

Project Madagascar – Ifaty

coral nursery to support artificial reefs

 Ifaty - 23°08'31.6"S 43°34'25.5"E

Base Info

Project type: Coral nursery & coral outplanting

Partner: [Reefdoctor.org](https://reefdoctor.org)

Funding: Donation



Size / area
6 ha impact area



Duration
Ongoing since 2022

Background

Ifaty is located in the southwest of Madagascar, in the Bay of Ranobe, and is home to our partner organisation ReefDoctor. In this Bay around 20,000 people are directly dependent on the reef system for their food security and local livelihood, yet the reefs are declining due to overfishing. Therefore, we started our collaboration here in 2022 with a nursery near the locally managed 'Rose Garden' reef system to help regenerating this important ecosystem. Additionally, rope nurseries were built with the local university, IHSM, further south. Since August 2025, we have now expanded our nurseries located next to the Rose Garden reef system. These nurseries will be regularly monitored until the coral fragments reach a sufficient size to be transplanted onto the natural and artificial reef systems in the vicinity.

Objective & Outcomes

- Expand current nursery structures in the area
- Grow 5,000+ corals per year for outplanting
- Increase the fish population and diversity of corals around « Rose Garden »

Implementation

Approach

Expanding the current coral nurseries will be done using the simple to build and maintain coral rope nurseries. Nurseries will be located next to the Rose Garden reef system to ensure easy access for us, while keeping the corals in a locally managed marine area with reduced fishing pressure. Nurseries will be expanded to a capacity of 7,000+ coral fragments. The grown corals will then be outplanted on the artificial reef systems built by our partner ReefDoctor, covering an area of 6ha. Additionally, we will outplant on natural reefs to increase coral species diversity and connectivity in the area.

Milestones

Month 1: Installation of rope nurseries

Months 1-12: Maintenance and monitoring of corals in the nurseries by our project partner and project manager

Month 12: Harvest and outplanting of corals, starting new cohort of fragments in the nursery

Deliverables

- Fully populated coral nursery
- Continuous monitoring and maintenance of nurseries
- Coral colonies for artificial reef structures

