

THREAT RANKING ACTIVITY

This activity allows participants to: 1) use a brainstorm to identify perceived local threats to coral reefs; 2) select those which they feel they could realistically help reduce, and; 3) rank those selected threats from most severe to least severe. The threat ranking promotes small group discussion and helps to identify local priorities for community-based conservation solutions.

BRAINSTORMING THREATS (15-20 minutes)

Purpose

- Gather different perceptions about local threats.
- Generate new information, perspectives and ideas.

Materials:

- Flip-chart paper & markers

Steps

A (IF THERE IS TIME) –

1. Ask a participant to draw a basic map of the coral reef area being discussed.
2. Have the volunteer mark or label the sites where the group identifies as recreation sites. (This step gives participants a visual aid and gets them thinking about dive sites where they work, thus making threats more personal and addressing threats that specifically impact their businesses.)

B (if time is too limited to do part A, then ask participants to brainstorm without the map)

Ask: "What issues concern you when you think about these sites?" Capture participant responses on flip charts. If issues are raised more than once, place a "+" symbol next to it. See description of Brainstorming activity for further tips on facilitating a productive brainstorm session.

Select Threats That Community Can Impact

1. Ask group to consider the list and select 5-10 threats that they feel impact their business the most. Stress, however, that they should select threats which can be mitigated by local action. So, for example, bleaching caused by global warming is a difficult issue to take on and show progress towards relieving on a local level. So ideally bleaching due to climate change will not be included in the top five.

RANKING THREATS (30 minutes)

Purpose

- To determine which threats are a top priority to the group.

Materials

Photocopied threat ranking worksheets
Pens for participants
Calculator (if needed)
flip-chart and colored markers

Steps

Divide participants into groups of 3-5 people

Explain to the group that they will rank the threats on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = least severity, 5 = most severity) by:

AREA – the portion of coral reef that the threat will affect. Will it affect all of the reefs or just a small part?

INTENSITY – the impact or severity of destruction caused by the threat. Within the area, will the threat completely destroy the coral reef or will it cause only minor changes?

URGENCY – the immediacy of the threat. Is it a current threat? Will it occur only 25 years from now?

Each group will receive a worksheet and will be asked to fill it out and do the calculations together. After they are finished, facilitator will add the total numbers to see what the group as a whole considers to be the top threat.

Worksheet

Site Name:

Site Description:

Today's date:

Completed by:

	THREATS	Area	Intensity	Urgency	Total
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					