TOP 5 Human Pressures on Coral Reefs

We know climate change is having a huge impact on coral reefs - but what are the human pressures on coral reefs?

32.3% WATER POLLUTION

What can we do?
- Find opportunities to establish protected areas on land to minimize runoff
- Implement best practices for reducing harmful runoff in farming, grazing, mining, and forestry projects
- Restore degraded terrestrial and coastal ecosystems to reduce runoff

19.7% COASTAL POPULATION

What can we do?
- Protect and restore coastal ecosystems to reduce runoff and erosion
- Improve wastewater management through infrastructure upgrades and better wastewater discharge standards

2.6% INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

What can we do?
- Construct fewer ports
- Use best practice management for maintenance dredging and ballast water management
- Limit footprint of industrial operations

30.8% FISHING

What can we do?
- Strengthen existing fisheries management efforts
- Identify new appropriate fisheries management options such as protected areas or gear restrictions and catch limits

14.6% TOURISM

What can we do?
- Develop sustainable tourism management plans to reduce impacts of the industry, which can include impacts from tourists damaging reefs, construction of tourist facilities, wastewater and solid waste production, development in remote locations, and increased demand for seafood