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Training Contents and session details

Theoretical Component

The theoretical component of the training will take place over 2-3 days. Outlined below are topics to be covered each day in an online format. Experts from Maldives Marine Research Institute (MMRI) will lead in conducting theory sessions online.

Day 1 (5 hours)

- Overview of the NCRM program, NCRMF, the state of the Maldivian reefs and information gaps
- Survey techniques, determining objectives for monitoring, limitations
- Differences between recreational and scientific diving, safety precautions
- Monitoring of benthic communities

Survey techniques overview

Types of benthic communities and ID

PIT

PQ

Recruitment

Day 2 (4.5 hours)

• Monitoring of benthic communities

Bleaching

Aerial surveys

Spawning

Brief on coral disease

Monitoring of reef complexity

CIT method

Monitoring of macroinvertebrates

Types of macroinvertebrates and ID

Belt transects

Monitoring fish assemblages

Types of fish assemblages and ID

Belt transects

Day 3 (4.5 hours)

- Data entry
- Data management





- Submission to the Coral Database
- Overview of Coral Database
- Reporting and interpretation

Practical Component

The practical component of the training will supplement the theoretical component and offer participants the opportunity to carry out an actual survey. Blue Marine Foundation to lead with the practical sessions. A refresher for the theory sessions shall be conducted before the practical sessions with all participants and parties.

The practical component will include the following activities and be completed over 1-2 days.

- Planning a monitoring outing
 Objectives, site selection, organization
- Carrying out a survey
 Going to a site, survey order, immediate post survey activities
 Data entry, management and submission of collected data

Open Water Dive training will take place over 3-4 days.