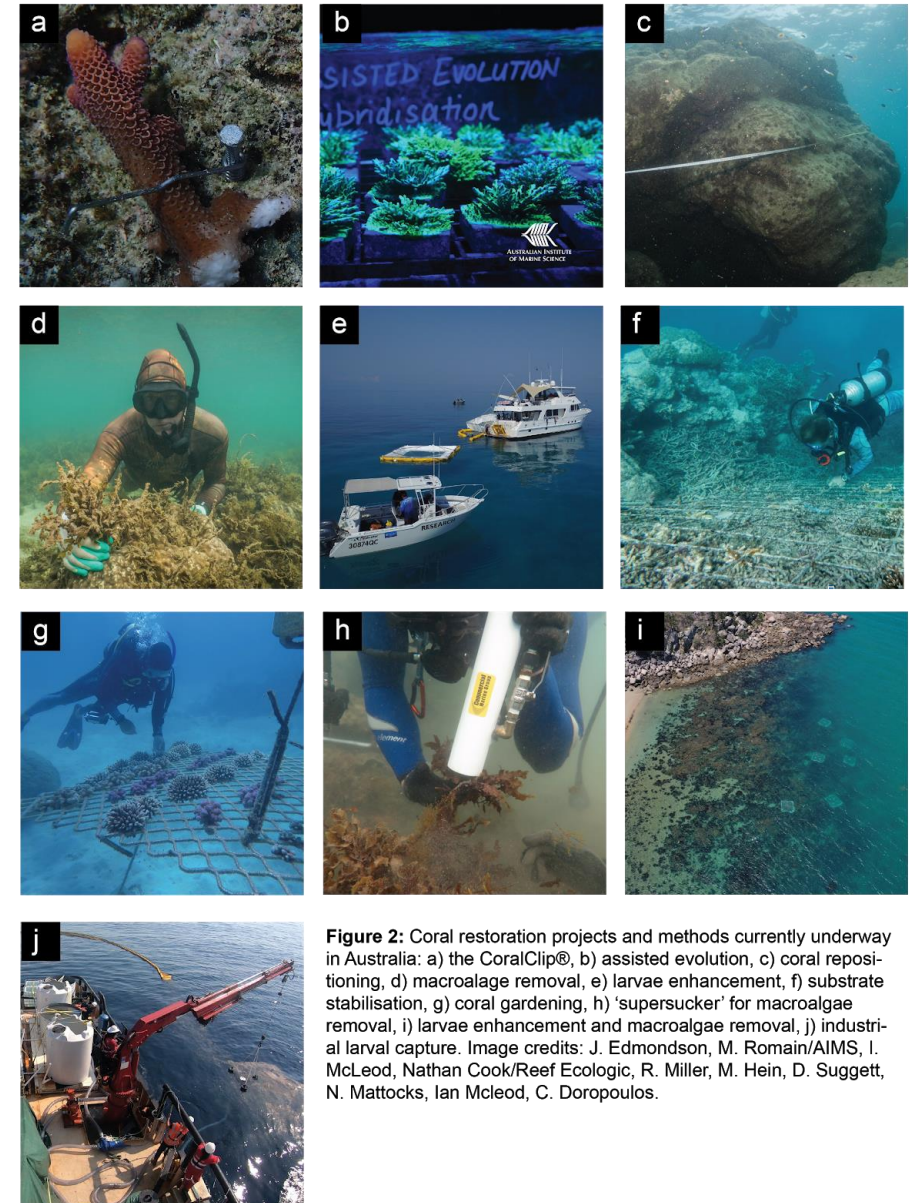
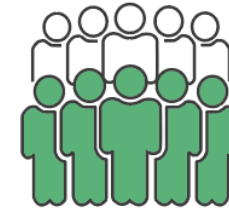


Figure 2: Coral restoration projects and methods currently underway in Australia: a) the CoralClip©, b) assisted evolution, c) coral repositioning, d) macroalgae removal, e) larvae enhancement, f) substrate stabilisation, g) coral gardening, h) 'supersucker' for macroalgae removal, i) larvae enhancement and macroalgae removal, j) industrial larval capture. Image credits: J. Edmondson, M. Romain/AIMS, I. McLeod, Nathan Cook/Reef Ecologic, R. Miller, M. Hein, D. Suggett, N. Mattocks, Ian McLeod, C. Doropoulos.

Why do tourism operators engage in coral restoration?

- Snapshot survey of early adopters
- Range of methods and motivations
- Capacity and enthusiasm
 - Vessels and people on site
 - Education
 - Tourism experience
- Key challenges
 - Approvals
 - Weather and climate
 - Perceived risks



Five out of ten of primary motivations were **biotic**: "... make our site more resilient to any future outbreak or coral bleaching event"



Four out of ten of primary motivations were **idealistic**: "... to give back and to bring awareness"



One of ten of primary motivations were **pragmatic**: "... provide our customer with the best possible experience"

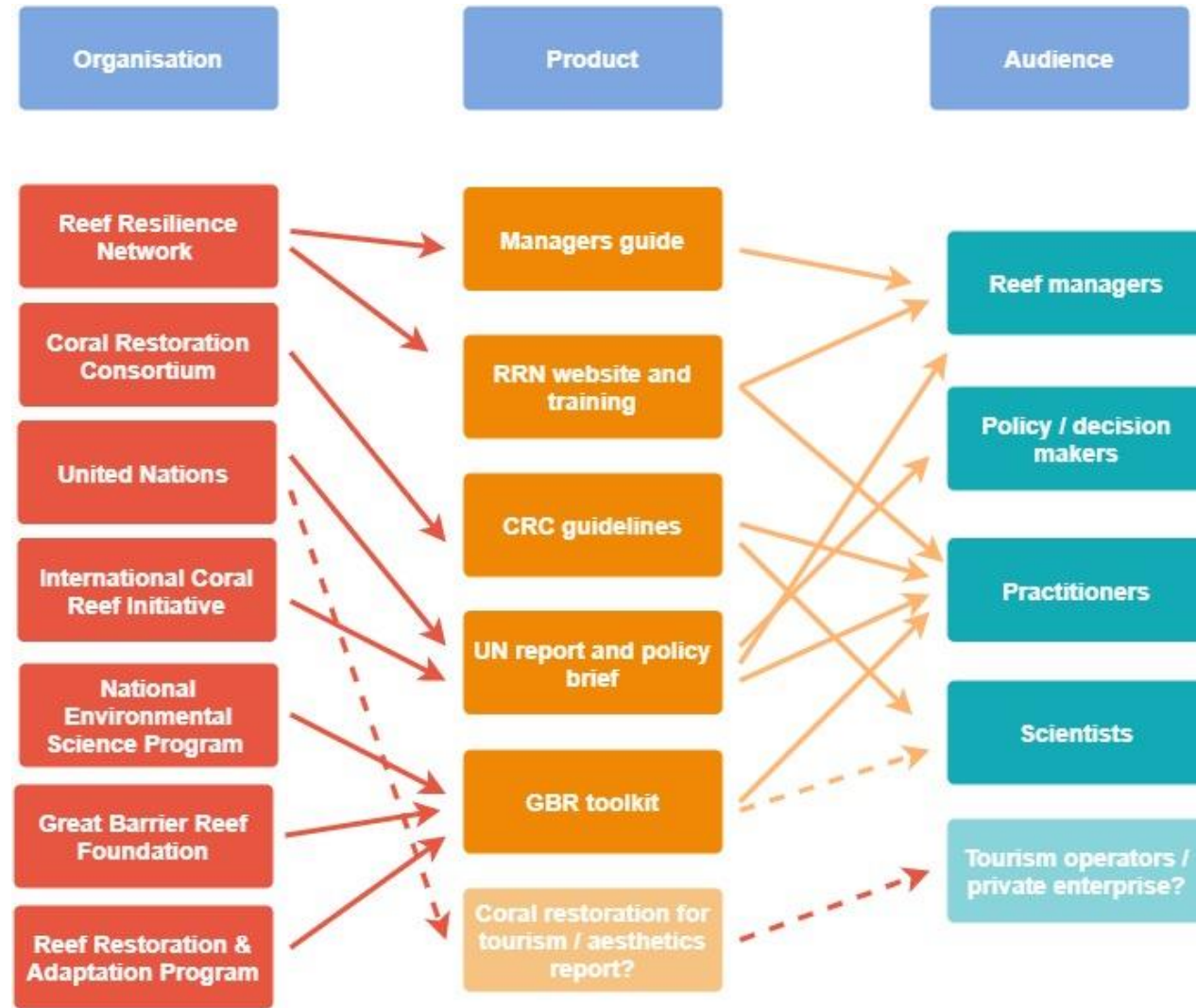
Why do Great Barrier Reef tourism operators engage in coral restoration?

An exploration of motivations, opportunities, and challenges

Margaux Hein, Maxine Newlands, Alexander Elms, Karen Vella and Ian McLeod



Coral restoration guidance documents



A Manager's Guide to **Coral Reef Restoration** Planning and Design

NOAA Technical Memorandum CRCP 36



The Nature Conservancy 



Online Trainings

The Reef Resilience Online Courses have been designed to provide easy access to the latest science and strategies for managing coral reefs in a changing climate. Note: some of the courses are **available in 3 languages: English, Español, and Français**. Click on the course titles below to take the course.



Lesson 2: Restoring Coral Populations with Coral Gardening

[START LESSON](#)[DETAILS](#)[Enroll](#)

Restoration Online Course

Coral reef managers are increasingly turning to restoration as a strategy to combat reef degradation and promote reef recovery. As a result, different techniques are being used across the globe, making it difficult to choose the right approach for your location's specific needs and capabilities. The Reef Resilience Network Restoration Online Course is designed to provide managers and practitioners with information on the latest restoration best practices for coral reef ecosystems, including guidance on restoration planning and program design and descriptions of a diversity of restoration approaches currently being employed. The course includes 6 lessons in English and Spanish with assessments:

Introduction to Restoration & Project Planning – introduces the general theory and practice of ecological restoration and its use in coral reef ecosystems and provides a guided process for planning and designing a coral reef restoration program, from setting objectives through determining on-the-ground restoration actions, which is based on the Manager's Guide to Coral Reef Restoration Planning & Design (The Nature Conservancy).

GBR toolkit for local-scale reef restoration

- Short informational videos
 - Monitoring
 - Permitting
 - Matching goals and methods
 - Coral gardening
 - Artificial reefs and frames
 - Substrate stabilisation
 - Larval propagation
 - Macroalgae removal
- Flyers/ posters/ graphics
- Website content
- What information would you like and in what form?

