

Coral culture for small scale reef rehabilitation in Mauritius

**7th WIOSAP PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE
DARES SALAAM, TANZANIA
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Why the Project

- **Objective:**

- To mitigate the impact of climate change on coastal communities by implementing coral reef restoration initiatives using selected resilient corals

- **Where:**

- Le Morne, Poudre d'Or. Bambous Virieux

- **Partners:**

Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change

Ministry of Agro Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries- Albion Fisheries Research Centre,

Village Council, District Council, NGOs, Fishers' Associations



Key Achievements

Capacity Building and Empowerment : Trained 61 participants, including 9 women, building a skilled workforce to sustain coral culture and reef rehabilitation efforts, ensuring the resilience of marine ecosystems.

Coral Farms and Gardens: Successfully established, with 5,544 coral fragments transplanted to degraded areas, rehabilitating 1,050 sq meters of reef. Enhanced coral cover and biodiversity, restoring ecosystem services.

Environmental Awareness: Over 1000 local community members educated through sensitization programs, boosting awareness and support for marine conservation.



Key Lessons Learnt

- **Site Selection:** Critical assessment of environmental factors to ensure optimal coral growth conditions.
- **Species Selection:** Focus on local species that are likely to thrive, supporting ecosystem balance.
- **Community Involvement:** Essential engagement with locals to raise awareness and gain project support.
- **Adaptive Management:** Flexibility in response to unexpected challenges like pandemics and environmental disasters.



Project Sustainability

- **Policy Decision:** Budget proposal for entrepreneur to establish a farm.
- **Staff Recruitment:** Hiring of team member on permanent basis .
- **Infrastructure:** Establishing a land-based nursery.
- **New Initiative:** Launching of projects such as Assistance scheme for coral farming and an Adaptation Fund-supported Coral Restoration Project aimed at rehabilitating coral reefs to enhance marine ecosystem services in response to climate change.
- **Trainee Recruitment:** Onboarding trainees as trainers in new initiative.

