2022

Annual Report

Coralive

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Message from Matthew Walker

Matthew Walker
Project Consultant

Dear Friends of the Ocean,

It's such a privilege to introduce this year's annual report. My name is Matthew Walker, and I am a marine biologist who joined Coralive in 2021 to aid the initiation of the Soneva project in the Maldives.

Keeping up with the momentum we built in 2021, the main impetus for Coralive this year was to populate the world's largest Mineral Accretion Technology coral nursery at Soneva Fushi, Maldives, which was installed late last year. In March, our hopes of finding suitable coral donors were met, and we completed a large-scale coral relocation effort from a development project and brought approximately 15,000 coral colonies to the nursery area. It was all hands on deck through the following months, as colonies were fragmented and attached to the 432 coral reef structures and the nursery finally populated.

Initiating a project at this scale comes with its difficulties, which were quickly realised after the team suffered major coral mortality following a large storm and a disease outbreak which devastated large sections of the nursery in the middle of the year. Despite the upset, the team's resilience and perseverance prevented further damage. Throughout the year, tens of thousands of coral fragments were successfully attached and are now growing happily and under the care of Soneva's Coral Team, who in partnership with Coralive relocated a further 6,000 coral colonies from the development site and outplanted them onto the house reef.

Our work in the Maldives was supplemented by the outstanding filmmaking abilities of our friends, Dan and Chris, as well as Sabrina Inderbitzi. The movies of each of these filmmakers were a huge success, with the former being utilized by Soneva in their educational presentations to guests, and the latter being aired on Swiss national television recently.

After the unfortunate postponement of our Madagascar project last year, we were thankful for a window of opportunity which we used to finally partner with Reefdoctor.org and establish a small-scale coral nursery, with a capacity of 1,200 corals and aims to outplant the same number annually. Although the focus of our projects is to restore coral reefs, we are proud that this set-up incorporates and empowers the local community, building sustainability ethics into this developing part of the world.

The future is bright for Coralive, and although we've met many roadblocks this year, our passion and drive to see coral reef ecosystems restored and replenished keeps our spirits and hopes strong. As we close the year, we set our goals high as we aim to continue setting up projects worldwide, collaborating with our stakeholders and generous partners, and to establish relationships with passionate people who will drive our mission forward, our mission to power the future of coral reef restoration.

Lastly, we want to thank all those who have kindly supported Coralive this year financially. We are so grateful and reliant on further donations, which go directly to our world's coral reefs, which desperately need our help.

Sending best wishes from all of us at Team Coralive
and very happy 2023!

Mission and Motivation

“Coralive's mission is to initiate a healing process of marine ecosystems, making them a healthier place again.”

A thriving and diverse coral reef is the foundation of a healthy ocean.

Through coral restoration, we actively increase coral cover and reestablish the ecosystem of which twenty-five percent of all marine life depends upon. With healthy fish and benthic life, abundance and diversity is increased and leads to reefs that are more resilient as well.

Further, erosion of coastal regions is diminished, as reefs act as natural wave attenuation systems. Food security for artisanal fishing families is maintained with increased biomass of reef fish and opportunities for tourism activities are created.

Our approach to coral gardening in the ocean is to create rebar structures supported by the mineral accretion technology (MAT). It increases growth rates, survival rates and resilience of transplanted coral fragments with the support of electric stimulation.

Fields of activity

Environmental Restoration

Coralive provides global best practices to catalyze the healing process and increase the ecosystem resiliency of shorelines against future disturbance.

- Coral Reef Restoration through MAT
- Large scale coral relocations
- Mangrove nurseries & reforestation
- Seagrass transplanting
- Living breakwater installations

Marine Protected Areas

Coralive brings local stakeholders together to design, establish, and manage these vital refuges in nature.

- Creation & Implementation of MPA Management Plans
- Installation of Cutting-Edge Technical Support Systems
- Surveillance & Enforcement Training

Environmental Data Collection

Coralive uses the latest available technology to perform underwater mapping, aerial surveying and multi-parameter water quality analysis.

- Bathymetry & Photogrammetry scans
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIAs)
- Monitoring of ecological key elements
- Livestream Underwater Cameras with AI

Livelihood Solutions

Coralive has expertise in planning and implementing such projects to ensure all voices are heard and all needs are met.

- Waste Management incl. Waste2Wealth initiatives
- Seaweed Farming and low-impact Aquaculture

Environmental Education

Coralive's final and perhaps most significant area of focus is the proper transfer of knowledge and experi- ence to local residents in project areas and to the next generation.

- Plastic Pollution Awareness Campaigns
- Coral Reef, Mangrove Forest & Seagrass Education
- Cleanup Events
- Media creation

New and Active Projects

Project Maldives – Soneva Fushi

Initiated October 2021

Located about 15min from the world famous Hanifaru Bay, Soneva Fushi is home for Coralive's biggest coral restoration project, biggest coral nursery and some of our team live here permanently.

It's a partnership with the Soneva Foundation aiming to protect and regenerate the vital marine habitat by installing an in-situ coral nursery to produce over 50'000 coral fragments to be returned into the wild. The ultimate aim of the program is to regenerate the reef back to the state in which it existed 25 years ago, out-planting corals across 20 hectares over the next decade. Located at the outer edge of the house reef, the coral nursery at Soneva Fushi consists of 432 table structures, arranged in three circular clusters.

Also, have a look here: Soneva Foundation Coral Project Movie

Project Seychelles – Fregate Island

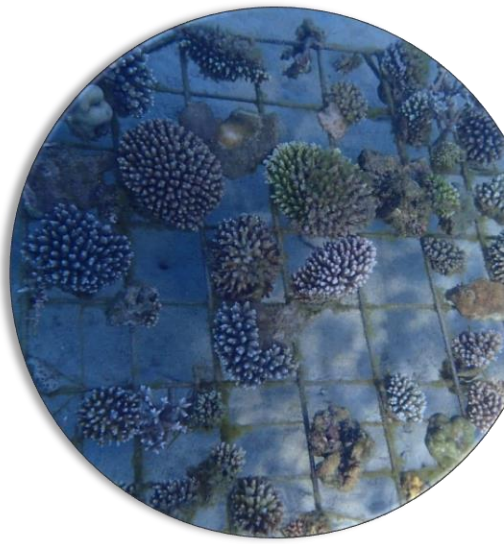
Initiated May 2018

In cooperation with Fregate Island Sanctuary and the support of Blancpain Ocean Commitment, phase two of our project came to an end. Julie Pezin collected valuable data sets that will help determine success rates of the Mineral Accretion Technology having the aim of increasing and improving scalability, efficient logistics and sustainable energy usage. The next step will be using the gained knowledge and expanding the coral nursery into a factory like production line and to produce as many coral covered nursery tables as possible for rapid out-planting.

Have a look here: Scaling up coral restoration around Fregate Island

Project Madagascar – Ifaty

Initiated May 2022



Located in the southwest of Madagascar, Ifaty in the Bay of Ranobe, is home of our partner organization Reefdoctor.org. After several years of collaboration and many delays due to the country shut-down because of COVID, we finally managed to install a Coral Nursery powered by a floating solar & security platform close to the "Rose Garden" reef system. This project was funded by our partners V.Sun.

The goal here is to create a base stock of 2000 diverse corals from the area for continuous out-planting in the nearby protected area.

Project Maldives – Joali Resort

Initiated December 2022

In cooperation with Joali Resorts, this coral nursery was setup in a record time of total 5 days. 24 table structures will continuously grow 3000 coral fragments to a decent size so they can be outplanted on the surrounding reef of this beautiful island called Musavandhoo in the Raa Atoll.

Project Kenya – Shimoni

Initiated May 2019

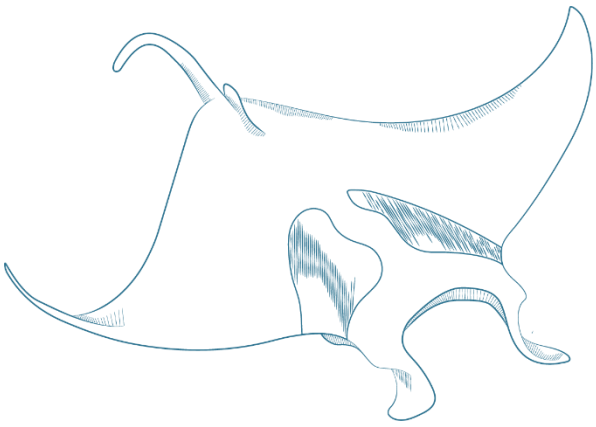
This research project in cooperation with the University of Wageningen in the Netherlands and the local NGO Reefolution in Shimoni, Kenya where the focus lays on scientific research and implementation of coral restoration and Mineral Accretion Technology.

Project Maldives – Madhunifaaru Lagoon

Initiated May 2018

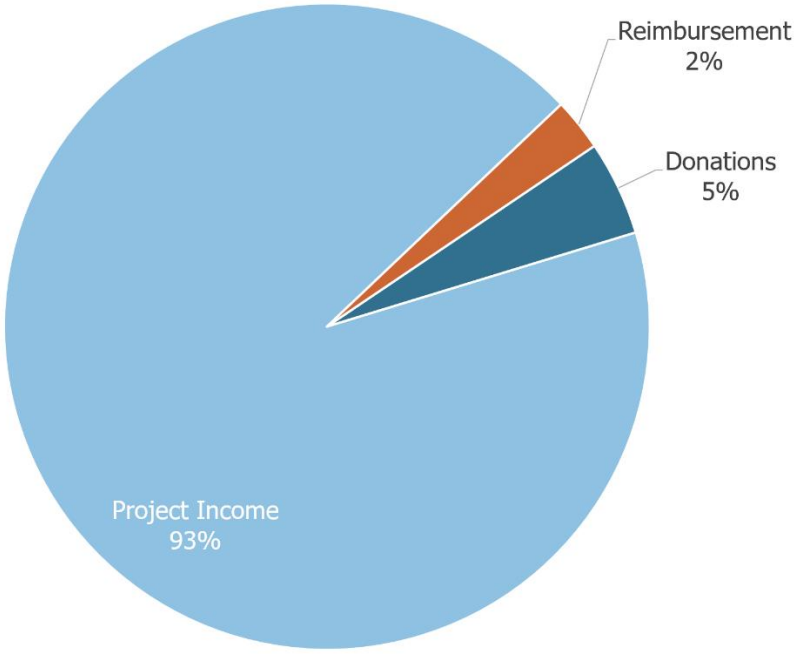
This Maldivian project is our oldest and prime example on how we approach large scale coral restoration of highly degraded reef areas due to climate change and development projects. We continue to maintain the 65 structures in our nursery that host between 8000 – 10’000 fragments and nearly 250 structures at the restoration site totaling about 15’000 fragments.

It is an amazing feeling to see structures that were bare about 4 years ago to be slowly overgrown and create diversity hot spots where life underwater can thrive again.

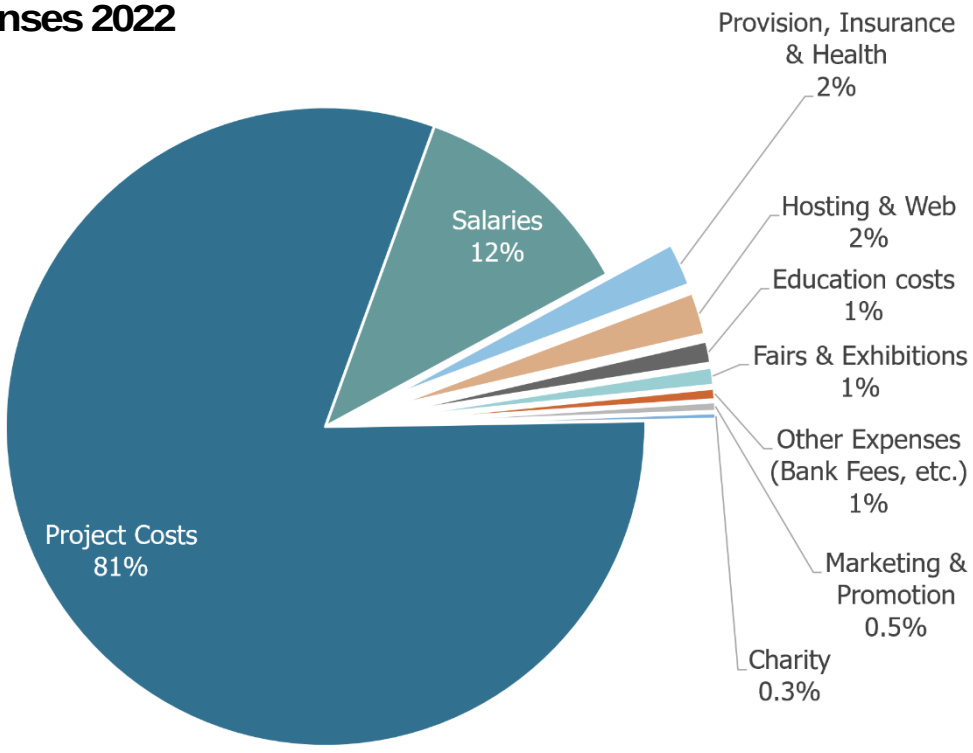


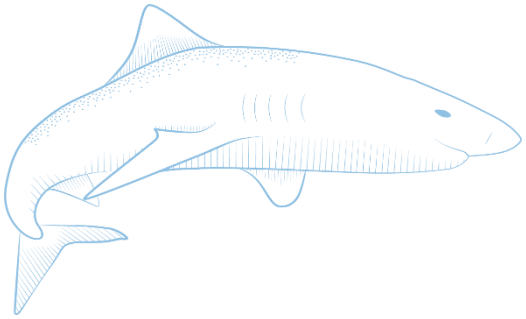
Financials

Income 2022



Expenses 2022





Looking forward to 2023

One of the main focus will lie on maintaining and monitoring the coral nursery and coral structures at Soneva Fushi in the Maldives including hopefully new relocations to save and propagate as many corals as possible.

Parallel, the implementation of the planned rubble stabilization & coral population project in West Papua Ampat in collaboration with The Sea People will mark a new milestone.

We will further plan & implement other projects in the Maldives and go back to our Seychelles project to maintain and potentially expand our coral restoration efforts there.

The long outstanding project visit in the Philippines at Malapascua is planned for April which could lead to further expansions with new projects.

In terms of Media, we are excited that the mini-documentary by Sabrina Inderbitzi will be aired on Swiss National Television most probably in Q2 as well as the short Soneva Project Movie from Christian Keller and Daniel Bichsel.

Further in the pipeline are the replication of large-scale coral nurseries in different locations around the globe and potential further coral projects in Fiji, Seychelles and the Maldives.

Stay in touch and keep checking our social media for the latest news and updates!

Thank you to our partners and donors

Coralive couldn't do this without their help! We deeply appreciate all donations from individuals, charities and project partners to support our work helping to nurture and restore this marine environment to its full potential. Please keep in mind that all financial donations made by Swiss Citizens, Associations and Companies will receive a confirmation for tax deduction purposes.

US Financial Donations greater than 50'000 US$ will receive a confirmation for tax deduction purposes through our association with the Tides Foundation, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Coralive compensates all flights through CO_2 certificates managed by myclimate.org.

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