

Additional Questions & Answers from the How Insurance Can Support Reef Resilience Webinar

Updated January 12, 2022

Answers provided by Dr. Simon Young.

- 1. What are the sites in Belize being covered by the MAR Emergency Fund? The protected areas of Hol Chan and Turneffe Atoll are currently included in the MAR Fund's programme of emergency response.
- 2. Could you give further details on the UK funded programme in the insular Caribbean? I'm writing from Bermuda, 1000 nautical miles north of the Caribbean- yet faced with same challenges in restoring damaged reefs. As a UK OT, any chance of expanding this programme? Unfortunately, the UK Blue Planet Fund has restrictions on where financing can be deployed, which does not include UKOTs unless they are also ODA-eligible, which Bermuda is not. But there are other potential funding channels that can be explored, and Dr. Young would be happy to discuss directly with you on this.
- 3. **How will this updated global model be shared?** The model is being developed under projects with different funding sources, so we are still discussing how best to share at the global level but it will likely be through ORRAA and/or the Global Fund for Coral Reefs.
- 4. In the case of hurricane damage, the payout can be used for restoration. Restoration is problematic in the case of bleaching events, as the stressor event is likely to remain. How is this addressed? To WTW's knowledge, insurance for bleaching is not yet in place, but use of pay-outs is certainly one of several issues that are being actively discussed. Given that bleaching events are slow onset, we can design a product that pays out as a bleaching event is developing, and there are various approaches that can be taken to mitigate the impacts of a bleaching event (e.g., reduce other stressors on the reef, harvest coral for post-bleaching rejuvenation, protect coral nurseries from the ocean heatwave causing the bleaching). Further, for bleaching, some of the other use-cases of insurance are relevant particularly those focused on filling income gaps for communities and businesses that cannot function due to bleaching.