



David Obura

Chair

David Obura (1)

Red List Authority Coordinator

Beth Polidoro (2)

Location/Affiliation

(1) CORDIO East Africa, Coastal Oceans Research and Development – Indian Ocean (CORDIO) East Africa

(2) Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability, Arizona State University, Phoenix, Arizona, US

Number of members

40

Social networks

Instagram: coralspecialistgroup

Twitter: @coralspecgroup

Website: <https://www.coralspecialistgroup.org/>



Mission statement

The IUCN Coral Specialist Group (CSG) brings together leading scientists, practitioners and conservationists under the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Reflecting the vast diversity of coral reefs, their importance to people in so many ways and the imminent threat to their very existence from climate change and human uses, the group has a broad ecosystem and conservation focus. Our combined knowledge contributes to inform society and policy makers to take science-based action.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

The focus this quadrennium is to update the Red List of Threatened Corals and the coral Red List Index, last calculated in 2008, and to develop a general approach to the Red List of Ecosystems applied to coral reefs. This is in order to contribute to policy and decision-making processes that culminate in 2020 with major global events relevant to coral reefs, oceans and climate, and to align the actions of diverse coral reef stakeholders around the world.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) complete reassessment of Red List status of reef-building corals; (2) develop an approach to applying the Red List of Ecosystems (RLE) to coral reefs applicable to all coral reef regions around the world and initiate global RLE for coral reefs.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Red List

- i. Red List assessment of 846 coral species underway. The funding raised from National Geographic Society (US\$ 39,500) and pledged by Eurofins (€10,000) is insufficient for a regular workshop assessment process; an online method is under development. (KSR #1, 3)
- ii. The Red List of Ecosystems of Western Indian Ocean corals is near completion, and aspects of the method for applicability to other regions under 'stress test'. (KSR #1)



Predator removal of the Crown of Thorns seastar, *Acanthaster planci*, from National Park American Samoa
Photo: Shaun Wolfe

Coral reef scene, IndoPacific
Photo: Erik Lukas

Acknowledgements

Funding was provided by Norad for the Red List of Ecosystems, and by National Geographic Society and Eurofins for the Red List of Threatened Species. In kind support was provided by Arizona State University, Zoological Society of London and CORDIO East Africa.

Summary of activities 2019

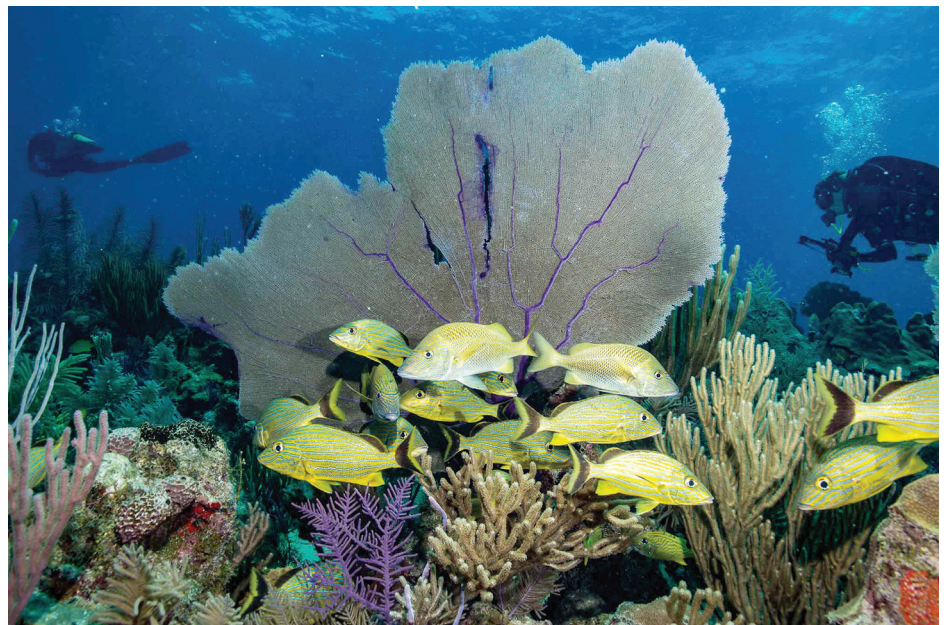
Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 1/5

Assess **2** **II**

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 3

Resolutions addressed: WCC-2016-Rec-106

KSR: Key Species Result



Coral reef scene, Caribbean (Cuba)
Photo: David Gross