



Coral Research
& Development
Accelerator
Platform

Coral Accelerator Program

Concept Note (Pre-Proposal) Webinar October 4th 2022

Welcome to CORDAP Coral Accelerator Program Webinar

Please submit questions through zoom questions or chat – if we do not get to all questions today, we will update the FAQ with the outstanding queries

We will go through the questions at the end of the slides.

Please read the call document carefully before developing your submission – important to address the objectives of the call and the criteria!

Can send any further queries to funding@cordap.org



What is G20 CORDAP? - COral Research and Development Accelerator Platform.

It's a G20 initiative focused on accelerating international R&D targeted at addressing the most important knowledge gaps in coral conservation and restoration.



Launched during the Saudi Arabian G20 presidency. It is a not-for-profit Foundation, funded by voluntary contributions. Saudi Arabia's founding contribution to the platform is \$100M over 10 years – our target is \$300M to invest in coral innovation.



It is a platform whose main activity will be the funding, management, and execution of coordinated, collaborative, and targeted global R&D programs for coral conservation and restoration.



The Platform has an Initiative Governing Committee, composed of member countries and coral organizations, and an international Scientific and Advisory Committee.



King Abdullah University for Science and Technology has volunteered to resource, host and support the administration of the Platform – 100% of all international contributions go to projects



CORDAP – Strategic Plan

CORDAP recently launched its Strategic Plan for 2022-2025

The strategic plan

- identifies how CORDAP will deliver the program,
- describes the approaches and types of projects it will fund
- focuses on the most pressing investment needs for directing the program over its first three years of operation
- Identifies areas where R&D roadmaps should be developed before significant investment

CORDAP will invest in novel early-phased ideas through to final proof-of-concept development and testing

Available at cordap.org



CORDAP's Inaugural call - Coral Accelerator Program (CAP) 2022

Objectives and Goals

- CORDAP will deliver technologies, methods, and processes that can be applied in conservation and restoration efforts across the world through existing national and international efforts.
- Innovation crucial to filling the significant gap between current and required global capabilities.
- Projects funded under this program are expected to lead to *significant discoveries, innovations and improvements* over the current state of the art.
- Proposals *transcending different disciplines and fields*, and *including end users* in the research, design, and development of projects are strongly encouraged - *identify suitable partners* and groups that can further develop and deploy the proposed technologies.



CORDAP's Inaugural call - Coral Accelerator Program (CAP) 2022

This program will fund *international collaborative research teams* with impactful ideas in coral conservation and restoration.

Eligible projects can span across the full range of novel early-phase projects through to final proof-of-concept development and testing.

1. **\$1.5M per project – projects can run between 1 and 3 years in length.**
2. **Budget for 2022 call – approx. USD \$18M.**
3. **Minimum 3 Applicants on a team from 2 different countries (1 country must be a Low-Middle Income country as designated by the OECD)**

The first stage is the submission of a Concept Note (pre-proposal)



CORDAP Coral Accelerator Program – Key Dates



1. Launched on September 13th – CALL Now OPEN
2. Call Webinars – October 4th - 6am and 3pm UTC
3. Concept Note submission deadline: November 1st 5pm UTC
4. Anticipated notification/ Invitation to Submit Full Proposal - December 5th
5. Funding notifications – Early June 2023



CORDAPs Coral Acceleration Program (CAP) – Call Projects and priorities

Call will support a wide range of project types

- Novel R&D Projects
- Improving or scaling up existing interventions
- Translation R&D
- Fundamental science to support implementation of interventions
- Capacity building and local implementation

Outside the call, CORDAP will also be organizing a range of scoping studies/workshops with wide participation on specific topics which require further investigation before targeted investment

Program Priority Areas

- Low infrastructure, high throughput rate coral production and deployment methods
- New methods to protect existing corals
- Limiting mortality of early-stage corals
- Automation systems
- Reef monitoring
- Methods to meld natural and artificial reef recovery processes
- Developing country R&D methods
- R&D capacity building



Coral Accelerator Program - Eligibility

An International Collaborative program:

- Each proposal must comprise a **minimum of 3 applicants** (Lead plus 2 Co-Applicants)
- Each proposal must comprise applicants from **at least 2 countries** (**Diverse** - 1 of which **MUST** be from a low or middle income country – using OECD list)
- All organization types are eligible (not-for-profit, for-profit, Gov, NGO, Multilateral groups etc..)
- **Applicants receiving funding must have authority and independence to run the project within their organization.**
 - An individual can only be Lead applicant on one proposal and participate in up to a maximum of two additional proposals as Co-Applicant.
 - Any organization can only be the Lead Institution on up to two proposals, but can be a participating organization on multiple proposals. (Note organizations who are regional entities or sub agencies of large multi-governmental or multi-lateral entities, such as the UN, are considered separate organizations, and the country where the applicant is working is considered the applicant country.)
 - If a for-profit organization wishes to submit as an applicant, then they must be willing to co-invest to the point that they are not making a profit.
 - CORDAP is unable to make grants directly to individuals. There is no upper limit to the number of organizations in an application.



CORDAP Funding Policies

Intellectual Property

- CORDAP does not seek to own any of the IP resulting from its funded activities. Ownership vests as agreed by the organizations collaborating on the research.
- Owners of IP resulting from CORDAP-funded activities must provide a **free license** for **all commercial and non-commercial coral restoration use**, including free license to any background IP the project relies on.
- CORDAP-funded developments and technologies should be made available and accessible at an affordable price to all coral restoration projects.



Open Access

- Publications, and underlying data, will be immediately, freely and openly accessible to all
- There should be no barriers to the re-use and dissemination of CORDAP funded publications
- CORDAP will pay necessary reasonable fees.
- Research data and software should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable & Reusable (FAIR).



What's in a Concept Note Submission?

A Concept Note, or pre-proposal, is a short statement of your project objectives, methodology, intended users and estimated budget.

The narrative will include an outline of : (5 pages maximum)

- Background (What is the problem you are trying to solve and why is this important?)
- How is it done today? What are the current limitations and what is new in your approach?
- Strategy and Work Plan (Risks to success, Who will do what?, milestones, estimated timeline)
- Expected outcomes (How will you know if the project is successful?)
- Impact and Pathway to Impact (Who will use the outcomes and how will they use them? How scalable are your results and can they be transferred to other regions?, will they be affordable?)
- Outline the intellectual property situation with the project (Does it rely on background IP, is this background IP available and will it, and project IP, satisfy CORDAP IP policies)

An ***Intervention Concept Summary*** is required for project types: (additional 2 pages maximum)

- Novel R&D projects,
- Improving or scaling up existing interventions, or
- Translation R&D

Required Resources: Budget Information required for all proposals



What is an Intervention Concept Summary

Example Case

Provide visibility as to what additional aspects, technologies or methods will need further development before the proposed project can have full impact.

Make it clear which steps this R&D project relates to as opposed to ones which are necessary for the intervention but are being addressed in other institutions/projects.

Do the other required 'bits' for your idea to work exist now?

TRL level not required but useful information to include

Intervention Description:

To deploy enhanced corals per spawning cycle for restoration or assisted adaptation purposes using a land based sexual aquaculture process. To achieve high volumes at low cost per surviving corals, the process does not use divers and corals are only held in the facility for 3 to 8 weeks post settlement. Deployments occur from the surface and high survival rates are achieved using specially designed seeding devices and by allowing natural selection to occur on the seeding devices post deployment. The corals to be deployed are "enhanced" compared to the average for that reef by careful selection of individual colonies with enhanced bleaching survival to use as broodstock, and microbiome treatments.

Step	Brief Description (what and how it would occur)	Does it exist or need still need to be invented/developed?			Part of this proposal?	
		Current TRL	Y/N	Commentary/Justification	Y/N	Comments
1	Broodstock corals will be sourced from target reefs, bought back the aquaculture facility, spawned and then returned each year.	TRL9	Y	This is now common practice and no R&D is required	N	Operational now
2	Using historical temperature data, fine scale physical environment models and local knowledge, the locations on the target reef with the highest probability of corals with	TRL5	N	Further R&D is required to refine the selection process, and to confirm the DHW above average for the reef that can be achieved by selecting the best adapted individual colonies, this also	N	This R&D is occurring by the Australian Institute of Marine Science and Partners, funded by the Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program. Deployments can still occur even if the process/treatments are not fully operational.



CAP – Proposal Budget

- The Lead applicant/Lead organization will receive the CORDAP funds for the entire consortium and has the responsibility to distribute the payments received from the granting authority to the other co-applicants.

Indirect Costs: The maximum total cost for indirect costs can not be more than:

- 20% of the direct research costs if the applicant based in a low- or middle-income country
- 10% of the direct research costs if the applicant based anywhere else.

The following budget items are eligible costs but not eligible for *indirect costs* calculation: Equipment and capital expenditures over \$5K, rental costs, student tuition fees, scholarships and fellowships, and external services.

It is important to note that CORDAP is a charitable entity, funded by voluntary contributions, and does not have the financial capacity to matching the indirect-cost rates that national science funders may pay to its awardees.

Cost Share: Leveraging CORDAP funding with Cash and/or In-Kind contributions to the project are very much encouraged but not mandatory. Dedicated section for outlining cost share will be included in application, in-kind contributions will not be financially quantified. Contributions to the project will be taken into account during proposal review.



Proposal Budget: Budget Template

CORDAP- Coral Accelerator Program (CAP) 2022 - Budget Template				
Fill in required cells in green				
Project Title :				
Lead Applicant:				
Lead Applicant Organization:				
Anticipated Start Date:				
Project Total (Note: This table will autofill from the individual budget tables below)				
Fill in only those tables you require for number of applicants. If you require more tables contact us.				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Project Direct Costs				
Personnel	0	0	0	0
Material and Consumables	0	0	0	0
Equipment	0	0	0	0
Travel	0	0	0	0
Other Costs	0	0	0	0
Capital Equipment (over \$5,000)	0	0	0	0
Rental Costs	0	0	0	0
Student tuition fee, Scholarships	0	0	0	0
External Services	0	0	0	0
Total Indirect Costs	0	0	0	0
Project Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fill in one table for each applicant/co-applicant requesting funding

Complete cells in green shading, the rest will autofill

Lead Applicant:	Country:			
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Project Direct Costs (USD)				
Personnel*	0	0	0	0
Material and Consumables*	0	0	0	0
Equipment (less than \$5,000 unit cost)*	0	0	0	0
Travel*	0	0	0	0
Other Costs*	0	0	0	0
Capital Equipment (over \$5,000 unit cost)**	0	0	0	0
Rental Costs**	0	0	0	0
Student tuition fee, Scholarships etc.**	0	0	0	0
External Services**	0	0	0	0
Indirect Cost Rate (Overhead) %	0			
Total Indirect Costs	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0
Co-Applicant:	Country:			
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Project Direct Costs				
Personell*	0	0	0	0



CAP – Proposal Budget

Budgets must be prepared using the supplied budget templates. (Excel uploads, with summary form fill information)

Requested costs must be related to research and integrated educational activities directly related to the project. There is a budget guidance sheet in the excel file.

Equipment: It is expected that participating organizations will already be equipped to pursue their current research. Purchase of equipment essential for the project which is proposed is eligible. (renting encouraged where cost effective)

Capital Equipment (assets/equipment over US\$5K):

- The proposed maximum allowable cost for any single unit of equipment is US\$80,000.
- Sharing/Asset Ownership/plans after the award for large equipment requests.

Note: The type of equipment/materials requested, and its use, will be taken into account and viewed differently, for example laboratory equipment used to aid research vs equipment and materials used to build prototypes.

Budget Justification: Explain why items are essential in relation to the aims and methodology of the project as well as meeting the goals of the project. You should not merely restate the proposed expenditure. Detail provided should be commensurate to the amount of the requested line item. At the Concept Note stage you are trying to demonstrate to the Panel that your costs are reasonable, necessary and provide good value for the funding requested without the requirement of a lot of detail.

NOTE: Budgets may be adjusted between Concept Note and Full Proposal stage, in particular if based on feedback from the Review Panel.



CAP – Reporting and Payment Schedule

- It is recognized that many organizations, particularly in developing countries, may not have the resources to undertake much of the project costs in advance. This is reflected in the payment made upon signing the award contract
- Payments are lump sum payments annually upon receipt of an annual report.
- Any unspent funds must be returned to CORDAP at the end of the project.
- Brief Interim updates/ highlights required , traffic light, highlights, successes - this information critical in the platform resourcing loop. (quarterly/6 monthly).

	Reporting deliverable	1 Year Project	Up to 2 years	Up to 3 years
Upon Contract Signing		50% of Project total	40% of Project total	30% of Project total
End of Year 1	Progress/Final Report Financial Report	Financial Reconciliation – Payment of remainder of project funds spent.	40% of Project Total	30% of Project Total
End of Year 2	Progress/Final Report Financial Report	NA	Financial Reconciliation – Payment of remainder of project funds spent.	30% of project Total
End of Year 3	Final Report Financial Report	NA	NA	Financial Reconciliation – Payment of remainder of project funds spent.



Consortium Agreement - NOTE: Not required at this stage – information for your organization



CORDAP makes the Award to the Lead Institution only.

Successful applicant organizations are required to sign a legally binding Consortium Agreement (among themselves) before funds are disbursed.

The consortium agreement sets the framework for a successful project implementation and is a private agreement between the participants to set out the rights and obligations amongst themselves. (It does NOT involve CORDAP itself.)

The Consortium Agreement details:

- Project implementation and division of tasks, internal organization and management of the consortium.
- Project budget and distribution of funding,
- Rules on rights and obligations related to background and results, and liability. In addition,
- IP management, exploitation and dissemination of results, boilerplate provisions: duration, termination, communication, applicable law and settlement of internal disputes etc. must be addressed in the agreement.
- A CORDAP template Consortium Agreement for applicants to modify for their team is available.



Proposal Evaluation Criteria and Process

2 Stage Application Process - Applicants will first submit a Concept Note proposal (Pre-Proposal) – reviewed by a panel of experts

Applicants who are **successful in the Concept Note phase** of the call will be **invited to submit a Full Proposal**. Full proposals will undergo a full international 2 stage peer review (topic experts evaluation feeding into Panel review).

All eligible applications will receive feedback from the Review panel, whether invited to Full Proposal or not.

All proposals will be evaluated against the criteria below:

- Qualifications and track record of the Applicant teams and applicant diversity
- Innovation or novelty of the idea
- Targeted impact and pathway and timing to impact
- Alignment with nominated R&D investment themes or areas
- Management and coordination of the project
- Cost-effectiveness of the proposed project
- Broader impact and breadth of socioeconomic applicability

CORDAP will seek to fund a balanced and complementary portfolio of projects across the project type and priority areas to ensure a broad impact

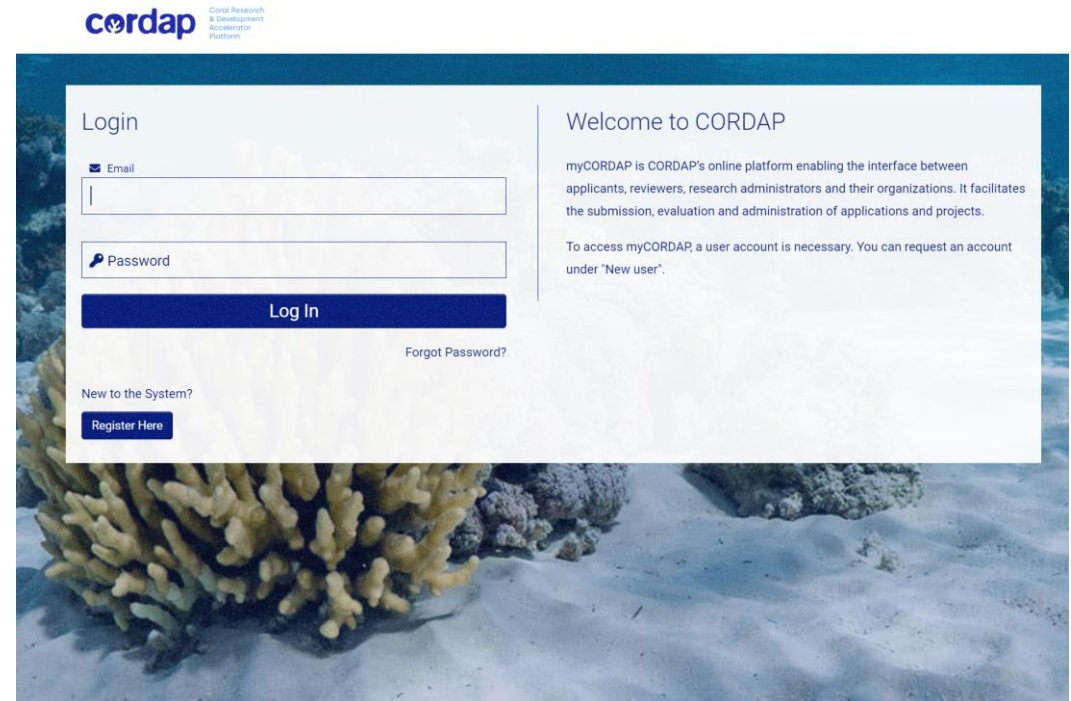


How do I Apply?

- All applications are made through our online submission system – [myCORDAP](#)
 - Only the Lead Applicant needs to register and complete the submission.
 - There is a submission help document on the website (**Concept Note Submission Assistance**) which will guide you through each stage of registration and submission.
-
- At Concept Note stage, there are only two documents you need to complete and upload
 - Concept Note Submission Form Template
 - Concept Note Budget Template

The rest of the information is filled in on the system.

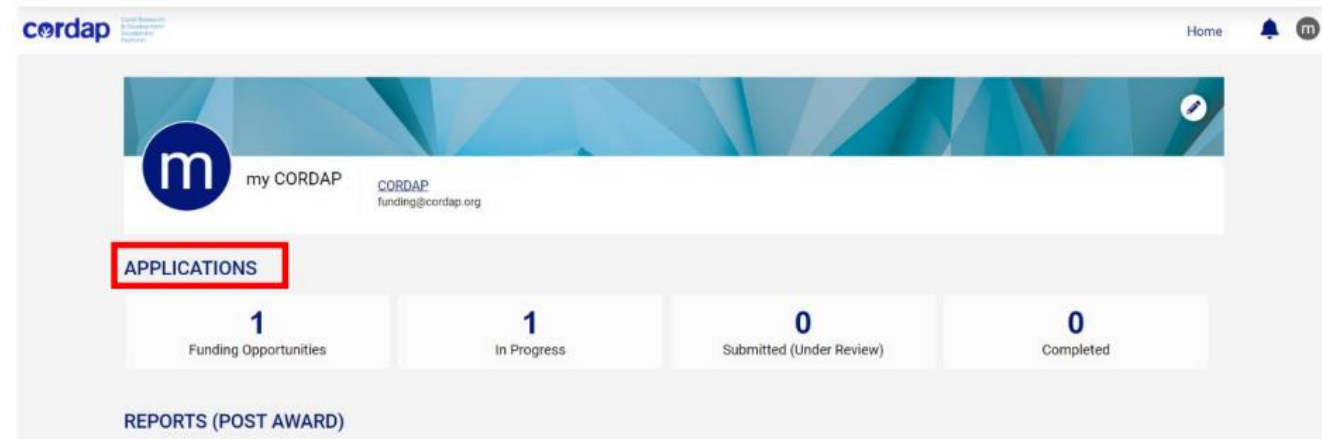
You can save a draft application, leave and return to complete at any time, ‘validate’ will check you have completed the required sections, and you can delete an application and start a new one.



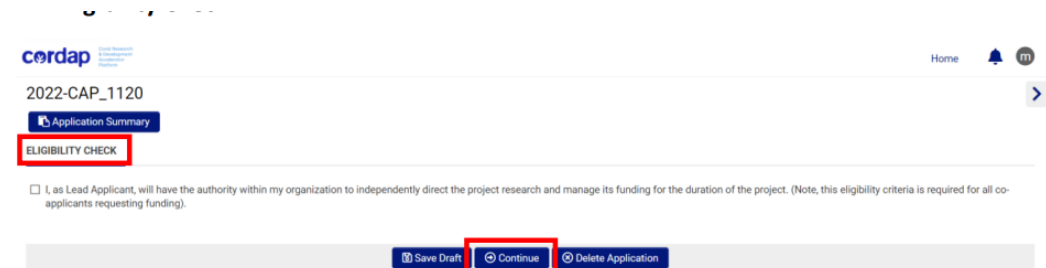
Online Submission of a proposal

Once you have registered, you will be directed to your applicant dashboard:

You will see 'Funding opportunities' here



Before starting the application, you will be asked an eligibility question – ensuring you have the authority within your organization to independently manage the proposed project.



Online Submission of a proposal

2022-CAP_1120

Application Instructions

CAP - Draft Concept Note

- Please complete the questions in each of the tabs below.
 - * represents a required field
 - Use the **NEXT** button in the bottom right corner of the screen to advance to the next tab.
 - Use **Save Draft** button to save your answers.
 - Use the **Submit** button only once you have completed all tabs.
- Some of information is copied directly from your organization and user profiles and will appear in a read-only state within this form. If the information displayed is not current, please update your organization and user profiles prior to completing and submitting this form.
- You can preview your application by clicking on the **Application Summary** button.

 Application Summary

CONTACT INFORMATION

PROJECT INFORMATION

TEAM SUMMARY

BUDGET & JUSTIFICATION

UPLOAD PROPOSAL PDF


Organization Information

NEXT 

 Save Draft

 Validate

 Submit

 Delete Application



Online Submission of a proposal – 5 Sections to complete

- **Contact Information**
 - This information will be pulled in from your registration
- **Project Information**
 - Project Title,
 - Abstract (The abstract should summarize the significance (need) of the work, the hypothesis and major objectives of the project, the procedures to be followed to accomplish the objectives, what solutions will the project provide and what will be specific outcomes and the potential impact of the work.)
- **Team Summary** - Add co-applicant details here (co-applicant level only, or team lead/investigator level), more than one applicant can be entered from each participating organization if deemed at this level.

2022-CAP_1120

If the information displayed is not correct, please update your organization and user profiles prior to completing and submitting this form.

You can preview your application by clicking on the **Application Summary** button.

Application Summary

CONTACT INFORMATION PROJECT INFORMATION **TEAM SUMMARY** BUDGET & JUSTIFICATION UPLOAD PROPOSAL PDF

Team Summary

Please click + button to add co-applicants and collaborators

+

#	First Name	Last Name	Title	Position	Role	Organization	Status
No Results Found							

0 of 0

BACK

Save Draft Validate Submit Delete Application

NEXT



Online Submission of a proposal – 5 Sections to complete

- **Budget & Justification**

- Add high level budget detail online, plus the budget justification
- Upload Completed Excel File here
- Justification: Explain why items are essential in relation to the aims and methodology of the project as well as meeting the goals of the project. You should not merely restate the proposed expenditure. Detail provided should be commensurate to the amount of the requested line item. At the Concept Note stage you are trying to demonstrate to the Panel that your costs are reasonable, necessary and provide good value for the funding requested without the requirement of a lot of detail.

- **Upload Proposal PDF** (Upload completed submission template here as a single file)

- Includes Lead and Co-Applicant CV Template

7. Biographical Information Key Personnel (Lead and Co-Applicants, key Collaborators)

Page limit: 2 pages maximum per person. Duplicate the page for additional template tables as needed.

Name	Title	Organization
Website URL		Country

And finally - you can **Submit** when application is complete

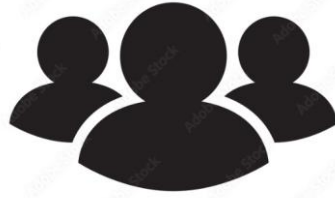


What makes a good proposal?

- Innovative with high potential for impact or transformative advances
- The solution is broadly applicable – not specific to your location or circumstances
- Demonstrated knowledge of the field - why is your idea better?
- All the required expertise is covered – all team members are required
- Clearly states the problem, solution, approach, objectives and work plan (if multiple parts, bring ideas together to form a single coherent proposal)
- For translational/development projects – know what else is needed!
- Ambitious yet realistic – time frame/resources
- Good management of the project – address the risks!!



If I want to apply, what should I do first?



- Put the team together –
- Develop your ideas – think about how the outputs of a successful project would be used, are users involved in developing the project?
- Are the ideas are scalable, transferrable? Explore the risks.
- Develop a first draft asap – don't leave it until the last minute!
- All documentation/updates will be available at cordap.org
- Further queries can be sent to funding@cordap.org



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CORDAP is growing, IT solutions joining soon and we have an open Funding Program Manager position – exciting opportunity to join the team!!



THANK YOU

Questions Welcome



Back Up Slides/ Additional Information



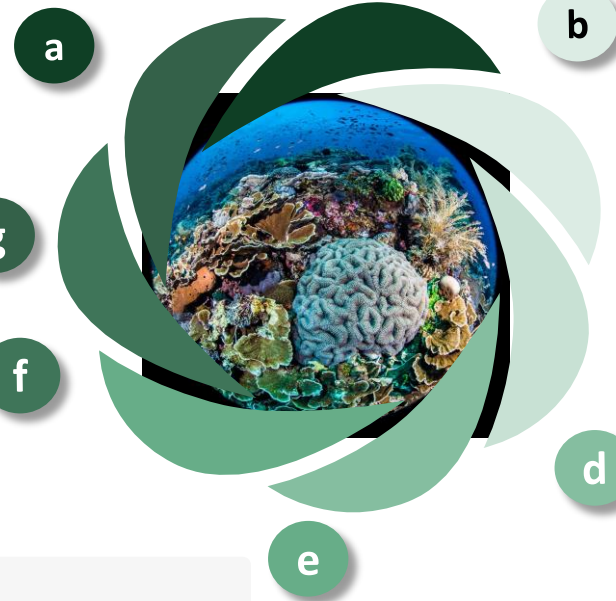
CORDAP – Goals and Objectives.

Fund and deliver the best novel scientific and technological solutions to conserve and restore corals and reefs

Develop and share novel scientific tools

Facilitate access to information & research facilities

Provide advanced R&D training to scientists from developing and least developed countries



Connect existing national, regional, and international R&D programs

Support a gender-balanced, transdisciplinary global community of scientists, technologists and innovators to achieve the goals

Engage the R&D capacity of the private sector with the goals

Ambitious, Inclusive and unique in its mission – A global effort including all tropical, shallow and deep water corals: *No Corals Left Behind*



Members and Partners



Argentina
Australia
Canada
European Union
France
Germany
India

Indonesia
Japan
Mexico
Saudi Arabia (Chair)
South Africa
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States of America (Vice Chair)



CORDAP – Scoping Studies (not part of the CAP funding call)

In several of the priority investment areas, it was felt that scoping or planning studies are required to better guide future activities and investments. They could build on existing guidance or could be new studies.

These are short (< 6 months) activities with the outputs being:

- Summary of current knowledge
- Recommended priorities and options for R&D investment
- Roadmaps to guide future funding and benefit third parties

Scoping Study Topics identified are:

- Deep-water corals
- Assisted adaption technologies and methods
- Decision making tools and methods
- Managing Ecological Risk
- New strategies for automatic and smart phenotyping, coral aquaculture, monitoring and out planting

NOTE: Proposals in these study areas will need to particularly compelling





Resourcing the R&D Programs

- Saudi Arabia has generously committed US\$100M (\$10M/Year for 10 years) as a founding contribution to the platform.
- KAUST funds the administration of the Platform – all donated funds go to projects!
- With a target of US \$300M, CORDAP aims to raise and deploy an additional US\$200M for research, development and pilot implementation of scalable, affordable solutions to coral restoration and survival.
- To do this, CORDAP will seek resourcing partnerships with
 - G20 and other states around the world to build on our founding commitment
 - Philanthropies, Foundations, Corporate and private funding sources

Coral research community can help significantly, using networks and contacts in ministries, organizations- more funding translates to more funding programs, more projects, bigger and quicker impact!

