



OAK FOUNDATION

Grant Application Form

Complete each question by entering your response in the relevant shaded area. Please do not adjust the font size from Times New Roman 11 point. Refer to the guideline for any clarifications.

1. Organization

Organization Name:	Healthy Reefs Initiative, Smithsonian Institution
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Website:	www.healthyreefs.org
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Summarize your organization's mission (<i>maximum 75 words</i>):
<p><i>Healthy Reefs for Healthy People Initiative (HRI)</i> is a globally unique international collaborative program of coral reef-focused research, management and conservation organizations dedicated to safeguarding the Mesoamerican Reef in Mexico, Belize, Guatemala and Honduras. HRI and its partners work to improve management and decision-making by the region's varied reef management organizations, thereby enhancing the reef's health and resiliency.</p>

2. Project Overview

2a. Project Name:	Healthy Reefs for Healthy People: Strengthening the Scientific Foundation
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2b. Core Support: Yes:_ /No:_	
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2c. Grant period:	Start date:	01	10	2016	End date:	09	30	2020
	(dd/mon/yy)							

2d. Summarize the project's ultimate goal(s) (maximum 200 words):

HRI's goal for 2016-2020 is to improve its scientific knowledge to better produce more useful products and better disseminate and communicate the scientific data and resources provided to its partners, public policy and private sector decision-makers, and the general public. HRI will increase its influence and effectiveness to continue to strengthen sustainable coastal and marine resource management and help ensure economic opportunities for coastal communities. This grant proposal seeks to amplify HRI's effort to ensure that the knowledge and experience it has gained over the last decade with its partners are properly understood, clearly documented and effectively made available to the global marine conservation community. Our efforts will continue to raise capacity and collaboration among marine conservation practitioners in the region, while also enhancing public awareness and political will to implement marine conservation actions through its broad-based appeal to better understand and support management actions.

We aim to go beyond innovative reporting on ecosystem health and management, and enter into the research and development space for coral nurseries, *Diadema* enhancement, and technological innovations in sanitation. If proven economically feasible, these endeavors can cumulatively reduce pollutants, enhance herbivory, and assist the repopulation of endangered corals, cumulatively increasing reef health and public awareness of the importance and value of coral reefs, and sustained informed decision making supporting the long-term conservation of the Mesoamerican Reef.

3. List the major countries where your activities take place. If this is global policy work, list as worldwide:

Belize, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico; with expansion into the wider Caribbean and other important marine areas by 2020.

4. Context (*The context section should not exceed two pages.*)

4a. Describe the organization (include information on leadership, governance, structure and staff) and expected changes. (maximum 300 words):

HRI is a globally unique collaborative international initiative that includes 65 local, national and international NGO's, research institutions, government agencies and donors that aim to improve the health and management of the MAR. It has grown from a modest beginning in 2004 as a scientific effort to define and quantify reef health indicators into an active collaboration of organizations catalyzing, refining and evaluating marine conservation actions in the MAR.

2016 marked the transition year for HRI to become fully integrated into the Smithsonian Institution (SI). HRI will benefit from the extensive administrative, research, fundraising, and communication resources that SI provides. HRI is one of the few conservation-based Smithsonian initiatives that is integrating the natural and social sciences, with potential for further expansion of this work within the newly created Conservation Commons Pan-Institutional Initiative.

Since 2006 HRI has been run by Melanie McField, PhD, a full time Smithsonian employee who is the HRI Program Director. She leads the team of four country coordinators and technical consultants who form HRI's backbone. The new scientific advisory committee, including Smithsonian and other leading research institutions, provides guidance, feedback and recommendations to the program. Oversight of the HRI Director is by Valerie Paul, Smithsonian's Director of the Smithsonian Marine Station (SMS) at Ft. Pierce, who also oversees the Belize Caribbean Coral Reef Ecosystem (CCRE) research station and Steve Box's Integrated Marine Planning and Conservation Tools (IMPACT) program.

HRI plans to maintain its leadership position in the conservation of the MAR and become a global leader in science-based adaptive management that provides direct assistance to conservation practitioners and decision-makers. The following proposal is based on a critical review of past accomplishments, future needs, and opportunities to increase collaboration within the Smithsonian. HRI is targeting four cornerstone strategies that have the greatest opportunities to provide the solid foundation needed to improve reef health. Each of our country coordinators leads one of these themes: Healthy Watersheds, Healthy Communities, Healthy Fisheries and Healthy Futures.

4b. Describe the financial situation (include information on annual operating costs, fundraising strategy, reserves and debts) and expected changes. (maximum 300 words):

As part of its strengthened relationship with the Smithsonian, HRI will be part of SIs plans to work with the Smithsonian's Office of Advancement, Office of Sponsored Projects and Office of International Relations to identify, cultivate and secure new funding sources. Potential donors include the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Thomas Haas Foundation, Marisla Foundation, and several family foundations. HRI is seeking continued funding for its MAR work from the Summit Foundation and the Oak Foundation.

HRI's 2016-2017 annual budget is \$378,811 including \$125,000 within this proposed grant from Oak Foundation. Over the last 5 years the budget has ranged from approximately \$135,000 to \$490,000 per year. The primary costs are for salary/contracting fees for the Director, 4 Coordinators and technical consultants on different products. Every other year there are additional field monitoring expenses followed by additional graphic design and printing costs in the following year. Travel and workshops (including training/capacity building) are additional ongoing costs.

Now that HRI is fully operationalized within the Smithsonian, we have begun to develop a new fundraising strategy within it, which will serve as the focal point for our expanded donor base. HRI is prominently featured in the fundraising plans of the working land and seascapes component of the conservation commons - the Smithsonian's new Pan-Institutional conservation effort. The new Smithsonian Global website and outreach effort aims to reach large bilateral and other donors and features HRI: global.si.edu/projects/healthy-reefs-healthy-people

HRI also has a collaborative funding concept with the MAR Fund and the MAR Conservation Leadership program aimed at increasing the MAR Fund's endowment – for specific accounts for HRI (for field monitoring costs, etc.) and Conservation Leaders programs. There are no debts and no reserves, although the MAR Fund is assisting with an endowment proposal.

4c. Describe the history and past achievements of the organization. (maximum 300 words):

HRI began in 2004 as an international, multi-institutional effort to track the health of the MAR ecosystem to improve its condition and draw the connection between reef health and human health. The foundational effort, the 2007 "Guide to Indicators of Reef Health and Social Well-Being", defined both our concept of ecosystem health and our indicators to evaluate it.

In 2008 HRI published the first (globally) Report Card (RC) evaluating the health of a coral reef followed by three more. The 2015 RC was the most scientifically robust, comprehensive, partner 'driven' report. The RC is one of the most effective and requested communication products used by managers, NGOs and private sector that are working on effectively managing coral reefs.

HRI, in collaboration with its partners, developed and implemented the first-ever multinational Eco-Audit of the Mesoamerican Reef Countries in 2011, followed up in 2014 and 2016. Twenty-eight standardized management indicators are tracked across seven themes. The Eco-Audit draws on input from a variety of NGOs, governmental agencies, and the private sector, and includes transparently verified and publicly available results and all verification documents on the healthyreefs.org website, along with the new 2016 interactive version.

SUMMARY ACHIEVEMENTS.

- The MAR has protected >20% of its territorial seas, more than most other areas.
- Five new MPAs have been designated since 2011.
- Fully protected (no-take) areas have increased to 3%, but needs to increase more.
- Fully protected areas had 10 times more commercial species (snapper and grouper).
- Parrotfish now fully protected in Belize, Guatemala and Bay Islands, Honduras, with increased biomass notes in some areas.
- Collaboration at the governmental level has increased with all 4 countries.
- Regular standardized coral reef monitoring conducted every 2 years.
- Open-access online interactive database of all coral reef monitoring data.

4d. Describe the current strategy of the organization. (maximum 300 words):

HRI and its partners are effectively improving management and decision-making by the region's varied reef management organizations and agencies, ultimately enhancing the reef's health and adaptive capacity to withstand the impending escalating stressors associated with global climate change. The following sections detail our approach to collaborative science-based reef management, the main threat or problems associated with reef, new opportunities and our specific objectives for the next four years. Over the next four years, HRI is targeting four cornerstone strategies that have the greatest opportunities to provide the solid foundation needed to support healthy coral reef ecosystems. Our strategic conservation efforts over the next four years will focus on leveraging financial, technical and other support for: Healthy Watersheds, Healthy Communities, Healthy Fisheries and Healthy Futures.

Healthy Watersheds – Clean, intact, healthy watersheds are needed to support vibrant coral reefs, fisheries, human health, and local economies. HRI's Healthy Watershed strategy focuses on innovative and catalytic activities that help advance watershed protection and improving sewage treatment in our Mesoamerican Region.

Healthy Communities – Our human communities in the Mesoamerican Region depend on productive coastal ecosystems. The Healthy Communities strategy aims to improve our understanding of the linkages between human and ecological health, and promote sustainable development alternatives.

Healthy Fisheries – Our Healthy Fisheries strategy includes activities supporting ecosystem-based fisheries management, including the region-wide protection of parrotfish, important fish spawning sites, and the promotion of fisheries replenishment zones.

Healthy Futures – Our region's marine biodiversity and people's livelihoods are dependent on healthy coral reefs, today and for many tomorrows. Our Healthy Futures strategy is testing new innovative research solutions to help restore and promote healthy coral reefs in a changing climate, including developing a regional Coral Bleaching Emergency Response Plan, coral nurseries, facilitated recruitment of *Diadema*, and reef resiliency.

4e. What problems are you addressing? What are the opportunities and challenges in addressing these problems? (maximum 600 words):

HRI is a multi-institutional Initiative seeking to combat the problem of coral reef decline in the Mesoamerica reef by galvanizing the science, conservation and political will required to implement the latest science-based recommendations for reef management. Over the last decade, HRI has continually improved and expanded the partnership and products, including the reef-focused Report Cards and governance focused Eco-Audits. HRI achievements include: developing a quantitative framework for evaluating and improving reef health; creating influential tools and recommendations to inform regional policy decisions; expanding from 4 to 65 partnerships at the regional, national, and international level; and serving as a regional leader and communicator that promotes a unity of vision and strategic purpose for reef health through the MAR. Specifically, the main stressors we are addressing through our efforts and those of our partners include:

Overfishing and destructive fishing are the second most widespread threat to coral reefs in the MAR. Throughout the region, fisheries management has not achieved sustainability, in large part due to reliance on open-access and traditional management approaches and the inability to control illegal fishing, especially in remote areas. HRI, through its Report Card, is delivering important information on fish biomass, focusing mostly on snappers and groupers as commercially important species, and on parrotfish and surgeonfish as important herbivores. Recovery of fisheries requires that areas under full protection (fish refuges) be increased, which has been a focus of HRI. In addition, we support improved management of fishing areas and practices, such as providing needed data for the 'catch shares' program being piloted in Belize, as well as efforts to identify and address underlying social and economic factors leading to overharvesting. MPA effectiveness is a key component in improving fishery stocks, however it requires both the capacity and the political will to enforce regulations. Both of these aspects are assisted through the collaboration of partners within HRI. There are also ecological challenges, for example, some species need different habitats during different life stages and most MPAs are too small to contain all the needed habitats. HRI is providing needed data and expertise to TNC's effort to examine the critical features and gaps of the MAR Network of MPAs.

Poor Sanitation and Sewage Treatment is a key issue for protecting both reef health and human health. Inadequately treated sewage is commonplace in the region and deleterious to both. HRI through its Eco-Audit evaluates the extent to which regional standards for wastewater management and sewage treatment have been developed, adopted by countries, and applied to the construction of new sewage treatment infrastructure. Solid efforts are underway to address these issues, particularly in Honduras and Mexico; however, additional efforts are needed for new infrastructure to treat and reduce wastewater (including sewage and industrial effluent) in order to reduce nutrients and toxins that reach coral reefs.

Climate Change is an overarching threat currently and increasingly impacting the entire MAR region. It is widely accepted that one of the main ways to address this threat is by making impacted ecosystems as healthy and resilient as possible - this is the focus of HRI. While the MAR countries have little impact on global emissions and CO₂ reductions, HRI does promote the incorporation of carbon sequestration programs (stated in our EA's), and tracking the impacts due to climate change: coral bleach-watch program; while concurrently fostering the building of resilience through strong networks of marine protected areas. HRI also led the first MAR-wide emergency coral bleaching response program in late 2015 and is preparing now for the 2016 bleaching season.

5. Objectives (*maximum 2,200 words*)

For a core support grant fill out just one objective and state the purpose of this grant request. For project support grants list your objectives for this project in bullet point format. (You may use additional space if you have more than three objectives). Under each objective describe the activities that your organization will undertake to achieve it, including timeframe and the results or outcomes you expect to achieve.

5.1.a. Objective 1 (*maximum one sentence*):

Objective 1. Convene and Coordinate the region’s collaborative monitoring and communication about the overall health of the Mesoamerican Reef and our efforts to manage it.

5.1.b. Objective 1 – Activities and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

By delivering scientifically credible, objective, and respected reports to the global community in real-time, the HRI can have a greater impact on improving decision-making by national, regional and international reef management organizations and agencies. More specifically, our overarching objective includes the production of the following products and processes.

2016, 2018 and 2020 - Reef monitoring activities.

2016, 2018, 2020 - Training workshops and certification of local data collectors.

2017, 2019 - Produce and launch Reef Report Cards

2020- Perform evaluation. Produce and Launch 2020 Eco-Audit.

2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020- Partners participate in annual HRI meeting to convene collaboration - setting priorities

Ongoing- Participation in workshops and partner efforts

Ongoing- Launch events, regular TV and newspaper articles social media posts.

5.1.c. Objective 1 – Expected results/outcomes and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

- Spring 2017 and 2019 4000 Report Cards printed.
- Spring 2017 and 2019 - 4 launch events successfully get media attention presenting the Report Card.
- Spring 2018 first Community Health Report Card.
- Spring 2020 Eco-Audit of the Mesoamerican Reef Countries.
- 2020 - 1000 Eco-Audits printed
- 2020 - 4 launch events gain media attention on the presentation of the Eco-Audit results.
- 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020- Partners responses on HRI annual surveys find that at least 80% are satisfied with HRI program
- Every year from 2016- HRI staff record at least 1 major conservation ‘win’ per year relying on the collaboration, as verified in news articles
- Annual Partner meeting (dependent on co-funding success). Partners responses on HRI annual surveys find that at least 80% are satisfied with HRI program
- HRI staff record at least 1 major conservation ‘win’ per year relying on the collaboration, as verified in news articles
- More than 40 media stories are developed per year about conservation issues and HRI launches of reports, (TV, newspaper) in addition to regular social media posts (per year).
- Annual public perception survey results on public engagement in main conservation issues

5.2.a. Objective 2 (if any) (*maximum one sentence*):

Healthy Watersheds: Working alongside existing local and national water entities, HRI will promote the adoption and replication of effective management schemes that will allow better management of potable and waste water in coastal communities improving reef health (and community health).

5.2.b. Objective 2 – Activities and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

- 2020- Connect 90 homes/businesses to waste water treatment plant.
- Ongoing - Meetings and workshops held where a management scheme is presented to existing water boards and fully explained.
- 2020 - Honduran water management entity (ERSAPS) meets with water boards and creates tariff spreadsheet.
- 2017 - Honduran Govt. ratifies Cartagena Convention (which includes LBS Protocol).
- 2020- Sanitation projects are underway in Honduras that improves effluent water quality.
- Ongoing through 2020- Find new and emerging technologies that treat waste water

5.2.c. Objective 2 – Expected results/outcomes and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

End 2020- 90 homes/businesses in West End are connected to waste water treatment plant. 50% of households are paying for waste water treatment

- End 2017- Replicate Polo’s Water Board water management scheme in 2 other MAR communities.
- End 2018- Replicate Polo’s Water Board water management scheme in 2 more MAR communities.
- Mid 2017- Cartagena Convention ratified by Honduran Government.
- End 2018- 2 IDB-funded projects are underway to improve sanitation.
- Mid 2020- 2 other IDB-funded projects are underway to improve sanitation.
- Throughout the 4 years: emerging and new technologies identified for waste water treatment with potential for use in facility upgrades.

5.3.a. Objective 3 (if any) (*maximum one sentence*):

Healthy Fisheries: HRI aims to advance the network of scientifically justified replenishment zones or no-take fish refuges, protecting at least 10% of territorial sea by 2020, including 75% of the known fish spawning sites. Increase herbivory and reef health by protecting parrotfish region wide by 2018

5.3.b. Objective 3 – Activities and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

Ongoing - Protection of at least 3 more Spawning Aggregation sites (SPAGs) by working with partners to further MPA zoning or enact new MPAs to protect SPAGs.

2020- Expand existing No Take Zones (NTZs) and establish new MPAs including full replenishment zones.

Increase herbivory and reef health by protecting parrotfish region wide by 2018.

5.3.c. Objective 3 – Expected results/outcomes and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

- End 2016-Further parrotfish outreach and communications.
- End 2017- Work to expand legal protection of parrotfishes to coastal reef areas in Honduras and Mexico.
- Ongoing- Each country coordinator works with their national or state entities and partners to advance the creation of more and better fully-protected replenishment zones.
- Beginning in 2018 and ongoing - Increase the percentage of protection of known SPAG sites in the MAR.
- Ongoing - SPAG mapping in the MAR.
- Ongoing - Updated status of MPA expansion and increased areas in NTZ in the MAR.

5.4.a. Objective 4 (if any) (*maximum one sentence*):

Healthy Communities: Convey consistent, scientific information and recommendations to policy-makers, decision-makers and the public, such that the connections between reef health, human health and socioeconomic sustainability, result in effective conservation action at an unprecedented scale.

5.4.b. Objective 4 – Activities and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

HRI has had discussions with researchers from Harvard University who are working on modeling changes in diet based on access to fisheries. This would help HRI update its indicators and add to existing indicators such as an Economic Contribution of marine-related activities that help generate public support and influence decision-making. A summary is due by the end of 2016.

- End 2016- Expert and partner review of Socio-ecological indicators for the MAR.
- Ongoing- Collect key social indicators data in selected communities, leveraging our network of partners and lead by the HRI team.
- End 2017- Collect and synthesize Coastal Poverty Index information from secondary sources.

5.4.c. Objective 4 – Expected results/outcomes and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

- 2017- HRI and its partners evaluate the results and engage in an agreement on methodology for Socio-Ecological indicators that successfully make linkages.
- 2017 – 2018- Field data collection of social indicators
- 2017- 2018- Collection and synthesis of CPI information from secondary sources. Poverty information and tailors for Coastal Communities
- Spring 2018- Produce a Community Health report Card featuring social indicators.

5.5.a. Objective 5 (if any) (*maximum one sentence*):

Healthy Futures: Expand HRI science to address main impacts to reef health by managing coral reefs in a changing climate to improve reef resiliency.

5.5.b. Objective 5 – Activities and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

Our region's marine biodiversity and people's livelihoods are dependent on healthy coral reefs, today and for many tomorrows. Our Healthy Futures strategy is testing new innovative research solutions to help restore and promote healthy coral reefs in a changing climate, including developing a regional Coral Bleaching Emergency Response Plan, coral nurseries, facilitated recruitment of *Diadema*, and reef resiliency

- Ongoing- Mobilizing a MAR-wide Coral Bleaching emergency response plan in operation, with an established protocol.
- End 2019- Evaluate the bleaching impact in the MAR and evaluate reef resiliency models.
- Ongoing - Support Coral reef restoration projects in the MAR
- End 2018- Characterization of potential sites to serve as recruitment facilitators for *Diadema*.
- 2019- Test low-cost methods of facilitating *Diadema* recruitment in 3 areas.

5.5.c. Objective 5 – Expected results/outcomes and timeframe (*maximum 300 words*):

- Ongoing- The Coral Bleach Response Plan is approved and is implemented by at least 10 partners.
- End of 2016, 2018 - At least 40 sites are monitored on the next bleaching event (if funds are secured)
- 2017, 2019 - Report on MAR bleaching is complete and publicly available.
- By 2020- Increased number of successful coral nurseries in the MAR., with HRI assistance (increasing from 1 to 3 if funding secured).
- By 2019- Recovery of *Diadema* and reef health (more herbivory, less macroalgae and more live coral).
- 2017- Report on *Diadema* abundance and site characteristics through analysis of existing data.
- By 2020- Produce a manuscript and management recommendations based on experiment results for low cost methods of facilitating *Diadema* recruitment

6. Cooperation

6. Describe the level of cooperation with other organizations and networks and explain how this cooperation helps achieve your goals (maximum 300 words):

As a partnership initiative with over 65 partner organizations, HRI will continue to support these partners, including all of the MPA management organizations (government and non-government) within the region. We will use our new position as a Smithsonian program to enhance collaboration with Smithsonian scientists and with networks outside the Smithsonian including:

- Steering Committee of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network – Caribbean.
- The Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CLME) is a GEF project.
- Connecting with Cuba via Ocean Foundation and Marine Wilderness 10+10.
- UNAM, through Lorenzo Alvarez Filip's research team (www.barcolab.org).
- Graduate student interns and post-docs are interested in working with us from: Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Florida International University, NOVA Southeastern University.
- AGRRA collaboration in training and comparative analysis with Wider Caribbean.

HRI can serve as a useful model and partner in collaborative ecosystem monitoring. Our successful collaborative process of engaging partners in applied management-focused monitoring is of great interest, as the Smithsonian now begins enlisting non-SI research stations into the network on a voluntary basis.

McField is assisting with the writing of the background documentation for the Ecosystems component and participating in the discussions about the engagement process and communications effort. The Smithsonian recognizes the value and potential of HRI for providing a key example of a conservation success story already underway within the institution that can be included in capability statements towards their collective efforts. HRI could also provide a vibrant example of ecological-social integration operating within the SI Network, whereby conservation, socio-economic and cultural values all benefit from sustainable management of the Mesoamerican Reef.

7. Impact

7. What is the change you want to achieve from the overall project? (*maximum 300 words*):

HRI's goal for 2016 through 2020 is to improve its scientific knowledge to better produce useful products and better disseminate and communicate the scientific data and resources provided to its partners, public policy and private sector decision-makers, and the general public. HRI will increase its influence and effectiveness to continue to strengthen sustainable coastal and marine resource management and help ensure economic opportunities for coastal communities. This grant proposal seeks to amplify HRI's effort to ensure that the knowledge and experience it has gained over the last decade with its partners are properly understood, clearly documented and effectively made available to the global marine conservation community. Our efforts will continue to raise capacity and collaboration among marine conservation practitioners in the region, while also enhancing public awareness and political will to implement marine conservation actions through its broad-based appeal to better understand and support management actions.

We aim to go beyond innovative reporting on ecosystem health and management, and enter into the research and development space for coral nurseries, *Diadema* enhancement, and technological innovations in sanitation. If proven economically feasible, these endeavors can cumulatively reduce pollutants, enhance herbivory, and assist the repopulation of endangered corals, cumulatively increasing reef health and the public awareness of the importance and value of coral reefs, and sustained informed decision making supporting the long-term conservation of the Mesoamerican Reef.

Ultimately our main impacts are that through our collaborative efforts the Mesoamerican Reef is regularly being fully evaluated, with the results reported publicly and in the halls of government, enabling managers to adjust their strategies as needed. By enhancing scientific capacity and introducing new technologies and management ideas, we are also maintaining the MAR's position as an innovative leader in marine conservation and improving the health of the Mesoamerican Reef.

8. Evaluation

8. How will progress be monitored and evaluated? (maximum 300 words):

The progress made by HRI will be determined by the results of the Report Cards (2017, 2019), the new Community Health Report Card (2018) and the degree of implementation of management actions that are evaluated in the Eco-Audit (2020). The number of new collaborators and the expansion of the HRI beyond the MAR will also determine the progress. It will more specifically be evaluated with the indicators detailed in Annex 1.

Others means of measuring our success include monitoring the following results:

- Recovery of fish stocks (increased commercial fish biomass) and reef health (more live coral and less macroalgae).
- Replication of successful case studies between the four MAR countries.
- Improved collaboration between sectors (fishers, tourism, Government, NGO, academia) to more effectively manage no-take zones (as measured by the management effectiveness ranking in the 2020 Eco-Audit).
- Increase the protection of important ecosystems resulting in habitat recovery (% territorial seas within MPAs).
- By having more and better informed partners and marine community members, this would enhance community timely awareness and knowledge of specific issues or events happening in the MAR, resulting in strengthened, more rapid and coordinated local and international collaboration (partly measured by environmental perceptions surveys).
- More collaborative use of resources, which can reduce operational costs for all partners, measured through Coordinator's surveys.
- Having more informed stakeholders (tourism and fishing sectors) with increased credibility can help support conservation focused decisions.
- Expand our capacity-building, networking and development of collaborative Reef Report Cards in other countries in the Wider Caribbean.

In addition, we seek co-funding to cover the cost of a strategic planning and program evaluation in 2017/18, which will help to quantify the degree of success or barriers to success of these key elements.

9. Future Plans

9. How will the grant influence the organization and future plans? (*maximum 300 words*):

Oak funding has been critical to achieve HRI's goals over the past 6 years. This specific grant will not only help HRI achieve the stated objectives but also open new opportunities within Smithsonian for the first time, within the region and then in the larger Caribbean. This grant will enable HRI to expand its scientific knowledge and its ability to provide improved information, not only to the MAR countries, but to be expanded in other coral reefs in the Caribbean.

The new objectives structure focuses on the building blocks of successful reef management (sustaining healthy fisheries, watersheds, communities and futures - including new scientific knowledge). HRI aims to better empower the HRI Country Coordinators to achieve measurable results in these four areas. As well-known and respected members of each country's marine conservation community, each coordinator helps catalyze reef management and achieve priority management recommendations. Recognizing that we can't actually manage corals or coral reefs - we manage human activities and opinions that affect the reef. By advancing these four main strategies we are directly contributing to the improved management and ultimate goal of healthy reefs and healthy people.

HRI has successfully met its goals of the past ten years and is poised to expand and grow as an international resource. As one of our formative program donors, the Oak Foundation's terminal 4-year grant will enable us to meet multi-year matching requirements of new potential donors and will elevate our program status within the Smithsonian. We will continue with our capacity building, monitoring, reporting, evaluating and communicating about reef health and management, while at the same time exploring new innovations in ecosystem enhancement and restoration and technological advances in sewage treatment and full economic accounting of the costs of not fully treating all sewage effluents.

10. Declarations

12. Do you have any personal or commercial relationships with staff members or Trustees of Oak Foundation? If yes, please explain.

No

11. Attachments

Required documents:

1. Budget details Oak template
2. Organizational structure
3. List of board members and roles and functions
4. Audited financial statements
5. Annual report
6. Registration documents
7. Memorandum of association /article of association
8. Tax exempt certificate
9. Other documents