



CAN-110-Coral RESTORATION Planning

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The World Federation for Coral Reef Conservation
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Coral RESTORATION Planning



Steps in Project Planning

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Before implementing a coral restoration project, it is critical that serious consideration, planning, and partnerships be made to ensure the highest chances of success. Though restoration may be seen by some as a 'quick fix' to reef degradation, economic costs and ecological complexity can still make coral reef restoration a risky endeavor. This phase can help restoration practitioners determine how to achieve long-term sustainable funding and adapt to natural disturbances like bleaching events or storms that can set back activities.

It's critical to reduce or manage as many existing local threats that affect coral reefs in your area *before* restoration is implemented. Otherwise, restoration may have a higher risk of failure and may waste valuable resources. Working with existing management agencies or scientists in the area who can assess the health and resilience of local reef sites can help with this process. It is also helpful to plan for natural disturbances (e.g., bleaching events, predation, and storms) so you can be ready and reduce negative impacts on your restoration program.

Key steps before implementing a coral restoration project are described in the following sections.

Monitoring coral reefs off Kofiau island, Raja Ampat, Indonesia. Photo © Jeff Yonover

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Deciding on Restoration

Deciding whether restoration is the best course of action over other management strategies. [Learn more.](#)



Objectives and Methods

Determining the specific objectives of your restoration program. [Learn more.](#)

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Site Selection

Understanding that not every location is a good candidate for restoration; thus, data should be taken to select the best restoration sites. [Learn more.](#)



Stakeholder Engagement

Engaging relevant stakeholders in a restoration project. [Learn more.](#)

For additional reading see [The WFCRC Document Gallery](#) for articles about:

- Public Service Announcements (PSA)
- Coral Alert Network (CAN)
- Emergency Reporting Reports (ERR)
- Call to Action (CTA)
- Marine Protected Areas (MPA)
- Marine Life Alert (MLA)
- Seismic and Oil Production Threats
- Natural Science Reports (NSR)
- Oil Spill Alerts (OSA)
- And other miscellaneous documents

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