

The MesoAmerican Reef - Reef Restoration Network

# **Regional Strategic Action Plan 2019-2020**

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## Introduction

The Mesoamerican Reef Restoration Network (RRN-MAR) is a nascent community of civil society organizations, government institutions and academic institutions committed to the restoration and rehabilitation of reefs in each of the four countries of the MAR region, Mexico, Belize, Guatemala and Honduras.

The Mesoamerican Reef Restoration Network aims to be the main source of updated information and innovation on the subject of restoration; and the regional platform for coordinating and developing the scientific and technical capacity of the organizations that carry out science-based restoration, rehabilitation and re-population of coral reefs in the region.

The RRN-MAR has developed a strategic plan, covering a 2 years time period (2019-2020) and outlines the overall strategy the network will adopt. The RRN Strategic Plan is approved by the RRN's Executive Committee and is complemented by an implementation plan, an outline of how the strategic plan will be achieved.

With this 2019-2020 strategic plan, the RRN-MAR provides a high-level view of our common vision for the network, reflecting our past challenges and successes, and our ongoing development as a leaders in coral and reef restoration.

## **Vision**

The RRN-MAR is the main source of information on the subject of marine ecosystem restoration and is the regional platform for coordinating and developing innovative scientific and technical capacity of its member organizations.

## **Mission**

The RRN-MAR facilitates collaboration and capacity building to restore the structure and function of coral reefs and associated ecosystems in the region.

## **Goals and Objectives**

### **Goal 1**

Strengthen reef restoration in the MAR region, utilizing a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach

#### **Objectives:**

1. Expand the HRI diagnosis on the state of the MAR to include additional elements
2. Develop a regional restoration strategy and plan, including defining criteria for success, follow-up and training
3. Promote innovative restoration techniques
4. Adoption of emergency protocol for natural disasters by member countries.
5. Create and standardize indicators for long term monitoring of successful restoration

### **Goal 2**

Position the network as the regional, advisory entity for marine ecosystem restoration

#### **Objectives:**

1. Promote the strengthening of public policies in favor of the conservation or restoration of reef ecosystems, i.e. create an enabling environment
2. Promote the communication and exchange of information within the Network
3. Raise awareness on restoration activities, promoting an innovative and sustainable multidisciplinary approach
4. Consolidate the functioning of the Network through the conformation/standardization of the structure, statutes, etc.
5. Develop and Implement a two-year Regional Action Plan for the Network

### **Goal 3**

Develop a model for Network Self Sufficiency within two years

#### **Objective:**

1. Develop and Implement a fundraising/financing plan and strategies for leveraging additional resources to fund day-to-day operation of the Network as well as it is work in reef restoration.

### **Goal 4**

Maintain a bilingual platform that communicates restoration efforts in the MAR with partners and other interested entities

#### **Objective:**

1. Maintain and Update bilingual website

## **Achieving the goals**

In order to achieve the goals and objectives, the RRN-MAR commits to implementing the following Programs, Projects and Activities over the two-year time period (2019-2020).

### 1.1 Expand the HRI diagnosis on the state of the MAR to include additional element

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Decide which components are going to be included in the diagnosis e.g. physical-chemical analysis of the water, mapping, characterization of the area.	Number of components proposed					
RRN proposes criteria for each component, some of which can be based on preexisting protocols	Each component proposed is supported by proposed criteria					
Search for information gaps and as a network look for funds to meet those gaps	Financial commitment secured to address information gaps					

### 1.2 Develop a regional restoration strategy and plan, including defining criteria for success, follow-up and training.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Each country adapts the regional plan according to its needs	Number of countries with a Regional Restoration Strategy and Plan					
Translation of and training in the use of the Belize reef replenishment manual	Number of people trained in the use of the Belize reef replenishment manual					
Identify other documents that must be translated as well. Both English to Spanish and vice versa.	Number of documents available in English and Spanish versions					
Identify translators (individuals or companies) that have been recommended	Type of translators identified and hired					
Implement GIS in restoration and use the information to establish criteria for different scenarios, such as grounding sites, coral donor sites and susceptible sites	Number of sites implementing GIS in restoration					

### 1.3 Promote innovative restoration techniques.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Identify innovative techniques	Number of innovative techniques identified and shared with partners					
Develop an exchange of experiences by countries.	1 exchange held every year; At least 3 different disciplines represented in exchanges					
Actor Mapping to identify who's doing what, where, and results (Establish a database of reef restoration practitioners (active members), collaborators and partners)	Identify and maintain at least 20 collaborative partners per year					

### 1.4 Adoption of emergency protocol for natural disasters by member countries.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Share existing information and protocols as inputs so that each country elaborates its own (Proposal for Mexico done by Kanantik)	Number of countries that have adopted/instituted a Rapid Response Protocol					
Institute a local Rapid Response Team/Brigade in each country	At least 50 persons trained in Rapid Response Protocol over two years					
Identify a local rapid response coordinator in each country (as well as alternate)	Number of countries with a local rapid response coordinator and their alternate, identified and established					
Establish criteria to inform a call for people to receive training	Number of leads from social media and email marketing					

## 1.5 Create and standardize indicators for long term monitoring of successful restoration.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Complete training on photo-mosaics methodology for interested reef restoration practitioners	Approx. 50 persons trained over 2 years					
Create database that captures scientific, technical information on restoration sites e.g. how old is the site, species, how many people working on site, etc.	Number and type of users interacting with database, i.e. both upload and download					

## 2.1 Promote the strengthening of public policies in favor of the conservation or restoration of reef ecosystems, i.e. create an enabling environment.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Implement a ListServ for the Network	Improved response time/rate to email and e-marketing efforts					
Facilitate a series of webinars on the best practices of the MBRS.	Number of webinars held; Number of participants					
Develop and conduct at least two exchanges between countries	At least 1 exchange between countries held annually					
Adopt knowledge and information sharing policy for members of the network on restoration data, i.e. techniques, site specific info, research, etc.	At least 2 best practice manuals					
Develop and Implement mechanism to get feedback from members and partners	Number of correspondence received by members and partners					

## 2.2 Promote the communication and exchange of information within the Network.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Review and revise the public policy document to enrich and update.						
Provide input to the development and design of policies regulating the conservation, restoration and recovery of marine ecosystems in the region.	16 Invitations/Opportunities to share information; number and type of supportive communications and statements made by policy makers					

### 2.3 Raise awareness on restoration activities, promoting an innovative and sustainable multidisciplinary approach.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Engage policy and decision-makers	At least 4 attempts at outreach communication directed towards decision/policy makers annually					
Prepare marketing and communication materials, e.g. posters, brochures, etc.	At least 8 attempts at outreach communication directed toward media outlets annually					

### 2.4 Consolidate the functioning of the RRN-MAR through the conformation/standardization of the structure, statutes, etc.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Define and Endorse bylaws of the RRN-MAR	Bylaws adopted					
Review and rationalize organizational (network) structure	Network structure endorsed					

### 2.5 Develop and Implement a two-year Regional Action Plan for the Network.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Hire a consultant to develop 2-year regional action plan for the network and facilitate a 2-day action planning workshop.	Consultant hired					

Hold 2-day action planning workshop with the Executive Committee	workshop held; draft action plan created				
Action Plan approved	Final Action Plan				

### 3.1 Develop and Implement a fundraising/financing plan and strategies for leveraging additional resources to fund day-to-day operation of the Network as well as it's work in reef restoration.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Hire a consultant to develop a fundraising/financing plan for the Network that would make it self sufficient	Consultant hired; draft financing plan created					
Network model endorsed	Final Financing Plan					

### 4.1 Maintain and Update bilingual website.

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2018	MID YEAR 1	END YEAR 1	MID YEAR 2	END YEAR 2
Hire a Communication Coordinator/Consultant with responsibility to review, update and maintain a bilingual website for the RRN-MAR; develop and implement a social media strategy for the network; and develop and disseminate an e-newsletter	Communication coordinator/consultant hired					
Review, update and maintain a functional bilingual website	Website updated and functional; monthly website traffic;					
Develop and Implement Social Media Strategy	Traffic from social media; social media mentions					
Develop and disseminate an e-newsletter	4 E-Newsletters developed and circulated every 6 months					

## Monitoring and Evaluating the Strategic Action Plan

The RRN will monitor the results of the strategic plan at the output level annually, and apply real time monitoring where applicable to monitor the progress towards output targets.

Goal 1: Strengthen reef restoration in the MAR region, utilizing a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach				
Key Result Areas and Performance Indicators	Performance Targets			
	Yr. 1 mid (2019)	Yr. 1 end	Yr. 2 mid (2020)	Yr. 2 end
No. of training opportunities / workshops	1	3	1	2
No. of exchanges	1		1	
No. of disciplines represented in exchanges	3		3	
No. of scientific meetings attended	2	1		2
No. of collaborative partners		20		20
No. of people trained	12	15	12	10
No. of people trained in the Rapid Response Protocol		25		25

Goal 2: Position the network as the regional, advisory entity for marine ecosystem restoration				
Key Result Areas and Performance Indicators	Performance Targets			
	Yr. 1 mid (2019)	Yr. 1 end	Yr. 2 mid (2020)	Yr. 2 end
No. of invitations to share information	4	4	4	4
No. of best practice manuals	2			

No. of outreach communication directed towards decision/policy makers		4		4
No. of outreach communication directed towards media outlets	4	4	4	4

Goal 3: Develop a model for Network Self Sufficiency within two years				
Key Result Areas and Performance Indicators	Performance Targets			
	Yr. 1 mid (2019)	Yr. 1 end	Yr. 2 mid (2020)	Yr. 2 end
Model is developed				1
Model is endorsed				1

Goal 4: Maintain a bilingual platform that communicates restoration efforts in the MAR with partners and other interested entities				
Key Result Areas and Performance Indicators	Performance Targets			
	Yr. 1 mid (2019)	Yr. 1 end	Yr. 2 mid (2020)	Yr. 2 end
Functional Bilingual website	1			
Website Analytics Report developed and reviewed every 3 months	2	2	2	2
Social media strategy developed	1			
E-Newsletter developed and circulated every 6 months	1	1	1	1