



Reef 2050 Plan

Reef 2050 Integrated and Monitoring Reporting Program

Meeting outcomes

A key component of the Reef 2050 Plan is the establishment of the Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program.

The Program will provide a comprehensive and up-to-date understanding of the Great Barrier Reef – the values and processes that support it, and the threats that affect it. This knowledge is fundamental to informing actions required to protect and improve the Reef's condition and drive its adaptive management.

The Program's principal purpose is to evaluate whether the Reef 2050 Plan is on track to meet its targets and outcomes, and enable timely and suitable responses by Reef managers and partners to emerging issues and risks.

A steering group has been established to guide its development and operation. The steering group is supported by three working groups.

Steering group

The Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program steering group was established by the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Forum in 2015 to provide advice on requirements for an effective integrated monitoring, modelling and reporting program for the Reef 2050 Plan.

The steering group guides the program's development and operation and provides advice to the Ministerial Forum on monitoring and reporting requirements for the Great Barrier Reef.

The steering group is co-chaired by the Chairman of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and the Director-General of the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. Members include senior officials from government agencies and monitoring organisations.

Working groups

Working groups have been established to facilitate a collaborative approach for the establishment of the Program.

Working groups provide guidance on specific aspects of the Program's establishment.

Working group chairs and members are nominated by the steering group and include individuals and representatives drawn from organisations with appropriate experience and expertise in relevant areas.

Three working groups have been established to address specific aspects of the Program:

- Program design
- Synthesis and reporting
- Data systems and management

Working group chairs hold regular meetings to ensure alignment across Program areas. An update of working group activities is provided at each steering group meeting.

Summary of meetings and outcomes (follow link to go to meeting outcomes)

Steering Group

[17 July 2015](#)

[30 October 2015](#)

[15 April 2016](#)

Working groups co-chairs session

[26 August 2015](#)

Working groups

Synthesis and reporting

[7 September 2015](#)

[12 February 2016](#)

Program design

[7 September 2015](#)

[16 March 2016](#)

Data management and systems

[2 October 2015](#)

27 May 2016

17 July 2015

Steering group

Meeting outcomes:

- Discussed requirements for the design and operation of an effective monitoring and reporting program for the Reef 2050 Plan.
- Recognised the need for better understanding of existing monitoring programs, linkages between programs, and reporting products to avoid duplication and improve efficiency.
- Provided advice on an overarching Program strategy, which was subsequently endorsed in August 2015.
- Endorsed the establishment of three working groups to provide advice on key aspects of the Program's establishment.

26 August 2015

Working group co-chairs session

Meeting outcomes:

- Established a common understanding of the Program's objectives and deliverables in the context of the Reef 2050 Plan, including monitoring critical to its delivery.
- Workshopped a program logic for the delivery of the Program against Reef 2050 Plan vision, outcomes, targets and actions.
- Scoped a suite of work packages and allocated working group responsibilities for the packages.
- Discussed linkages between work packages and the steps required to ensure a coordinated approach.

7 September 2015

Joint program design and synthesis and reporting working groups

Meeting outcomes:

- Refined the work packages for the two working groups, including outputs, sequencing, estimated costs and timing.
- Discussed the delivery of tasks including coordination and integration of existing monitoring, modelling and reporting (Outlook, Reef Water Quality Protection Plan and regional reporting) and developing a core set of indicators across the themes of the Reef 2050 Plan.

- Highlighted the critical importance of stakeholder engagement and ‘transition’ strategies in the establishment and delivery of the Program and building trust in reporting products.
- Identified key aspects to be addressed by working groups:
 - synthesis and reporting — timeliness of data availability and reporting, value of product mock-ups and automated web-based reporting products.
 - program design — adoption of the Driver, Pressure, State, Impact, Response (DPSIR) framework, definition of ‘good’ (a key Reef 2050 Plan outcome for values) across regions, and the need for clear line of sight between monitoring data and decision making.

2 October 2015

Data management and systems working group

Meeting outcomes (joint outcomes from this meeting plus an additional teleconference on 27 November 2015):

- Clarified timeframes for program delivery, discussed linkages with other working group activities and refined work packages.
- Discussed a preliminary analysis of the monitoring programs including who owns them and where the data is stored.
- Considered processing requirements, based on end-user needs, from raw data to synthesised and/or automated products.
- Discussed issues associated with data management, including governance models, principles, protocols for sensitive information, data standards, and compatibility of these between organisations and/or programs.
- Compiled an audit of existing relevant data management systems and discussed this landscape and considered gaps.
- Considered issues relating to data access, licensing and intellectual property, including creative commons and data sharing agreements with stakeholders and Traditional Owners.
- Discussed existing infrastructure for housing and managing data.

30 October 2015

Steering group – meeting two

Meeting outcomes:

- Noted progress on an audit of existing monitoring programs.

- Received reports from the three working groups, including an outline of work packages to deliver the Program, and acknowledged the efforts of working group members.
- Provided advice on the development of the work packages designed to ensure investment is directed at achieving the targets, objectives and outcomes of the Reef 2050 Plan.
- Discussed the relationship between regional report cards and Reef-wide reporting and the need for a nested approach.

12 February 2016

Synthesis and reporting working group

Meeting outcomes:

- Noted work to date on the mapping of existing monitoring and reporting programs against Reef 2050 Plan themes.
- Discussed the development of web-based products to improve public access to existing monitoring and reporting programs.
- Provided guidance on development of an animation as part of a suite of web-based products to promote awareness of, and stakeholder engagement in the development of the program.
- Scoped a proposal for market research into reporting products to be delivered under the program.
- Examined work to date on the analysis of Reef 2050 Plan targets as the basis for defining reporting requirements across Plan's seven themes.

16 March 2016

Program and design working group

Meeting outcomes:

- Discussed the process for the delivery of work packages. The proposed approach will ensure the Program will deliver on reporting for core indicators across the seven Reef 2050 Plan themes.
- Considered independent and expert reviews monitoring programs to ensure the Program builds lessons and recommendations.

15 April 2016

Steering group – meeting three

Meeting outcomes:

- Endorsed a proposal to undertake market research of end-user products to gain a better understanding of how stakeholders and partners use information on Great Barrier Reef health and management. This research will underpin the work of all working groups in designing and developing effective products for the integrated monitoring and reporting program for the Reef.
- Endorsed the proposal for the design of the program to ensure it will deliver on reporting for core indicators across the seven Reef 2050 Plan themes—ecosystem health; biodiversity; heritage; water quality; community benefits; economic benefits; governance.
- Discussed the monitoring to be funded by the Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program to fill monitoring gaps critical to the delivery of the Reef 2050 Plan.
- Provided guidance on the need to collect information once and use in many times across different scales.
- Received an update from working group co-chairs on the establishment of the Program.

Future meetings

Steering group

The next meeting of the steering group is scheduled for 29 July 2016.