



CORAL  
REEF ALLIANCE

# Saving the World's Coral Reefs

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Coral reefs are **amazing**



25%



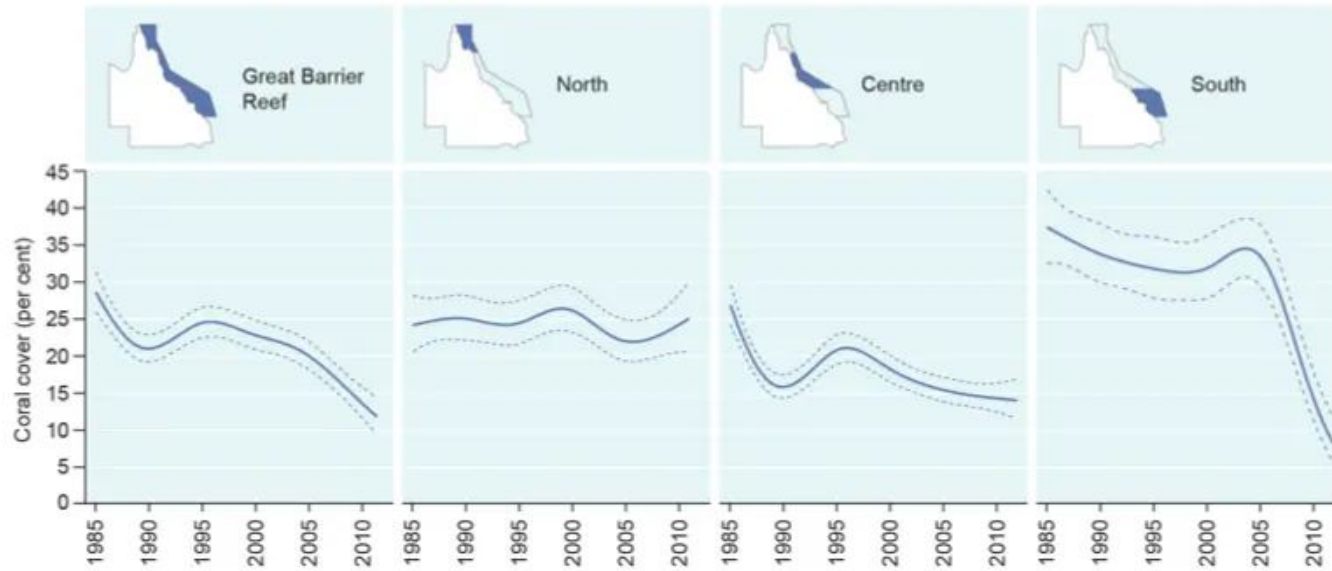
500M



\$375B

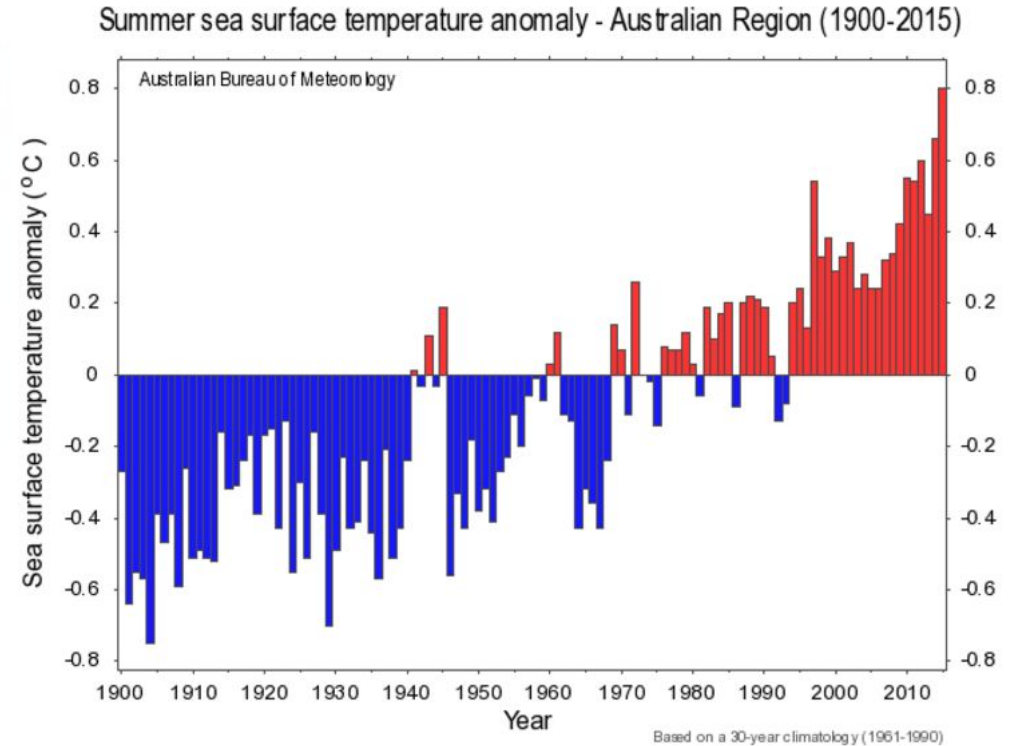


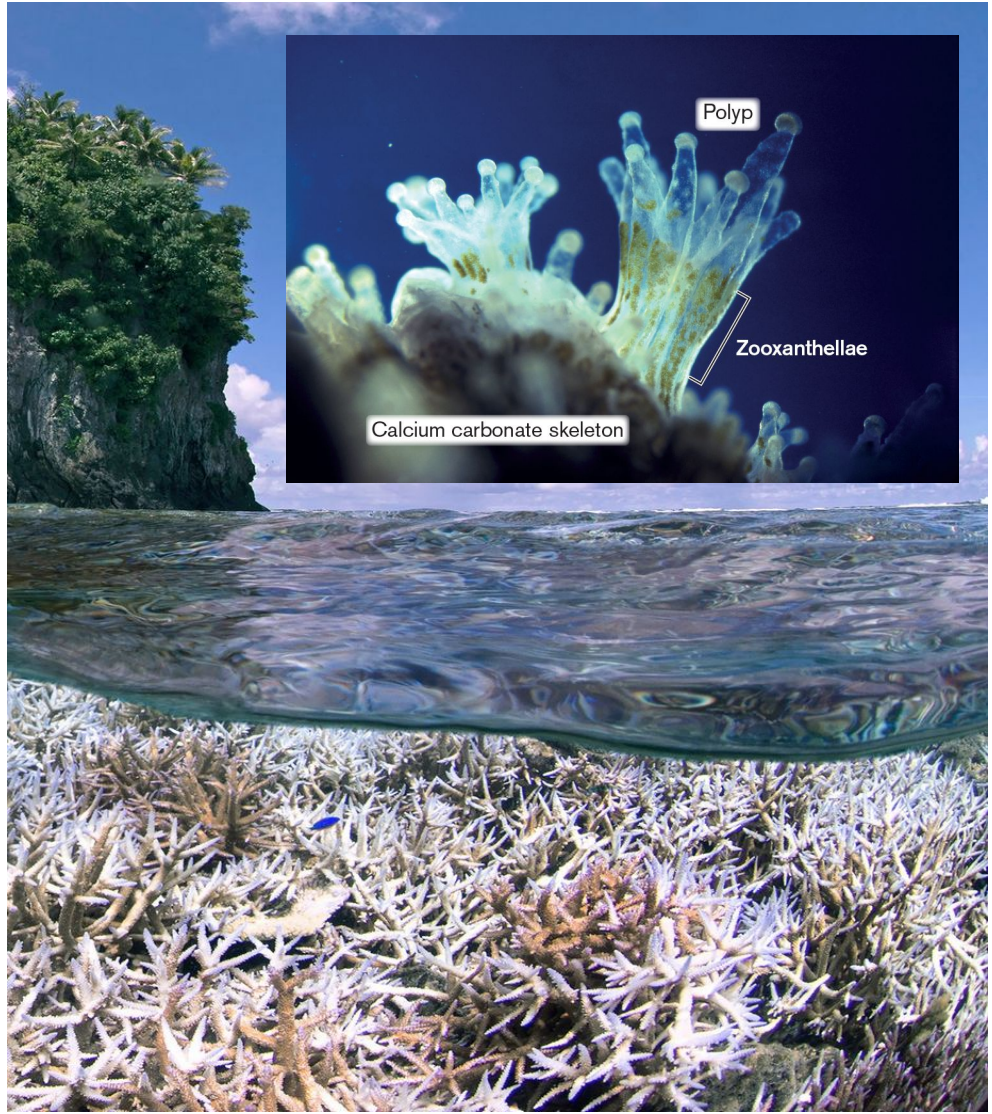
# But they are in trouble



**Figure 2.5 Hard coral cover, 1986–2012**

The solid line represents modelled coral cover based on the analysis of data collected from 214 reefs across the Region; while the dashed lines either side represent the associated standard errors. Average hard coral cover in the Region has declined significantly since monitoring began in 1986.<sup>16</sup> Declines have been most severe in the south. Source: De'ath et al. 2012<sup>18</sup>









Dec 2014



Feb 2015



Aug 2015





Reuters





***Our mission:*** Save  
the world's coral  
reefs



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# There is hope

Our research shows:

- Evolution can help rescue reefs from rising temperatures
- Reducing local stressors makes evolution more likely
- Diversity is key
- Important caveat: we need to reduce our emissions

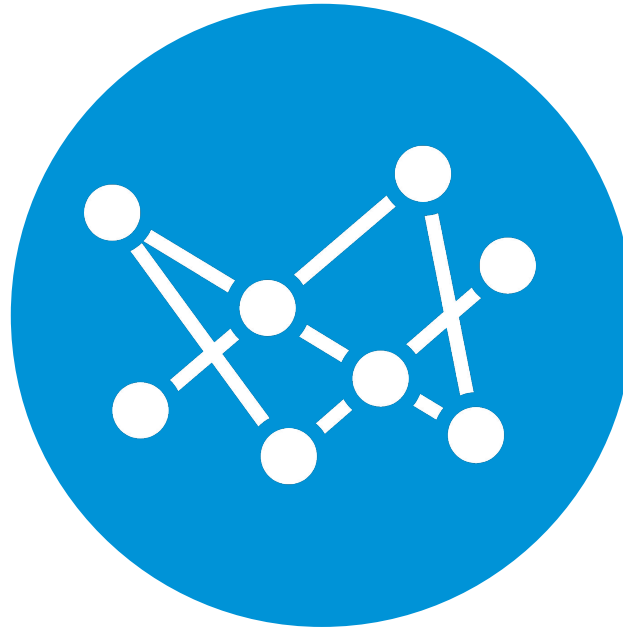




# Our solution



Local



Regional



Global





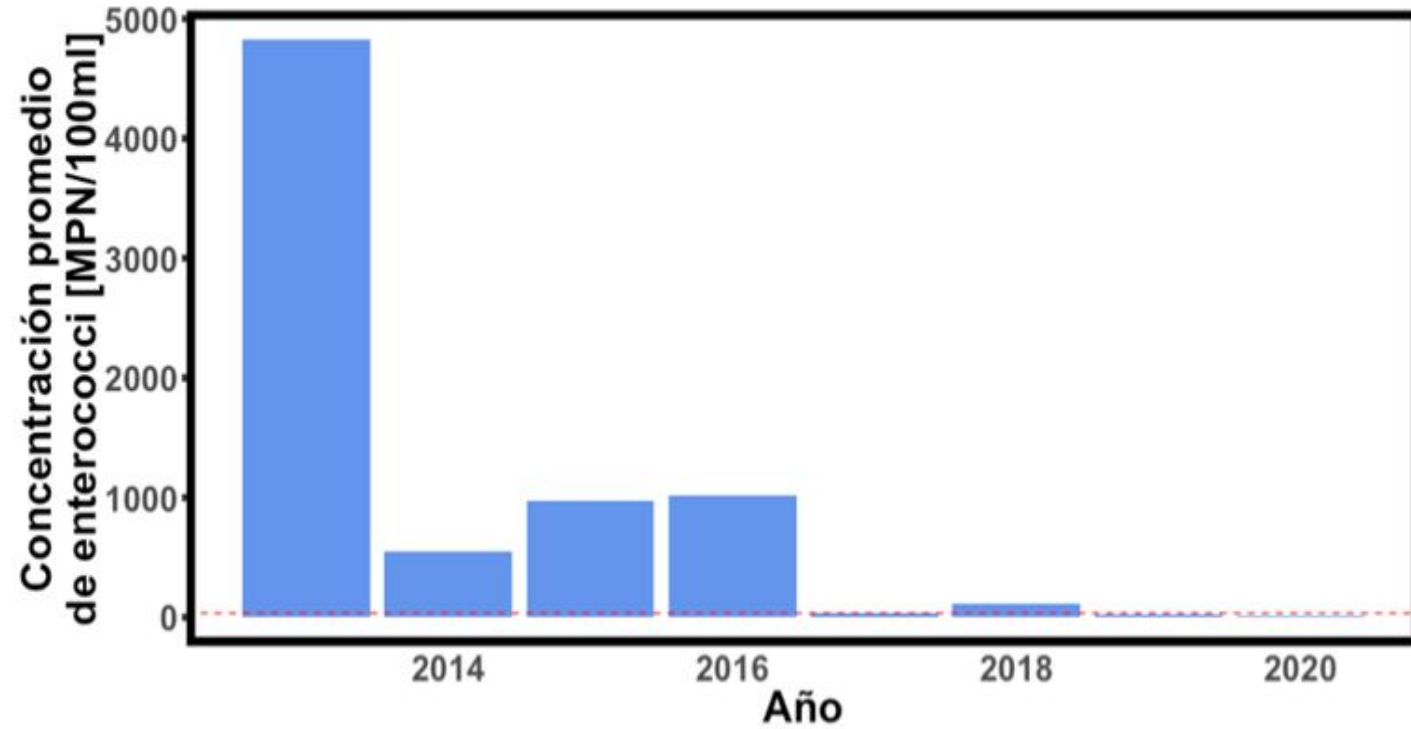
***Local Threat:***  
Wastewater







# Results: It's working

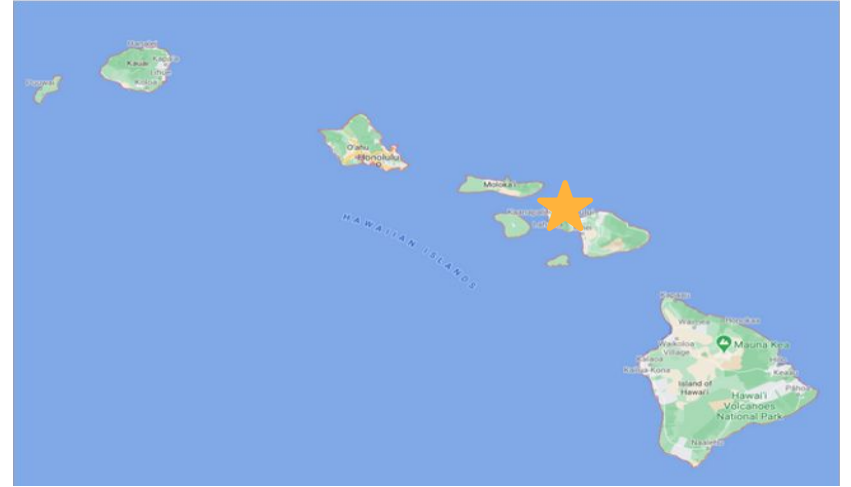






***Local Threat:***  
Sedimentation









Photos: Amity Mason







**Local Threat:**  
Overfishing







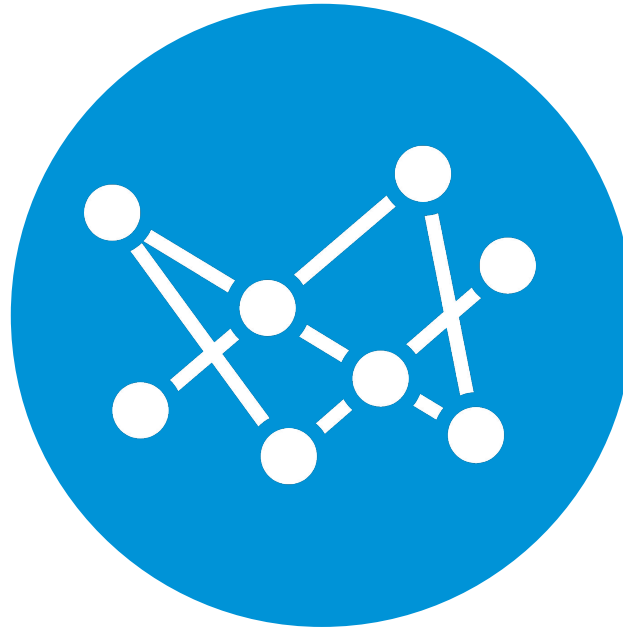




# Our solution



Local



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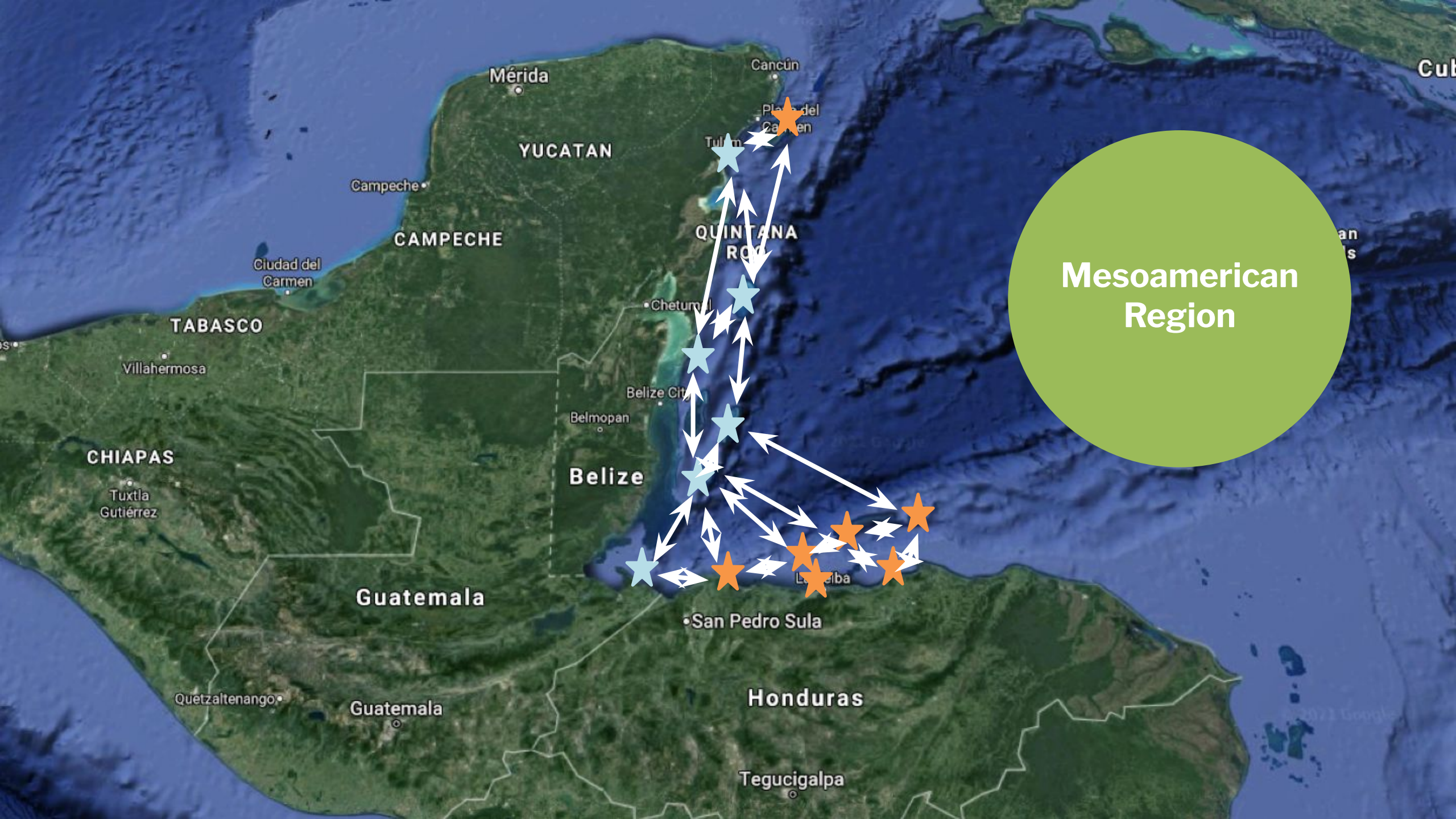
Global





Research shows that large networks of diverse, healthy reefs can adapt to the effects of climate change





**Mesoamerican  
Region**

Mérida

Cancún

Playa del  
Carmen

Tulum

YUCATAN

Campeche

CAMPECHE

QUINTANA  
ROO

Ciudad del  
Carmen

TABASCO

Chetumal

Villahermosa

CHIAPAS

Tuxtla  
Gutiérrez

Belize City

Belmopan

Belize

Guatemala

San Pedro Sula

Honduras

Quetzaltenango

Guatemala

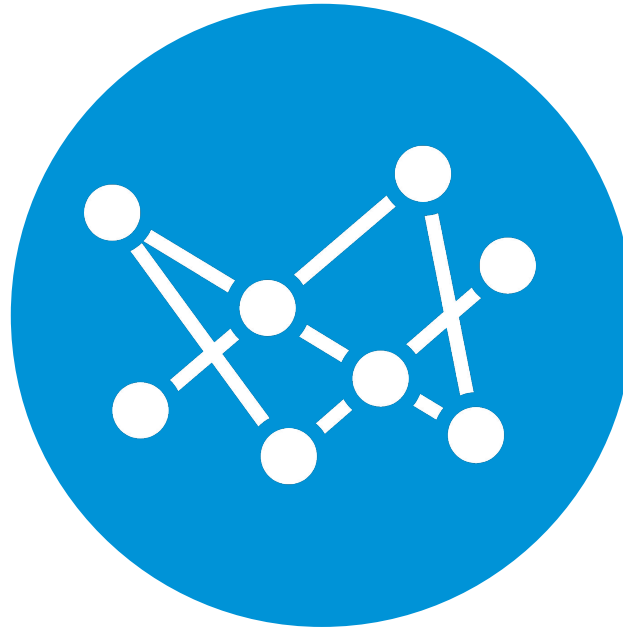
Tegucigalpa



# Our solution



Local



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Global



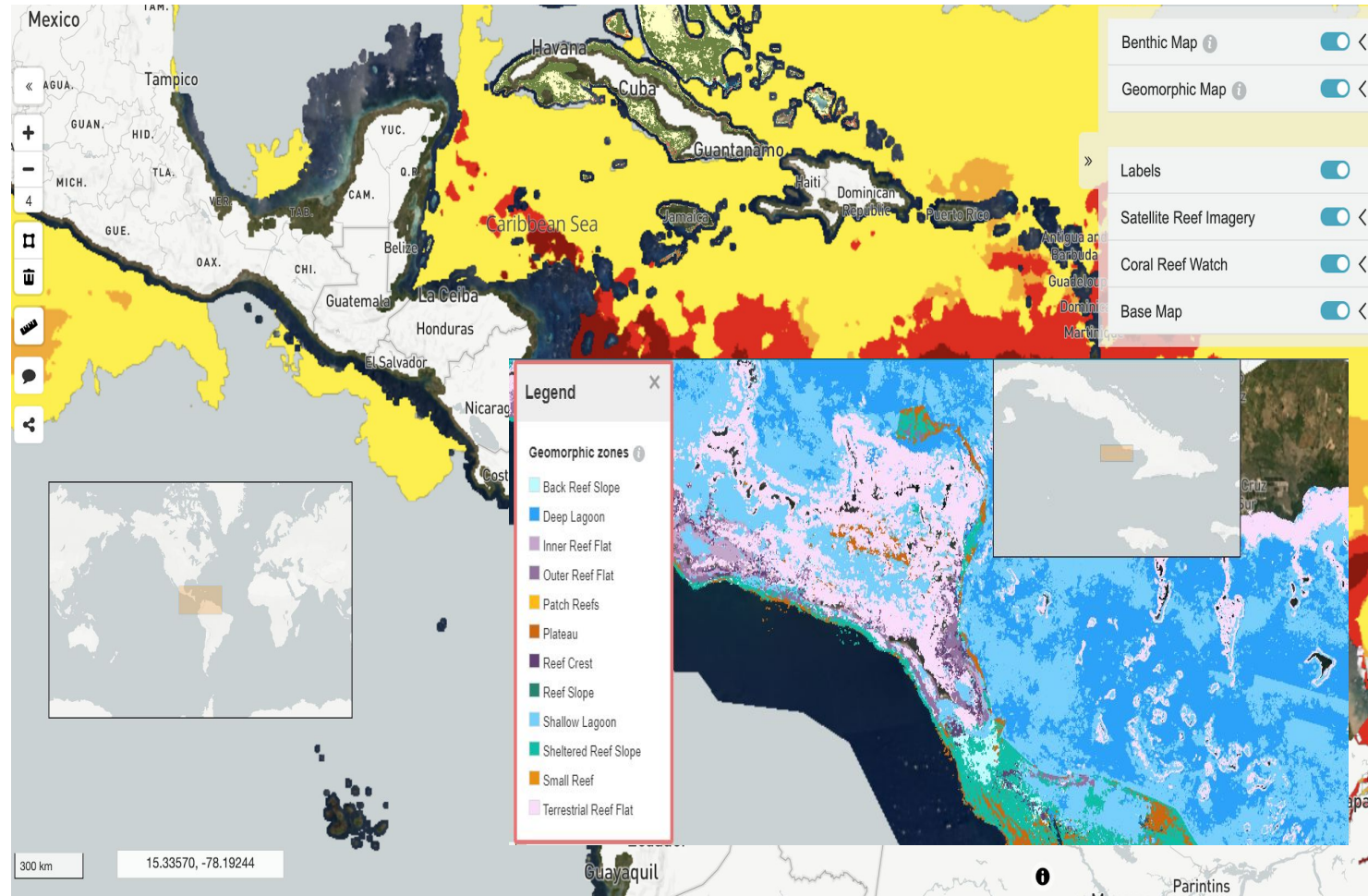
# 45 adaptive reef networks by 2045

- Creating the first deliberate adaptive reef networks in the Mesoamerican Region and the Main Hawaiian Islands
- Building alliances across the conservation community
- Identifying emergent opportunities for application -- e.g., Caribbean Challenge
- Developing proxies that take advantage of new global data sets





# New opportunity: Allen Coral Atlas

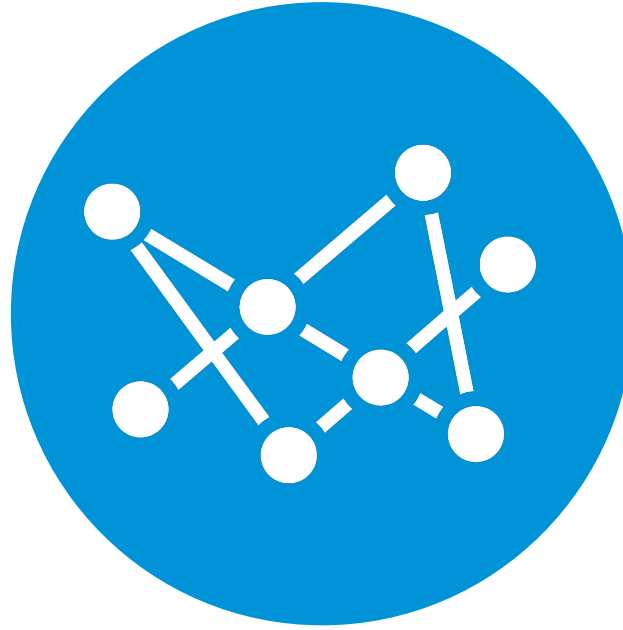






Local

+



Regional

+



Global

= saving the world's coral reefs





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# Questions?

More info at: [www.coral.org](http://www.coral.org)  
Contact: [mcolton@coral.org](mailto:mcolton@coral.org)