

# How to grow Corals?

A CORAL DOCTORS PROJECT

Our aim is to restore Maldivian coral reefs by using a new method of assisted sexual reproduction invented by the english organization called "Coral Spawning Lab".

Together with our partner "Save the Beach Maldives" we restore as many Maldivian reefs as possible, by imitating nature, maintaining bio and genetic diversity and increasing the survival rate of young corals.

## Preparation

We tag, map and photograph more than 1000 corals in Villingili, a local island next to Malé (the capital of Maldives).



## Research

We collect all the necessary data on when and how many times a year the different coral species spawn and which specific parameters (such as water temperature, moon phase, etc.) give the signal for each species to release its eggs.



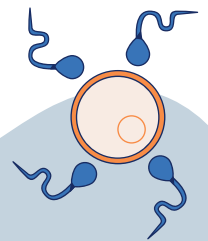
## Copy Nature

By imitating all these specific parameters in our lab aquariums, we can get our corals to spawn in a protected environment.



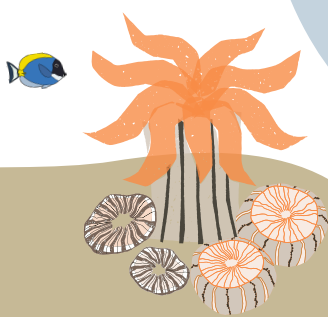
## Fertilisation

In the protection of our laboratory tanks, the fertilisation of the gametes can take place undisturbed by any predator.



## Settling

In the next step, we provide a suitable substrate on which the newly developed coral larvae can settle.



## Out Growing

The juvenile corals are then transferred to our nursery tanks, where they can grow up protected.



## Out Planting

Once the corals have reached a certain size that makes them less susceptible to predators, we transplant them into the reef. Like this, we can even revive reef areas that are already quite dead.

