

# Project Maldives – Soneva Fushi

coral nursery to harvest 50'000 coral fragments per year



Kunfunadhoo - 5°06'25.7"N 73°05'08.1"E

## Base Info

**Project type:** Coral nursery & coral relocation

**Partner:** [Soneva Fushi Resort](#)

**Funding:** [Soneva Foundation](#)



**Budget**  
500'000 USD



**Size / area**  
8000m2



**Start Date**  
October 2021



**Duration**  
6 months

## Background

With the ongoing effects of climate change, corals are facing difficulties growing, spreading, and being resilient to severe weather events. Even more so, areas that had previously been damaged are prone to not recover within less than 25 years. Coral restoration efforts make sense to jumpstart the regeneration process. The island of Soneva Fushi has been surveyed over recent years for marine life. Several areas have minimal coral coverage, low fish biomass, and small amounts of benthic life and invertebrates. These areas are ideal to receive active coral restoration.

## Objective & Outcomes

- To build a 50'000 coral fragment nursery
- To outplant 50'000 coral fragments every year
- To create a base stock of diverse species of corals
- To increase the fish population
- To increase diversity of corals around the island
- To rescue coral colonies from nearby dredging projects
- To engage and educate international guests

## Implementation

### Approach

Coral restoration will be initiated by creating 432 steel metal reef structures, powered by the mineral accretion technology (MAT). This supports the corals through low voltage direct current electrolysis to grow 50'000+ coral fragments every year. The primary source of coral used to populate the nursery will be corals relocated from a nearby dredging project. They will be placed as colonies directly on the tables and/or fragmented to an average size of 7cm, ideal for attaching to the table structures. Knowledge transfer to the local stakeholders for maintenance will be key.

### Milestones

**Month 1:** Installation of 432 nursery tables

**Month 2:** Installation of MAT equipment

**Months 2-3:** Securing cables and structures

**Months 3-5:** Coral relocation & placement on the nursery

**Months 5:** Knowledge transfer and training

### Deliverables

- Fully populated coral nursery
- Trained local stakeholders
- 300'000+ corals rescued
- Coral nursery database created
- Sponsorship & educational program

