

DAHL, A. L. 29127 Plomodiern, France. **Coral reef management for a rapid rise in sea-level.**

Human impacts on the global environment may produce a rapid rise in sea level. Such a rise would endanger many coastal areas, including atolls and tropical coastlines constructed or protected by coral reefs. Since coral reefs are built by highly-productive biological communities, they can grow to compensate for a rising sea level, although not necessarily at the rate necessary to adjust for rapid changes. In addition, increasing human impacts on coral reefs are reducing their capacity for growth. The future of some island countries and many coastal areas may depend on an improved ability to protect and manage coral reefs for rapid vertical growth and carbonate production. If a rise in sea level does occur as predicted, monitoring of natural reef responses and interventions to improve reef growth will be a high priority.

DAHL, A. L. 29127 Plomodiern, France. **Special problems in coastal-zone management on tropical islands.**

Small islands are subject to a number of limiting factors that make their coastal zones particularly difficult to manage. The problems are particularly acute in the coral reefs and other complex ecosystems surrounding tropical islands. In addition to the effects of small size and isolation inherent in island systems, the coastal ecosystem tends to become circular rather than linear as island size diminishes. There is also often a predominant wind or current direction affecting imports and exports and modifying the system structure in island coastal waters. These factors can accentuate human impacts and make coastal zone management more difficult.