

Unraveling trajectories of coral reef structure and function in the Anthropocene

Date	15 th Jan (Fri.)
Time	16:00 (UTC+8)
Venue	Zoom



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In a rapidly changing world dominated by anthropogenic disturbances and global change, there is a great need to understand the ways through which ecosystem structure and function are being perturbed and their potential trajectories. Projecting how reef systems will change in the Anthropocene is however quite complex due to several factors including high natural variability of systems, and disturbance regime. Also current efforts may not be enough to identify the fundamental mechanisms causing changes in ecosystem structure and function. Using field observations, in-situ measurements and mathematical modeling, I will show that to help understand how reef systems may change in response to environment and anthropogenic stressors, we need to better understand long-term coral demographic processes and in-situ dynamics of ecosystem function.

All are welcome!



About speaker: Dr Chiara Pisapia is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Ocean Science at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Chiara received her PhD from the ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies and AIMS@JCU and has worked with NASA to connect remote sensing imaging with the community structure and function of coral reefs in the Pacific. Chiara uses a transdisciplinary approach integrating ecology, biology, biogeochemistry and oceanography to understand future trajectories of ecosystem structure and function under scenarios of increased disturbance frequency and severity.

