

Recapping Management Capacity for Coral Restoration in the MPAConnect Network



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Presentation outline

1. Brief introduction to MPAConnect
2. Latest findings on network capacity for bio-physical monitoring
3. Latest findings on network capacity for coral restoration
4. Managers' challenges and needs for coral restoration
5. MPAConnect capacity building activities



Photo: F. De Weerd



Photo: C. O'Sullivan



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18

countries/
territories

40

MPAs



Peer-to-peer exchanges

Site support



Regional Network

Priorities analysis

Capacity assessment



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21 elements of management capacity



Financing



Enforcement



Bio-physical
monitoring



Fisheries
management



Management
planning



Outreach/
education



On-site
management



MPA
effectiveness



Sustainable
livelihoods



Pollution
control



Habitat
restoration



Legal
framework



Partnerships



Stakeholder
engagement



Economic
valuation



Resilience to
climate change



Organizational
management



SocMon



Sustainable
tourism



Boundaries



Disturbances





Bio-physical monitoring capacity

15a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **bio-physical monitoring**? There is...

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1 | Little or no existing bio-physical monitoring activity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2 | Existing bio-physical monitoring program but data not being used to inform management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3 | Data produced from bio-physical monitoring program being evaluated and used to inform management decisions |

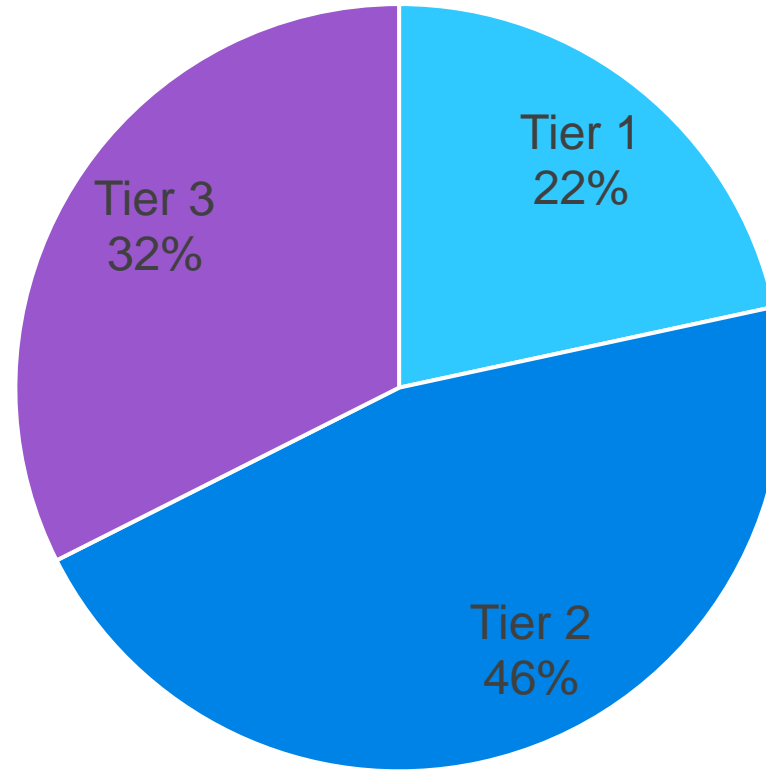


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Bio-physical monitoring capacity in MPAConnect

Nearly 80% of MPAs do some bio-physical monitoring



2023, n=37 MPAs



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Coral reef monitoring in MPAConnect

What is monitored?	Percentage of MPAs
Coral reef health	68%
Coral disease	68%
Coral bleaching	65%
Coral restoration	41%

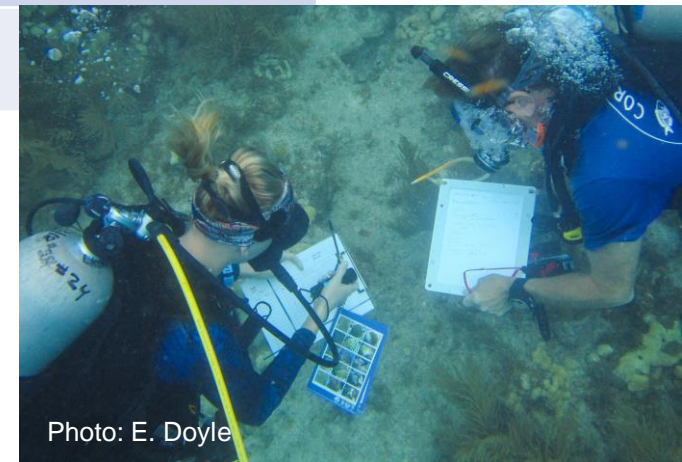


Photo: E. Doyle



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Coral reef monitoring methods in MPAConnect

	Most common method and number of mentions	Second most common method	Third most common method
Coral reef health	AGRRA (19)	GCRMN (7)	Other (4)
Coral disease	AGRRA (11)	Roving diver/ prevalence (8)	GCRMN (3)
Coral bleaching	AGRRA (13)	Bar drop (5)	GCRMN (4)
Coral restoration	Survival in-situ/ex-situ (4)	Outplanting (4)	Fragmentation (2)



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Restoration capacity in MPAConnect

23a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to **the restoration of coral reefs, their associated habitats and/or the services they provide?**

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1 | There is little to no restoration activity occurring in the MPA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2 | There is some restoration activity occurring within the MPA but it is opportunistic and not based on a strategic approach or plan and/or a restoration plan has been developed for the MPA but it is not being implemented |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3 | A restoration plan for the MPA exists and is being implemented |

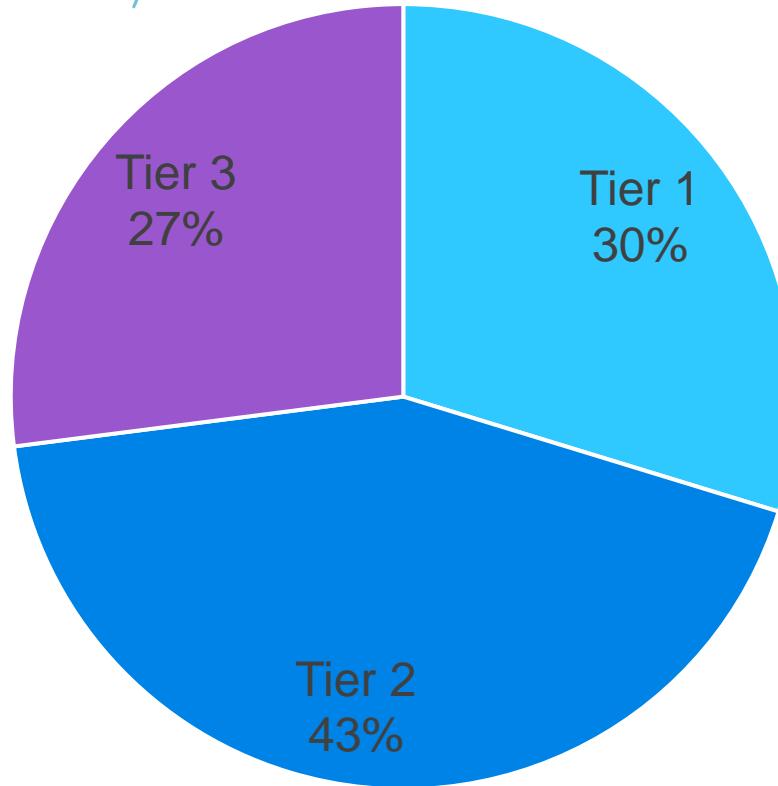


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Restoration capacity

70% of MPAs have some restoration activity

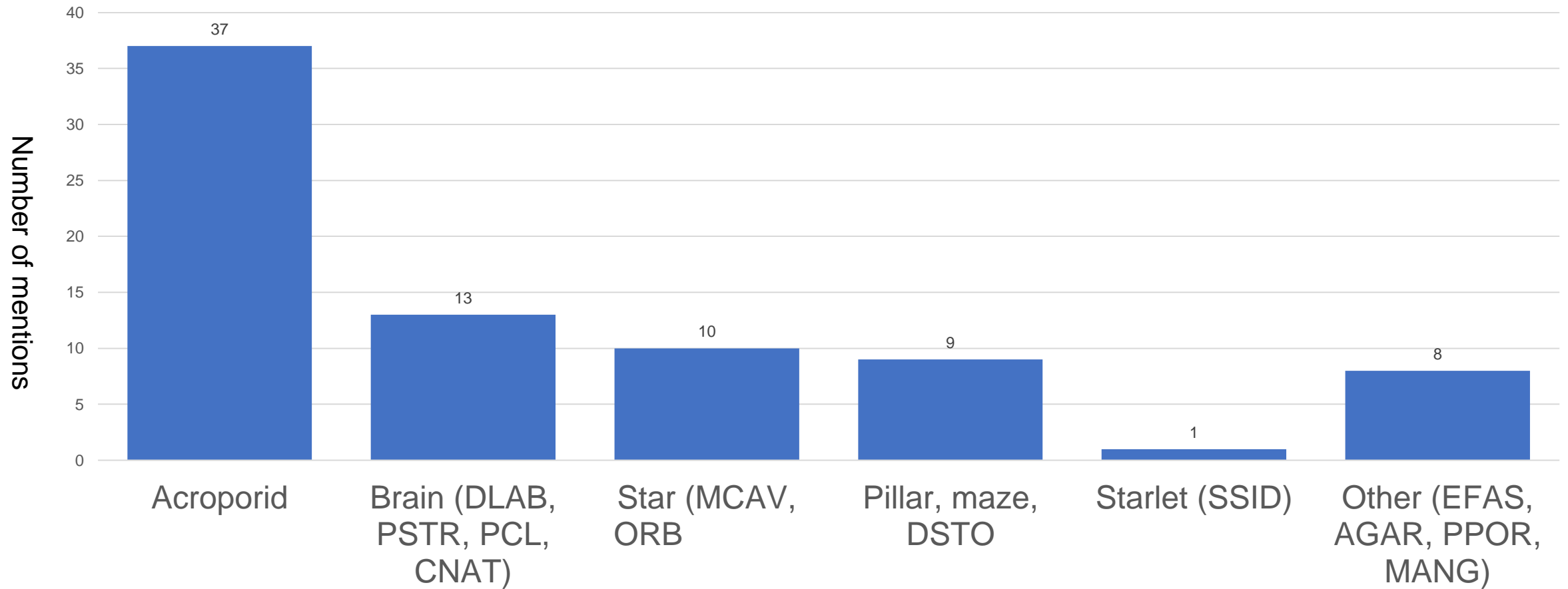


2023, n=37 MPAs



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Coral species being restored in MPAConnect



2023, n=37 MPAs



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Approaches to coral restoration in MPAConnect

	Mentions
In-situ nursery	19
Outplanting in MPA	9
Assisted reproduction	9
Ex-situ nursery	4
Other approach (reef balls, biorock)	4
Grounding response	3
Microfragmentation	2
Herbivore co-cultivation	2



Photo: F. De Weerd



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Challenges and needs in management of coral restoration

	Mentions
Technical capacity	21
Funding	19
Planning	15
Staff shortages	15
Partnership building	11
Other threats to reefs	7
Training/sharing	5
Equipment	5
Communications/outreach/support	5
Monitoring	4
Permitting	3
Herbivore co-cultivation	3
Other	2



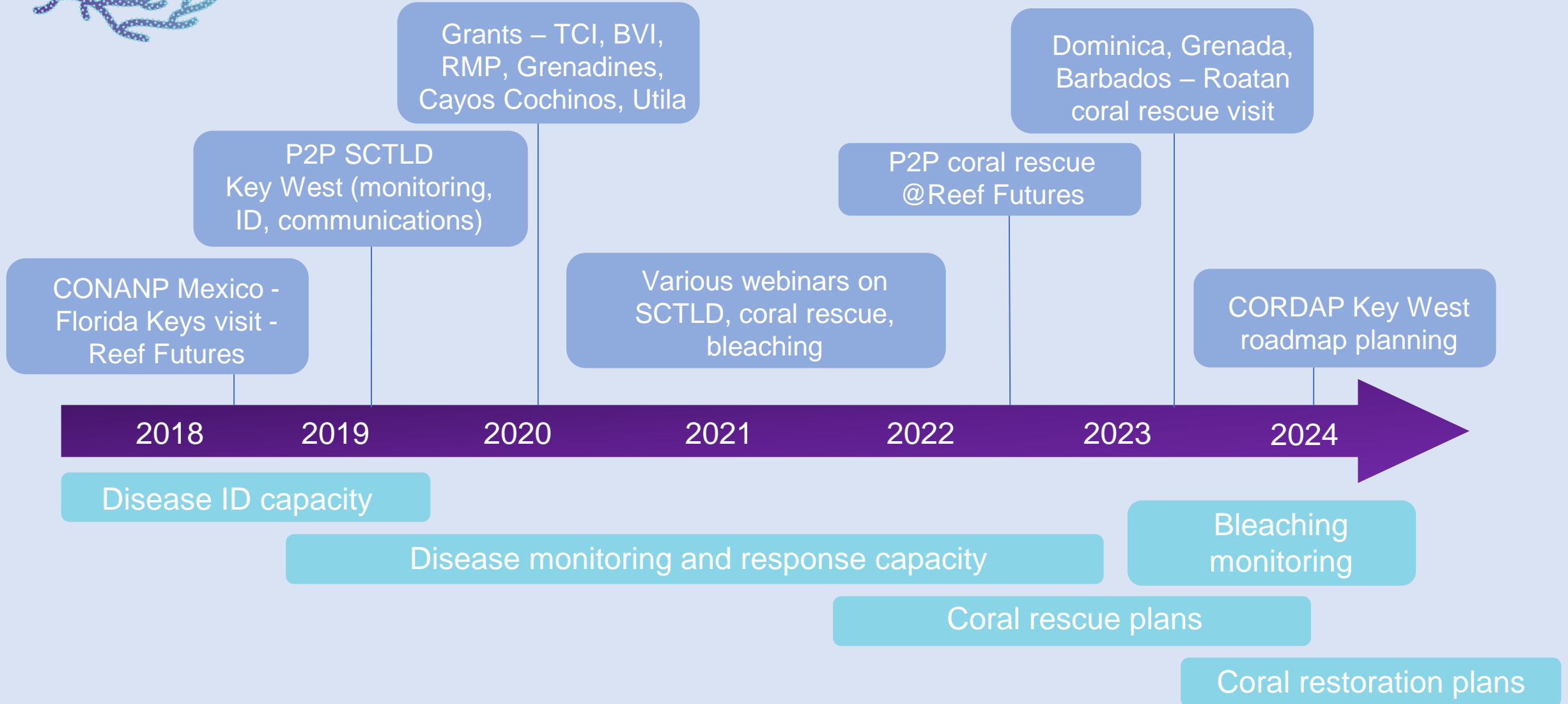
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Activities and achievements





A partnership between



&



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Coral reef health monitoring in MPAConnect



Photo: E. Doyle

Coral Reef Monitoring in MPAConnect	Percentage of MPAs
MPAs doing some coral reef monitoring	78%
Proportion of those MPAs using AGRRA for coral monitoring	80%
MPAs using AGRRA in network	54%



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