



CORAL GARDENERS

IMPACT

(RE)

PORT

• 20

25



• [12] PAVONA [13] PLATYGIRA [14] POCILLOPORA [15] PORITES [16] ACROPORA
• [10] PLEROGYRA [11] MONTIPORA [12] PAVONA [13] PLATYGIRA [14] POCILLOPORA [15] PORITES [16] ACROPORA

• [10] PLEROGYRA [11] MONTIPORA
• [12] PAVONA [13] PLATYGIRA [14] POCILLOPORA [15] PORITES [16] ACROPORA

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INTRO

1

DUCTION

- [9] Acropora [14] Pocillopora [15] Porites [16] Acropora [2] Astreopora [3] Oulophyllia

- [10] Plerogyra [11] Montipora [12] Pavona [13] Platygyra [14] Pocillopora [15] Porites [16] Acropora
- [3] Oulophyllia [4] Fungia [5] Platygyra [6] Goniopora [7] Acropora [8] Isopora [9] Acropora





**WE
DIDN'T
REACH
OUR
GOAL**



BECAUSE  WE
 CHANGED 
OUR  DEFINITION
 OF  IMPACT



HOW IT STARTED AND WHERE WE’RE GOING

Coral Gardeners began in 2017, after a group of island kids witnessed the rapid decline of their home reef in Mo’orea, French Polynesia, realizing it was part of a global pattern unfolding across the world. So they started planting corals in their backyard.

Today, we’ve grown into a global organization with branches in French Polynesia, Fiji, and Thailand, with teams of gardeners working across some of the world’s most vital reef systems.

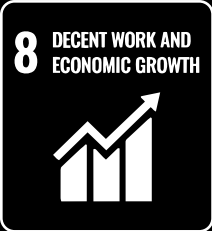
But our impact goes beyond planting corals. It lives at the intersection of ecology, communities, cultures, and

livelihoods. From empowering locals with advanced restoration technology to leveraging media to inspire millions and creating immersive experiences, we’re redefining what coral conservation looks like. It’s not just a cause. It’s a movement.

As part of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, our work contributes to multiple Sustainable Development Goals through community-led coral conservation. Our project has also been officially endorsed by the UN Decade of Ocean Science, recognized for its tangible scientific impact and commitment to a healthy and sustainable ocean.



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development



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FOUNDER'S

2

• [1] STYLOPHORA [2] ASTREOPORA [3] OULOPHYLLIA
[4] FUNGIA [5] PLATYGIRA [6] GONIOPORA [7]
ACROPORA [8] ISOPORA

• [10] PLEROGYRA [11] MONTIPORA [12] PAVONA [13] PLATYGIRA
[14] POCILLOPORA [15] PORITES [16] ACROPORA

LETTER



FROM THE CEO

Things got real this year.

I still remember when we started in my bedroom with my little brother and island friends. No roadmap. No idea where it'd lead. Just pulled by the urgency to do something for our reef. But today, there are 80 of us working across three branches. Over 220,200 corals planted. 1 million people are following the journey on Instagram, where it all started. It's really On!

I never would have thought we would reach this kind of momentum in just a few years. From a TIME100 nomination to campaigns with Apple and coral gardening being recognized as a job by the French Polynesian Government.

At the same time, coral restoration is still fairly new. We're still learning. Testing. Failing. Adapting. And yet, the pressures on the reefs and the challenges of raising the funding aren't slowing down. So, neither are we.

In 2025, we doubled down on the corals in our nurseries, expanded our sites around the world, and explored a new region, furthering our blueprint and methodology to scale our impact on the reef. CG Labs has already built tools that have increased our restoration

capacity tenfold and introduced our new spatial intelligence technology to map the reef in 3D with unmatched precision, all using an iPhone. These innovations are what will allow us to democratize coral conservation.

We kept growing the movement, partnering with iconic brands and reaching millions of people to bring conservation into culture. We had the chance to welcome Dr. Sylvia Earle to our branch in Thailand, which may become the country's first Hope Spot, and to host Nainoa Thompson and the Hōkūle'a crew in our gardens in Mo'orea. These people have dedicated their lives to protecting something bigger than themselves, so being in the water with them was the kind of reminder that keeps you going.

We need this movement to be as huge as the ocean by making it possible for anyone to revive the reef. I've never been clearer on where we're headed.

Thank you to everyone who continued to keep this movement alive. We can't wait for you to see what's next.

**TITOUAN
BERNICOT**

FOUNDER & CEO

Titouan Bernicot

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IMPACT

IN NUMBERS

- [10] PLEROGYRA [11] MONTIPORA
[12] PAVONA [13] PLATYGYRA [14]
POCILLOPORA [15] PORITES [16]

- [1] STYLOPHORA [2] ASTREOPORA [3]
OULOPHYLLIA [4] FUNGIA [5] PLATYGYRA
[6] GONIOPORA [7] ACROPORA [8]
ISOPPORA [9] ACROPORA

3

SINCE

2017



25,100m²
OF REEF RESTORED

>2.5 HECTARES
>20 OLYMPIC
SWIMMING POOLS



**+80 JOBS
CREATED**
55,000 UNDERWATER HOURS

15,247 PEOPLE EDUCATED
SINCE 2017

+56,706 SUPPORTERS

**19M\$
FUNDS**
RAISED FOR THE REEF



1M+ PEOPLE
FOLLOWING ON
SOCIAL MEDIA



**221,212
CORALS
PLANTED**
>120,764 on the reef
>100,448 nurseries

>103 CORAL SPECIES
DIVERSITY RESTORED

+80% AVERAGE
SURVIVAL RATES

12 ACTIVE SITES
3 GLOBAL HQS
ACROSS 8 ISLANDS

ECOSYSTEM

RESTORATION

- [1] STYLOPHORA [2] ASTREOPORA [3] OULOPHYLLIA [4] FUNGIA
[5] PLATYGYRA [6] GONIOPORA [7] ACROPORA [8] ISOPORA [9]
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—WE'RE GOING TO PLANT 1 MILLION CORALS BY 2025—

WE'RE BUILDING RESILIENT REEF ECOSYSTEMS





<<ECOSYSTEM
<<RESTORATION

LEARNING FROM THE REEF

We still know very little about coral reefs. Restoration isn't a fixed science, and what worked yesterday may not be enough for tomorrow's climate. So our approach has to evolve with it.

In the early days of Coral Gardeners, the focus was simple: plant as many corals as possible to meet the scale of their decline, with a symbolic goal of 1 million. But over time, as we tested and developed different methods in

various environments, it became clear that our impact on the field wasn't about coral counts alone. It's about coral reefs as a whole: long-term survival, biodiversity, and ecosystem function.

Our strategy now focuses on growing resilient corals and cultivating ecosystems that can recover and thrive over time, creating a network of coral reef oases across the ocean.



+



+

Every restoration site is an ongoing experiment, informed by data collection, research findings, and scientific collaboration. This means continuously refining our methods, adapting to different locations, and listening closely to the reef itself.



+8,500M²
OF REEF RESTORED

+11,600
CORALS PLANTED IN TOTAL

+23
CORAL SPECIES

+50%
MORE FISH AND
BIOACOUSTICS ACTIVITY



<<TIAIA>>
<<FIELD STUDY>>

RETHINKING HOW WE PLANT CORALS

At our largest outplant site in Mo’orea, we shifted our methodology from transplanting small fragments to planting mature corals in high density, bringing structure, complexity, and marine biodiversity with them. Small fragments made for bigger numbers, but they were

more vulnerable to predation and environmental stress.

The shift wasn’t theoretical; it was visible on the reef. Right after outplanting, it became alive with more movement, sound, and colour.

The collective strength and resilience of the mature corals transformed the dynamics of the ecosystem, improving their chances of survival against a changing climate. And the results prove it.

BUILDING STRONG ECOSYSTEMS THAT LAST

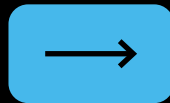
Despite experiencing the world’s most severe bleaching event in 2024, followed by a crown-of-thorns outbreak in 2025, our outplant site held, proving the resilience of the ecosystem we had cultivated in Tiaia.

Nearly two years on, it continues to show high survival rates, increasing coral cover, and more marine life moving back to the reef.

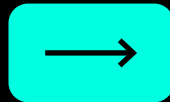
Beyond our sites, Mo’orea’s lagoon tells a different story, ranging from just 1% to 39% live coral cover (LTER)*.

This isn’t incidental. It reflects the difference between a reef left to decline and one that has been actively restored and cared for.

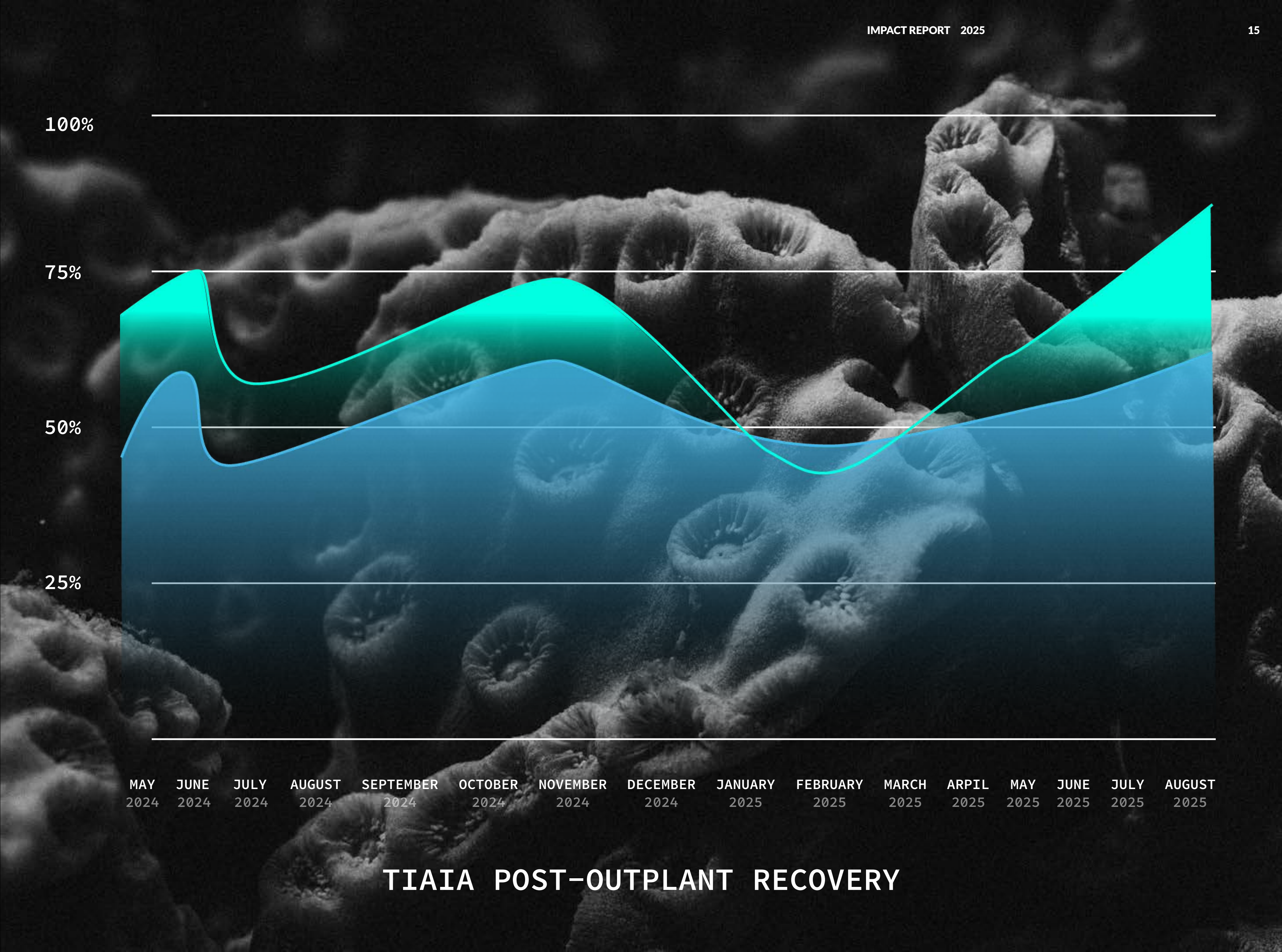
*LTER: The Mo’orea Coral Reef Long-term Ecological Research, University of Santa Barbara



+56% AVERAGE CORAL COVERAGE



+82% AVERAGE SURVIVAL RATE OF OUTPLANTED CORALS



TIAIA POST-OUTPLANT RECOVERY

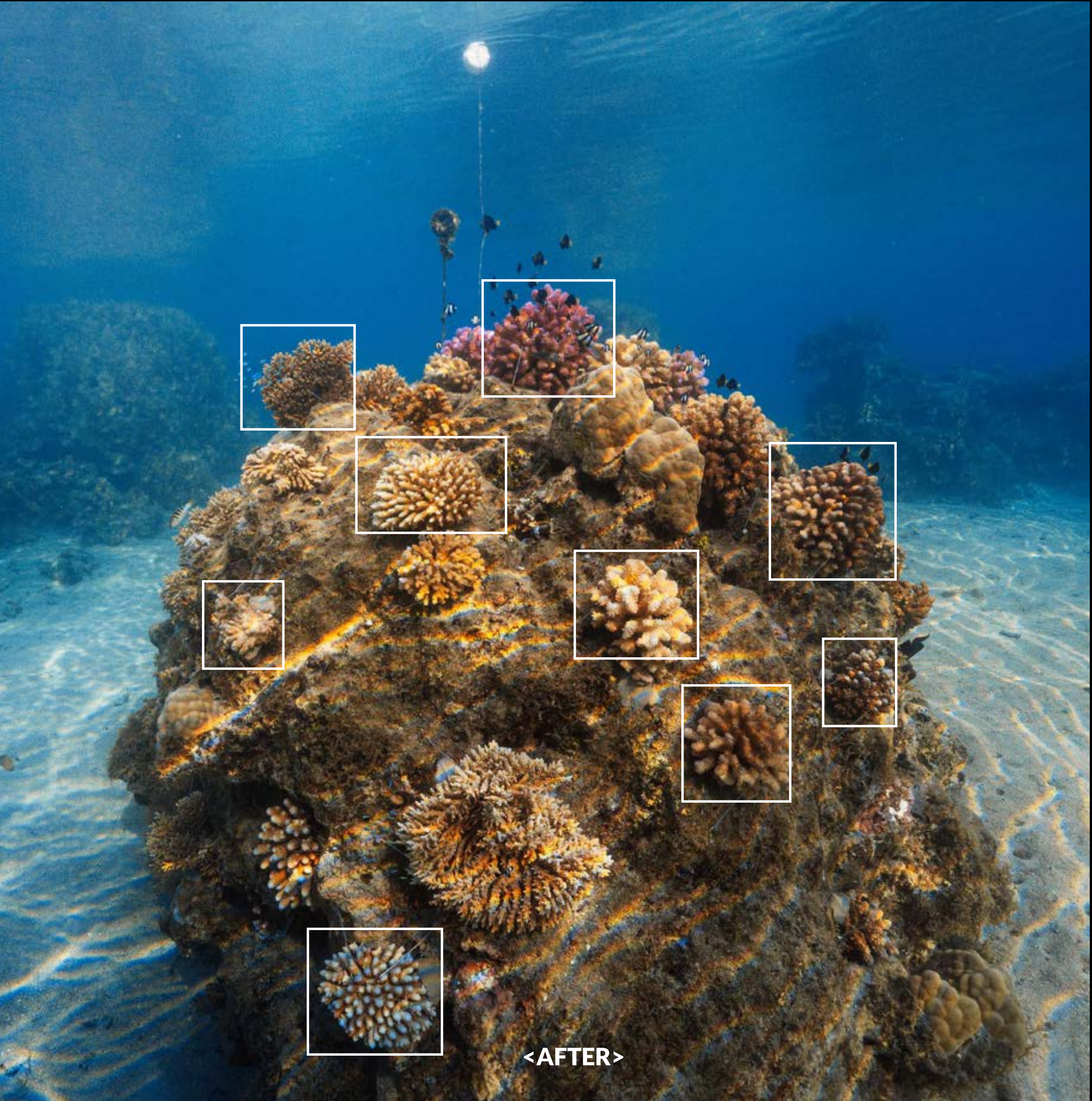


<<TEAHUPO'O 2025>>

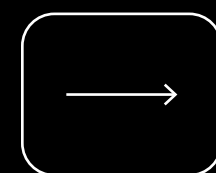
In 2025, we also created additional proof-of-concept sites across Teahupo'o and Fiji, where corals that had grown to full maturity in our nurseries over the past few years were planted onto the reef in full colonies and high densities, replicating the success and methodologies observed in Tiaia.



<BEFORE>

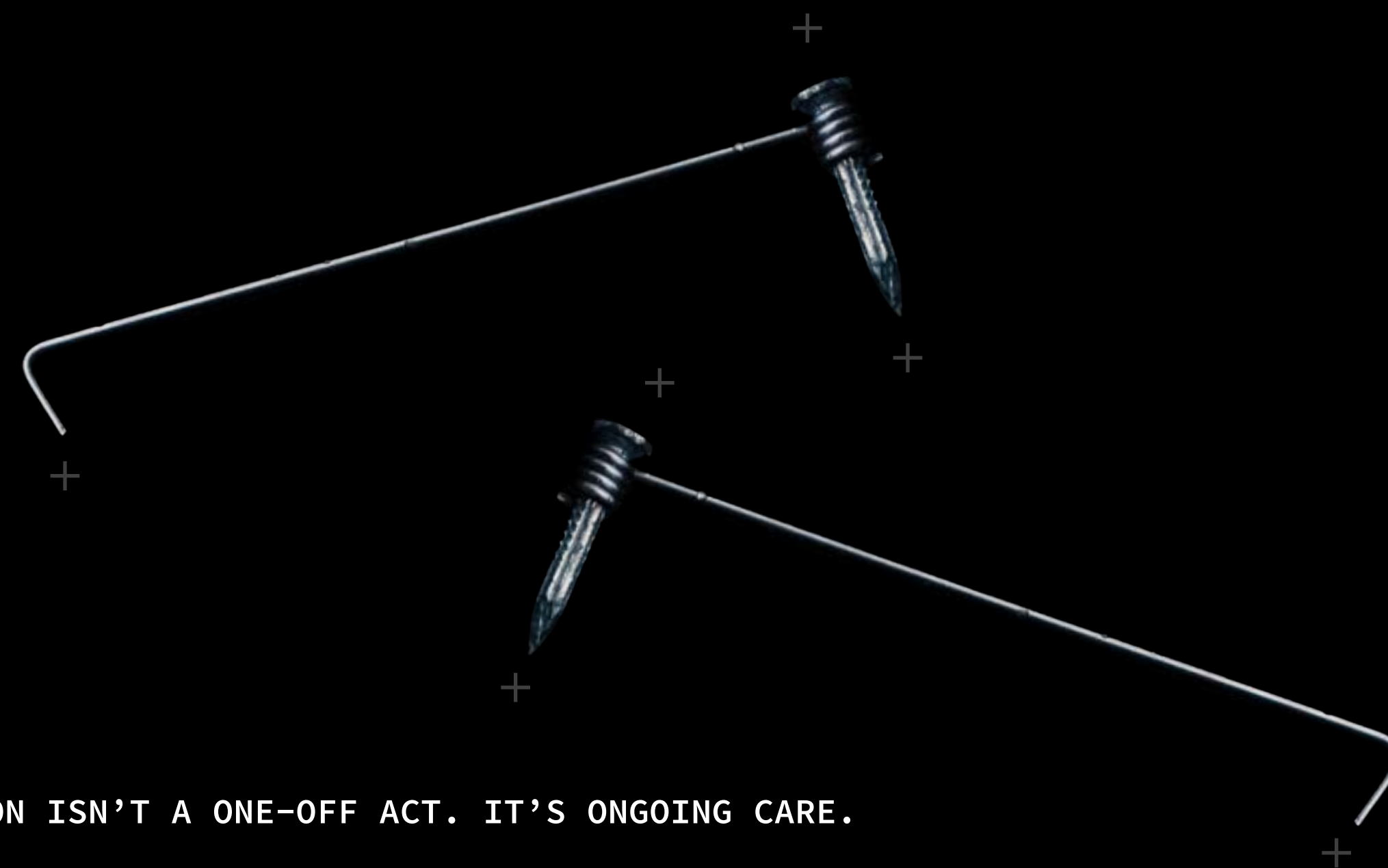


<AFTER>



RESTORATION ISN'T A ONE-OFF ACT. IT'S ONGOING CARE.

The gardeners have worked 55,000 hours underwater since 2017 to maintain both our nurseries and outplant sites on the natural reef.





<<STEPS>>
RESTORATION>>
<<METHOD>>

OUR 10-PILLAR RESTORATION STRATEGY FOR CREATING RESILIENT REEFS

It's taken years to develop a methodology that prioritizes everything we need it to—from resilience and long-term survivability to biodiversity, local adaptation, and global scalability. And this methodology is living, constantly evolving and adapting as we learn more from the reef.

0.1 SELECT THE SITE

Areas of reef that need restoring are identified, along with designated nurseries, donor sites with mother colonies, as well as control sites and reference reefs.

0.2 RESTORE WHERE IT'S POSSIBLE

Sites are chosen where the reef already shows ecological potential for recovery, with minimum levels of live coral and presence of key reef species.

0.3 PROPAGATE RESILIENCE

Fragments of corals are collected in the wild in hot pockets of water from a variety of donor colonies proven heat-resilience.

0.4 GROW STRONG CORALS

Resilient corals are cultivated in nurseries by staggering ages, mixing species & maintaining their health through regular care.

0.5 FOLLOW THE RESTORATION CYCLE

Once nursery corals reach maturity, they are outplanted onto the reef and the nurseries are refilled, maintaining a continuous cycle of restoration.

0.6 OUTPLANT WHOLE COLONIES

Whole corals are grown and planted onto the reef to preserve associated species and ecosystem structure.

0.7 BUILD REEF STRUCTURE

Corals from diverse species and morphologies are outplanted at high density to accelerate reef growth and create complex habitat, aiming for 50% coral cover.

0.8 RESTORE CONNECTED ECOSYSTEMS

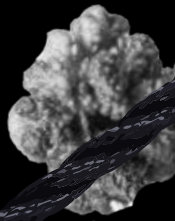
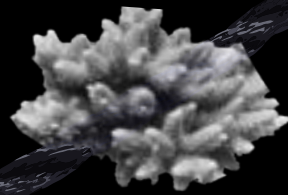
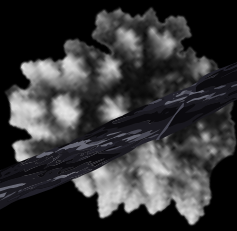
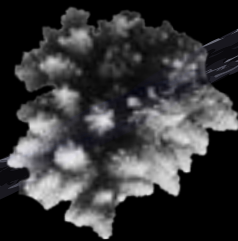
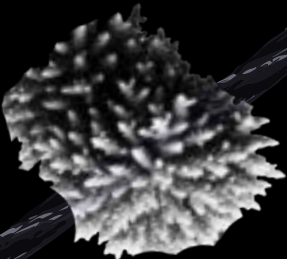
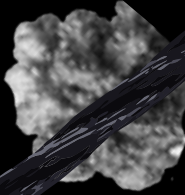
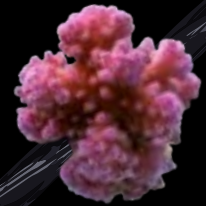
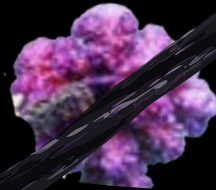
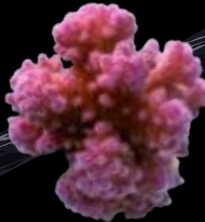
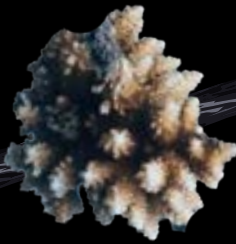
Sites are chosen based on their ability to create a network of connected, resilient, and self-sustaining reefs.

0.9 MEASURE ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

Success is tracked through key ecosystem metrics such as coral survival and cover, biodiversity, and reef composition.

0.10 MAINTAIN THE REEF

Outplanting is just the beginning. Monitoring and maintenance are the priority to achieve ecosystem-level impact.



RESTORATION

FOOTPRINT

- [19] Acropora [14] Pocillopora [15] Porites [16] Acropora [2] Astreopora [3] Oulophyllia

- [1] Stylophora [2] Astreopora [3] Oulophyllia [4] Fungia [5] Platygyra [6] Goniopora



SCALING RESTORATION ACROSS THE OCEAN

100,448

CORALS IN NURSERIES

+54,546

CORALS SEEDED IN 2025

In 2025, we grew our restoration footprint, expanding our best-performing sites, launching new locations, and increasing the number of corals in our nurseries to more than 100,000.

While operating across multiple sites in French Polynesia, Fiji, and Thailand, we also explored a whole region in the Mediterranean,

bringing our restoration model to new reefs and seas.

We also pioneered new gardening techniques to scale our impact on the reef—from the first land-based nursery in Thailand to award-winning repurposed pearl farms in the Tuamotu.



FRENCH POLYNESIA

+35,430
CORALS SEEDED
IN 2025 ACROSS
7 SITES

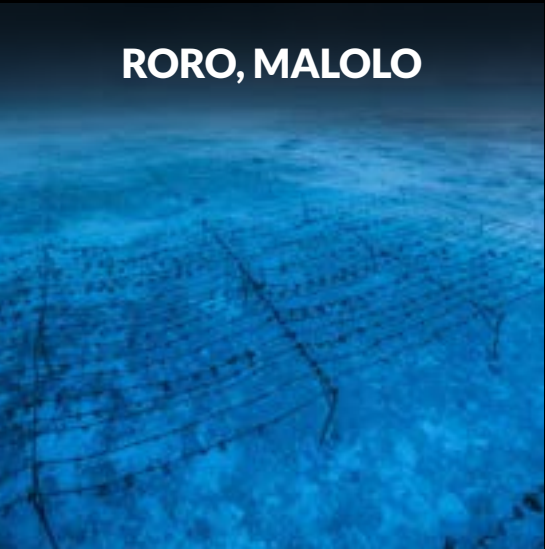
90%
SURVIVAL RATE



FIJI

+10,560
CORALS SEEDED
IN 2025 ACROSS
3 SITES

80%
SURVIVAL RATE

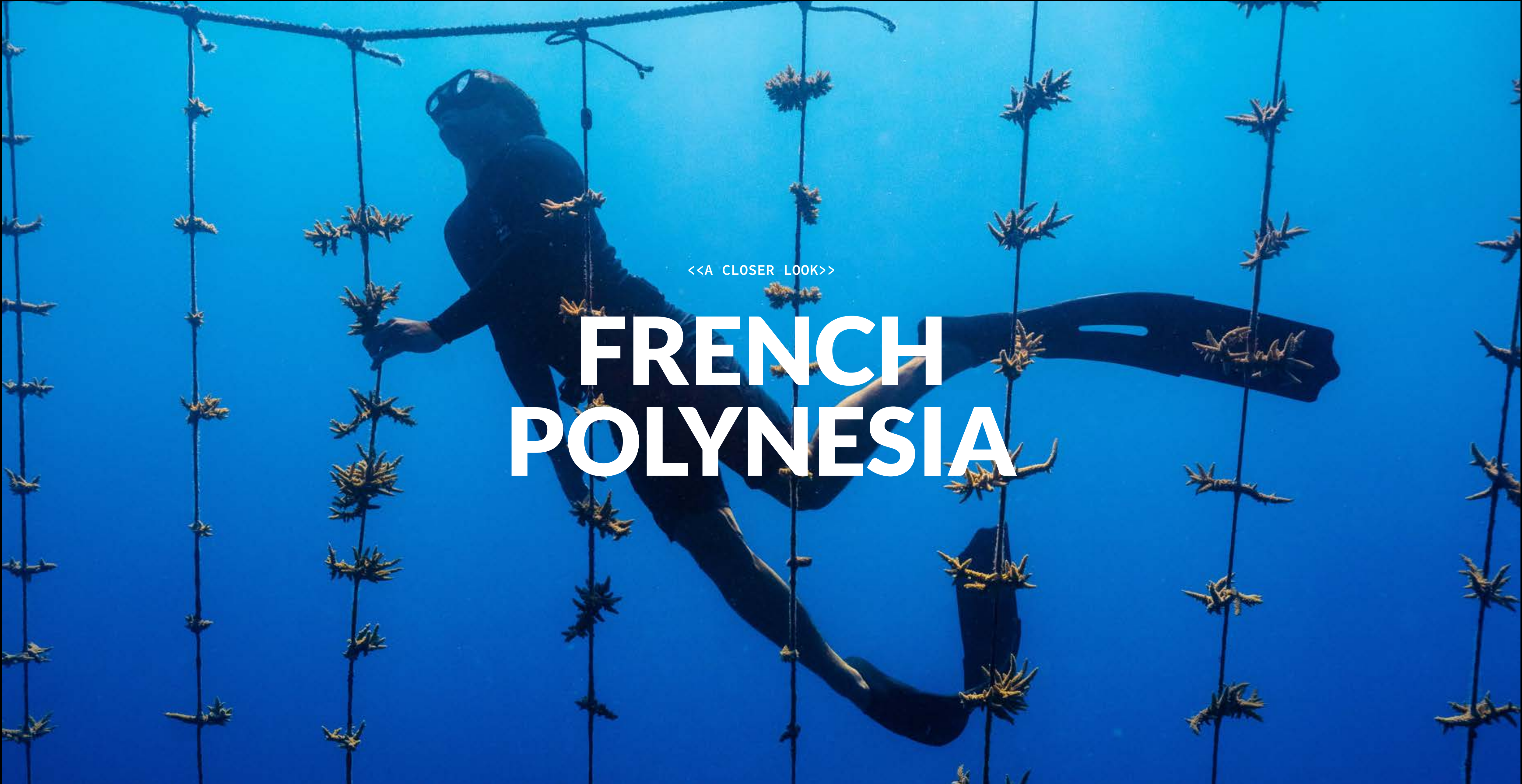


THAILAND

+8,556 CORALS SEEDED
ACROSS 2 SITES

82% SURVIVAL RATE





<<A CLOSER LOOK>>

FRENCH POLYNESIA



<<FIELD>>
<<STUDY>>2025>>

TRANSFORMING PEARL FARMS INTO CORAL FARMS IN THE TUAMOTU



+5,400
CORALS GROWING
IN NURSERIES

+19X
GROWTH FROM
INITIAL VOLUME

+77%
AVERAGE
SURVIVAL
RATE

Our efforts across French Polynesia continued to grow in 2025, expanding operations across five islands, including our project on Ahe, an atoll in the remote Tuamotu Archipelago, which repurposed old pearl farm infrastructure into a coral restoration hub.

This project, led by local youth, blends permaculture with gardening, reusing pearl farm lines to grow corals on suspended ropes of over 50 meters. The technique has shown impressive results, with corals growing almost twenty times their original size in just under a

year. This accelerated growth could be influenced by the site’s water quality and flow within the atoll’s lagoon, highlighting the potential to expand our restoration efforts across the Tuamotu. In turn, this could help enhance the resilience of reefs beyond the atolls, as the Tuamotus are known to be a source of coral larvae and connectivity for other islands like Mo’orea and Tahiti.

The project’s impact in Ahe was recognized by The French Coral Reef Initiative (IFRECOR), winning the To’a Reef Grand Prize trophy for the 2025 edition.





MO'OREA: HOME TO THE LARGEST ROPE NURSERY IN THE WORLD

Tiaia in Mo'orea is our flagship site, where we've been perfecting our craft since 2020. Over the years, we've refined our rope nursery methodology, producing multiple generations of mature corals, making it our largest site and inspiring other gardens across our locations.

+21,600
CORALS GROWING
IN NURSERIES

+57
NURSERY STRUCTURES

+1,620M²
NURSERY SIZE



<<A CLOSER LOOK>>



FIJI



<<CASE STUDY>>
FIJI<<2025

FIJI REACHES ITS FIRST FULL RESTORATION CYCLE

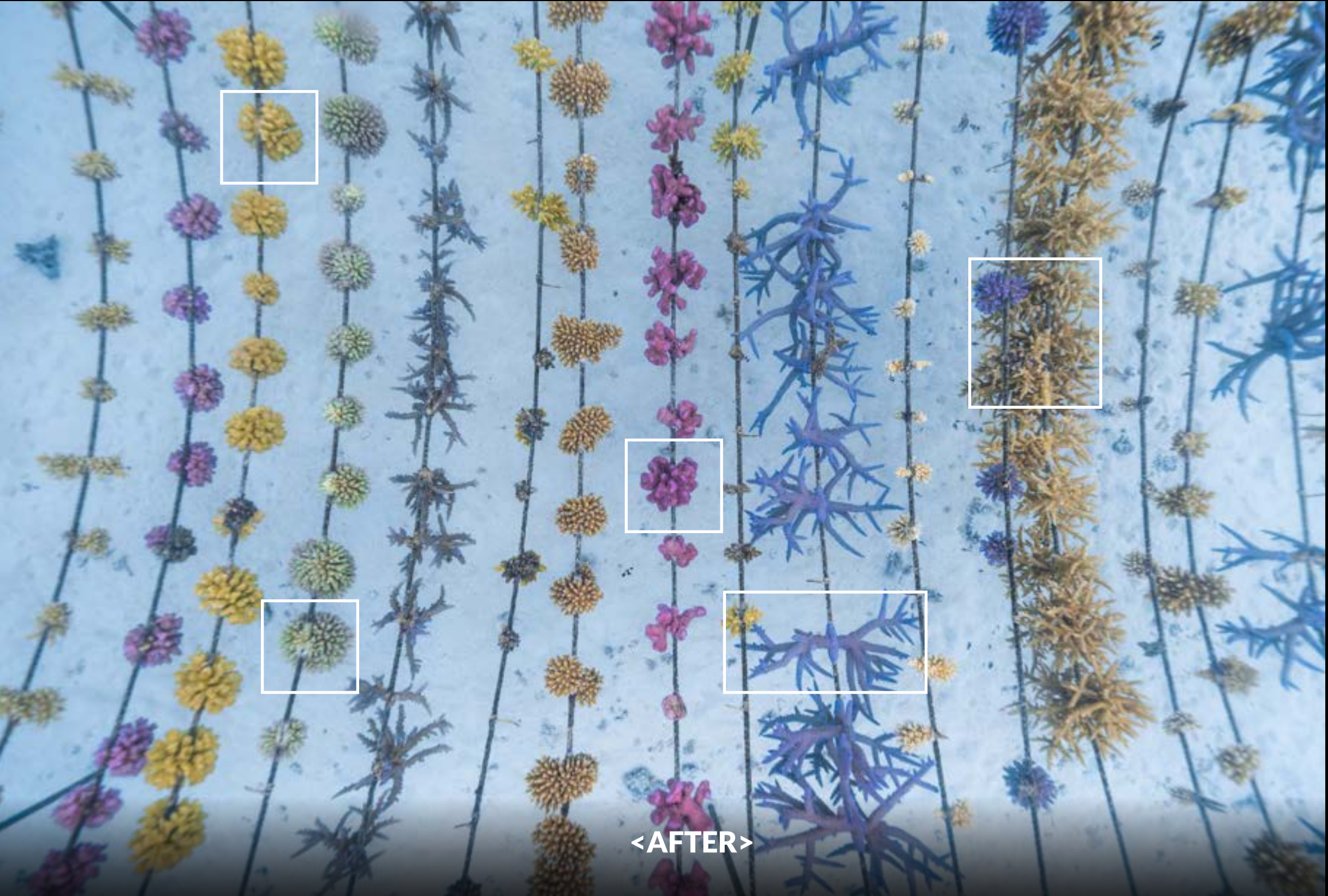
+26,568
CORALS GROWING
IN NURSERIES

+25X
AVERAGE GROWTH FROM
INITIAL VOLUME

+4,312
CORALS OUTPLANTED
IN 2025

Our Fiji branch reached its first full restoration cycle in 2025, almost two years after officially opening operations. The corals displayed impressive growth and reached maturity in 2025, allowing the gardeners to outplant their first batch onto the reef, where they'll continue to monitor and build the ecosystem.

Building on that success, we expanded our highest-performing nursery sites in Roro and Vakeliciri, adding over 10,000 new baby corals. We also opened a new site at our partner garden, Six Senses Fiji, where guests and visitors can directly participate in the restoration mission.





<< A CLOSER LOOK >>

THAILAND



2025<<CG>>
<<<THAILAND>>>

UNDERWATER FIELD EXPERIMENTS

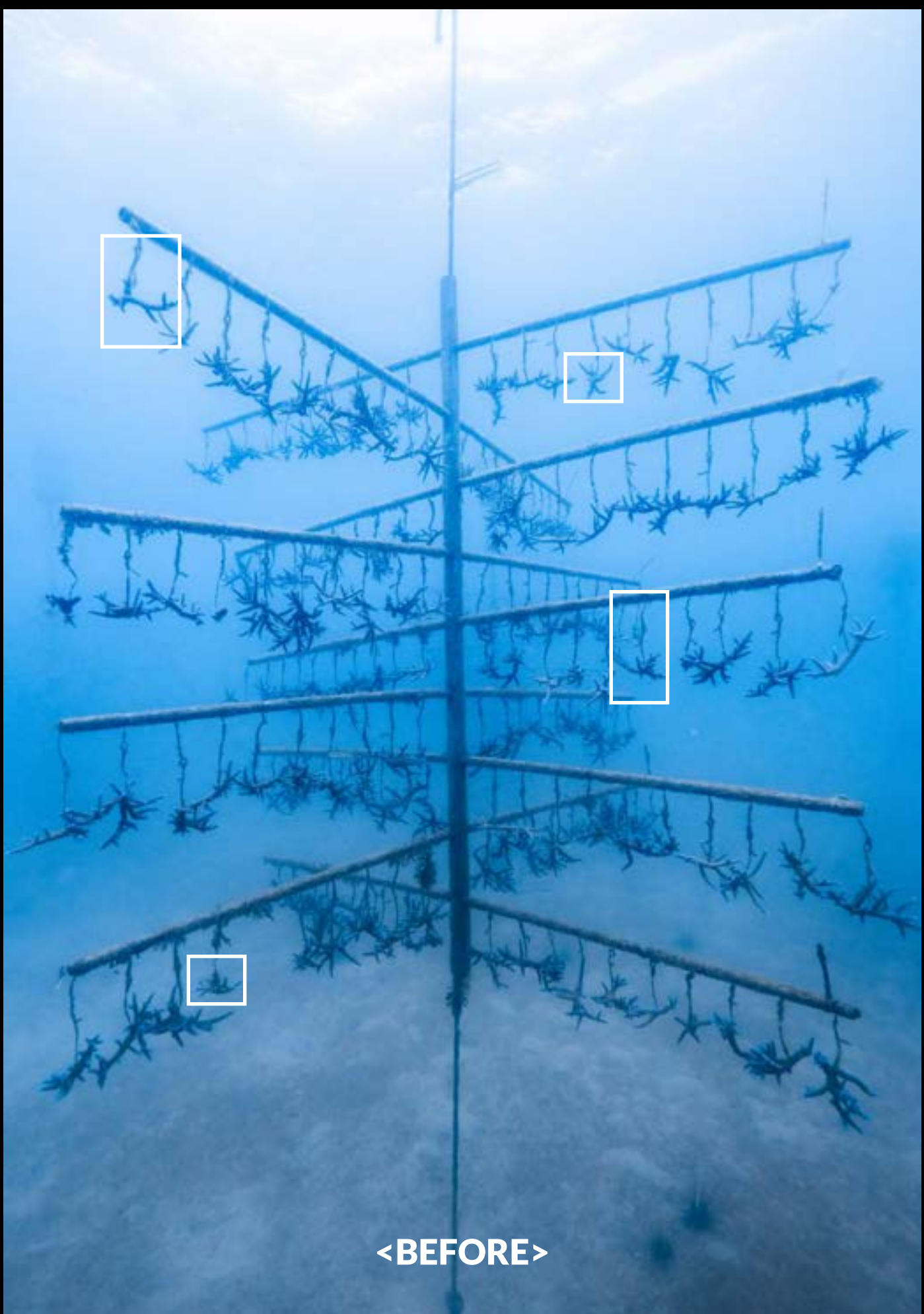
+16,639
CORALS GROWING
IN NURSERIES

+82%
SURVIVAL RATE
ON AVERAGE

2025 marked Thailand’s first full year of operations. The team doubled the amount of corals seeded in nurseries, while improving their methods, and with it their results.

Working in a completely new reef ecosystem required adapting our nursery designs and seeding methods to suit the local environment. These refinements led to a steady increase in survival rates in nursery throughout the year, which reached up to 90%.

The team tested different types of nursery designs across over 50 structures, from ropes to trees to cookies. For instance, after noticing the corals seeded on ropes weren’t responding



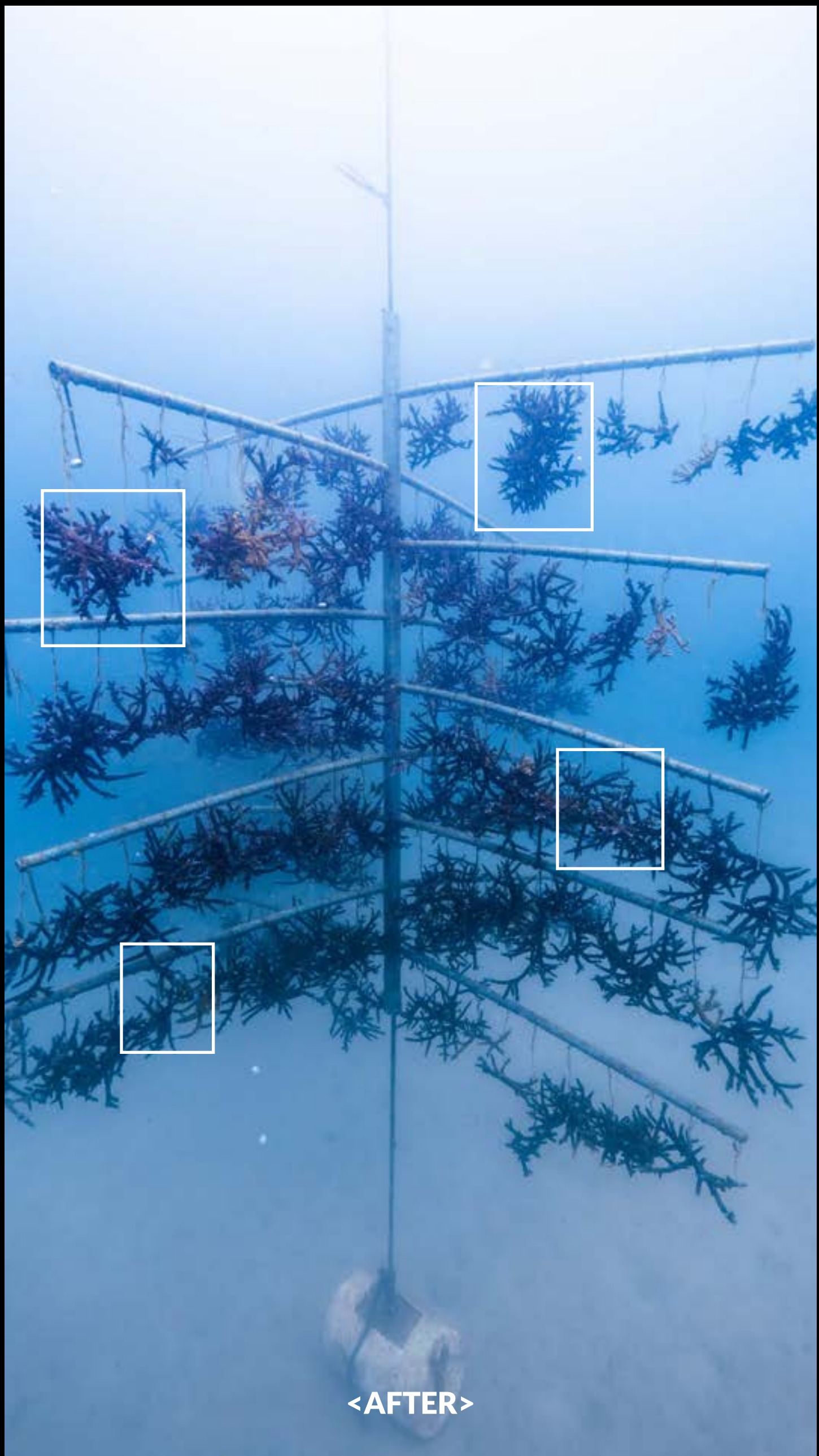
as well in this environment, the gardeners suspended the corals on stainless steel wire—a test that’s proven effective and inspired our other branches to trial the same approach. The team also continued collecting a diverse selection of donor colonies that survived the 2024 bleaching event, which will strengthen long-term resilience.

The growth rates of corals in Thailand have been equally promising, with some of them reaching maturity in under a year. This is above what’s typically observed in the country, according to the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources of Thailand (DMCR). Building on these results, the team began outplanting and is set to scale next year.

We are truly excited and delighted to have the opportunity to learn and exchange knowledge together between the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) and Coral Gardeners Thailand.

This collaboration has allowed us to explore and further develop a wider diversity of coral propagation techniques than ever before. Many of these species have never been cultivated in Thailand previously. This marks another important step forward in coral restoration in Thailand and represents a renewed hope for the future of Thai coral reefs.

– Dr. Lalita Putchim, Thailand
Department of Marine and
Coastal Resources





LAUNCHING THE FIRST LAND-BASED NURSERY IN THE COUNTRY

2025<<CG>>
<<<THAILAND>>>

Innovation continued above water at CG Thailand with our first land-based nursery at Koh Mak headquarters—the first of its kind in the country. The team has been conducting research and development across six tanks, with plans to eventually expand to 12 tanks, which could grow up to 10,000 corals across a diverse range of species.

The facility uses micro-fragmentation techniques that involve cutting corals into tiny pieces with a band saw to accelerate their growth beyond what is typically seen in the wild. This is particularly effective for slow-growing, massive, and encrusting corals, which are critical for restoring reef ecosystem biodiversity in

Thailand. But the benefits of this method extend far beyond that.

Land-based nurseries make coral ecosystems visible on land. “Land-based tanks make coral restoration accessible without needing people to get in the water,” says Christopher Koerber, Thailand’s Branch Manager. In 2025, the Thailand team piloted an open-house coral education experience where people from around the world could visit and interact with the corals, expanding public engagement with restoration.

To celebrate this milestone, we held a workshop that brought together scientists from the DMCR, local universities, professional divers, and Thai ambassadors.



<<A CLOSER LOOK>>

MEDITERRANEAN



<<CASE STUDY>>
ITALY<<2025

EXPLORING THE MEDITERRANEAN—FROM TROPICS TO TEMPERATE SEAS

In 2025, our Science, Labs, and Operations teams travelled the Mediterranean as part of our new partnership with SEA BEYOND, an initiative by Prada Group and UNESCO, working alongside marine biologist and Nat Geo Explorer, Dr Giovanni Chimienti.

The expedition aimed to gain a better understanding of the state of coral ecosystems in the Mediterranean and become familiar with temperate reef systems, testing how the methodologies we developed in tropics would translate in a completely new ecological context.

Their fieldwork spanned three

islands in Italy, bringing together dives, workshops, and conversations with local researchers, experts, and fishermen, as well as visits to marine parks and conservation initiatives.

As part of the expedition, the team conducted a first pilot gardening study with new species of corals, gorgonians, and carried out an initial field restoration test by rescuing star coral (*Astroides calycularis*). While early-stage, the outcome was encouraging & provided a strong foundation for continued exploration in the region.



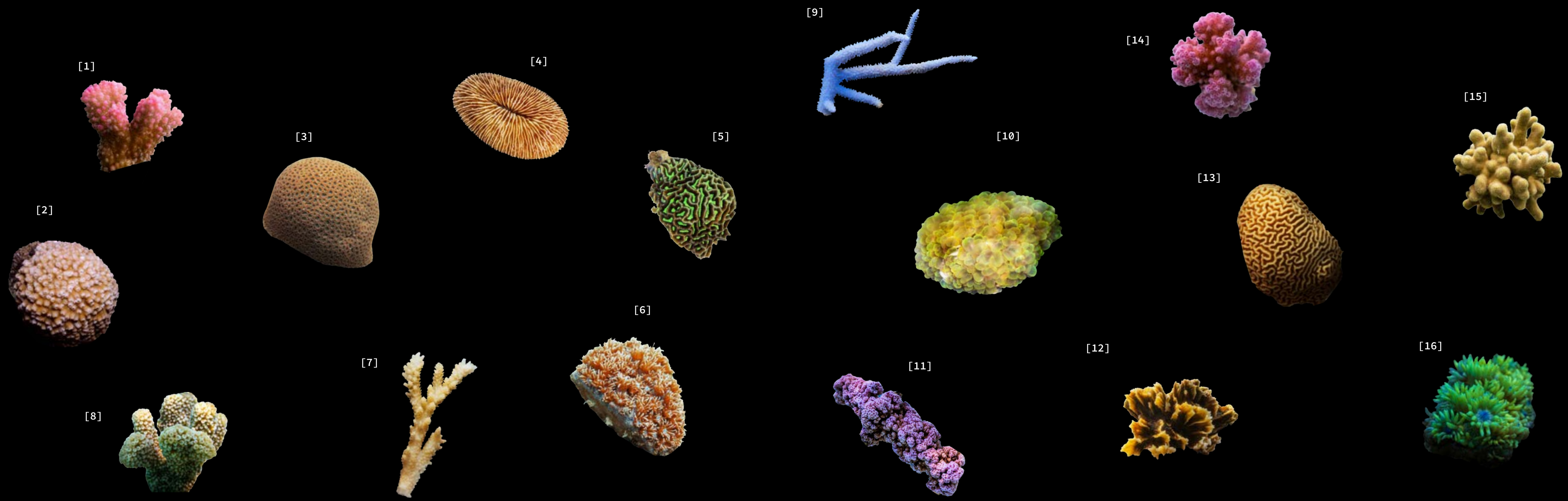
SEA BEYOND





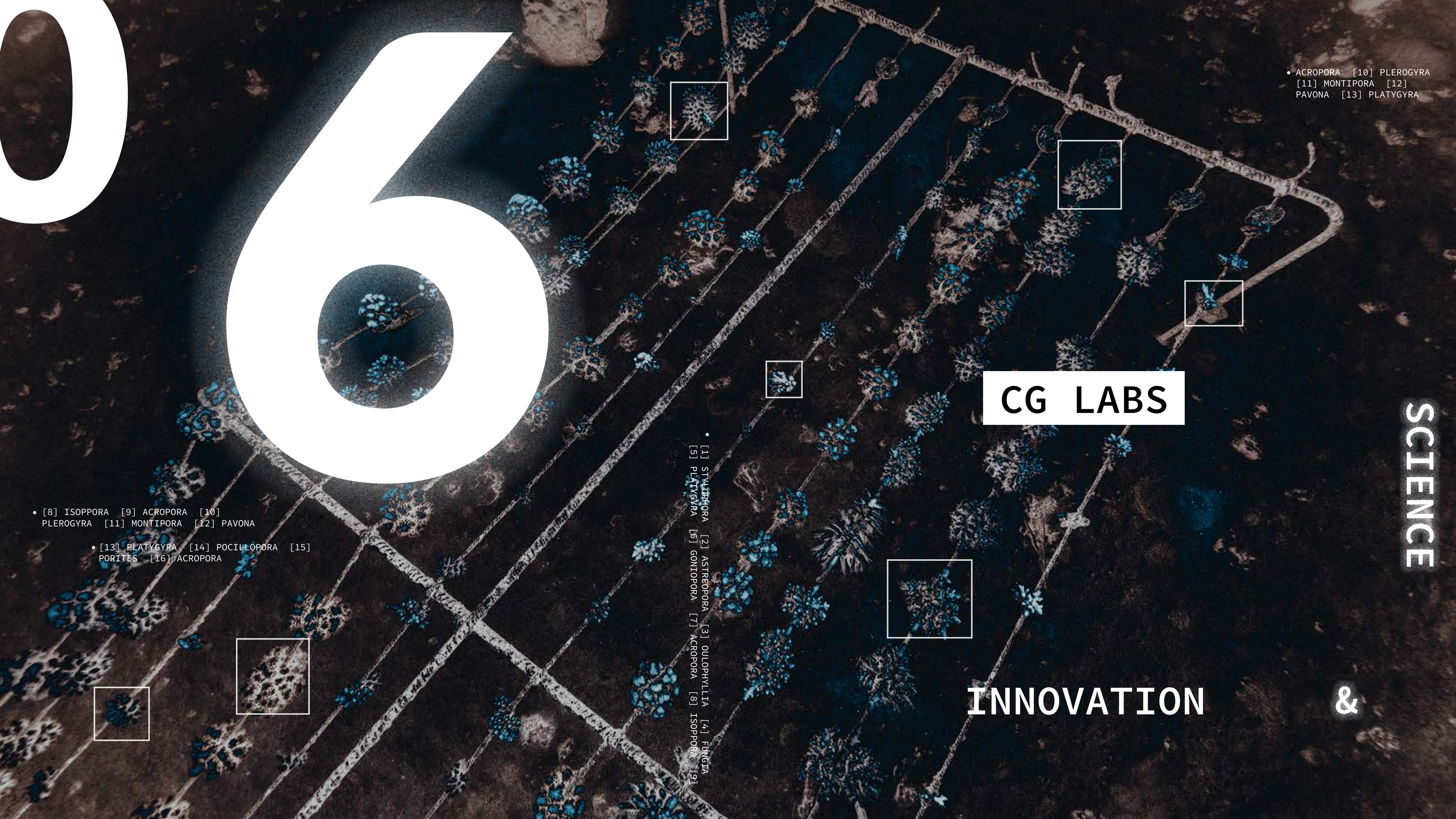
A LIVING LABORATORY

Across all our sites, we work with over 103 coral species spanning 24 genera, with varying morphologies and ecological functions. Our gardens serve as unique field laboratories to advance science in real-world conditions—spaces where we observe, test, and identify the most resilient and diverse species needed to rebuild balanced ecosystems.



+103 DIFFERENT SPECIES RESTORED
+24 GENERA

- | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|-----|-----------|------|-----------|------|-------------|
| [1] | STYLOPHORA | [5] | PLATYGYRA | [9] | ACROPORA | [13] | PLATYGYRA |
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CG LABS

SCIENCE

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INNOVATION

&



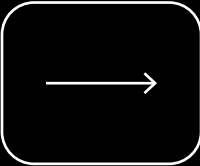
HOW WE MEASURE REEF HEALTH





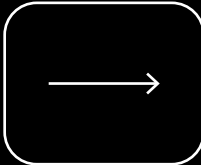
To restore coral reef ecosystems, you first need to learn what a healthy reef sounds, looks, and acts like. But one of the biggest challenges of reef restoration is monitoring, given how time-intensive it is and how difficult it can be to ensure accuracy.

Over the past few years, CG Labs, our in-house research and development center, has created different tools and techniques to better analyze, understand, and restore coral reef ecosystems.



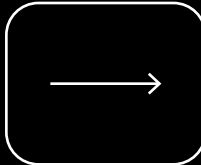
CORAL SURVIVAL

The percentage of our planted corals that remain alive once on the reef and over time.



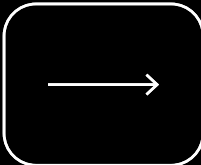
CORAL COVERAGE

The proportion of living coral that makes up the reef versus other elements like sand, rock, and algae.



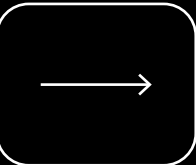
REEF COMPLEXITY

The three-dimensional structure of the reef across multiple spatial scales, which provides complex habitat to a diverse assemblage of marine life.



ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION

The natural functions that enable the reef to sustain itself, such as reproduction and spawning, recruitment, and bioacoustic activity.



MARINE BIODIVERSITY

The variety and abundance of marine species found within the reef, from corals to fish to the smallest invertebrates, all playing a role.



<<LABS<<<<
INNOVATION>>>>
<<<<UPDATE>>>>

ReefOS: OUR DIGITAL RESTORATION SUITE

In 2025, our CG Labs team of engineers and scientists continued developing and advancing ReefOS: our suite of tools built to monitor the entire restoration process, from site selection to nursery maintenance and outplanting. Across all our sites, the gardeners

use these tools to track the corals we plant, monitor, and outplant. By standardizing restoration practices across regions, ReefOS allows us to measure impact, replicate what works, and scale our efforts worldwide.

REEFMANAGER

A comprehensive scientific dashboard used to analyze and visualize our restoration footprint, including coral diversity, health, growth, bleaching, and survival across nurseries and outplant sites.



REEFCAM

A monitoring system powered by AI that captures and analyzes images and soundscapes from our sites to track biodiversity trends and detect changes in real time with more precision.



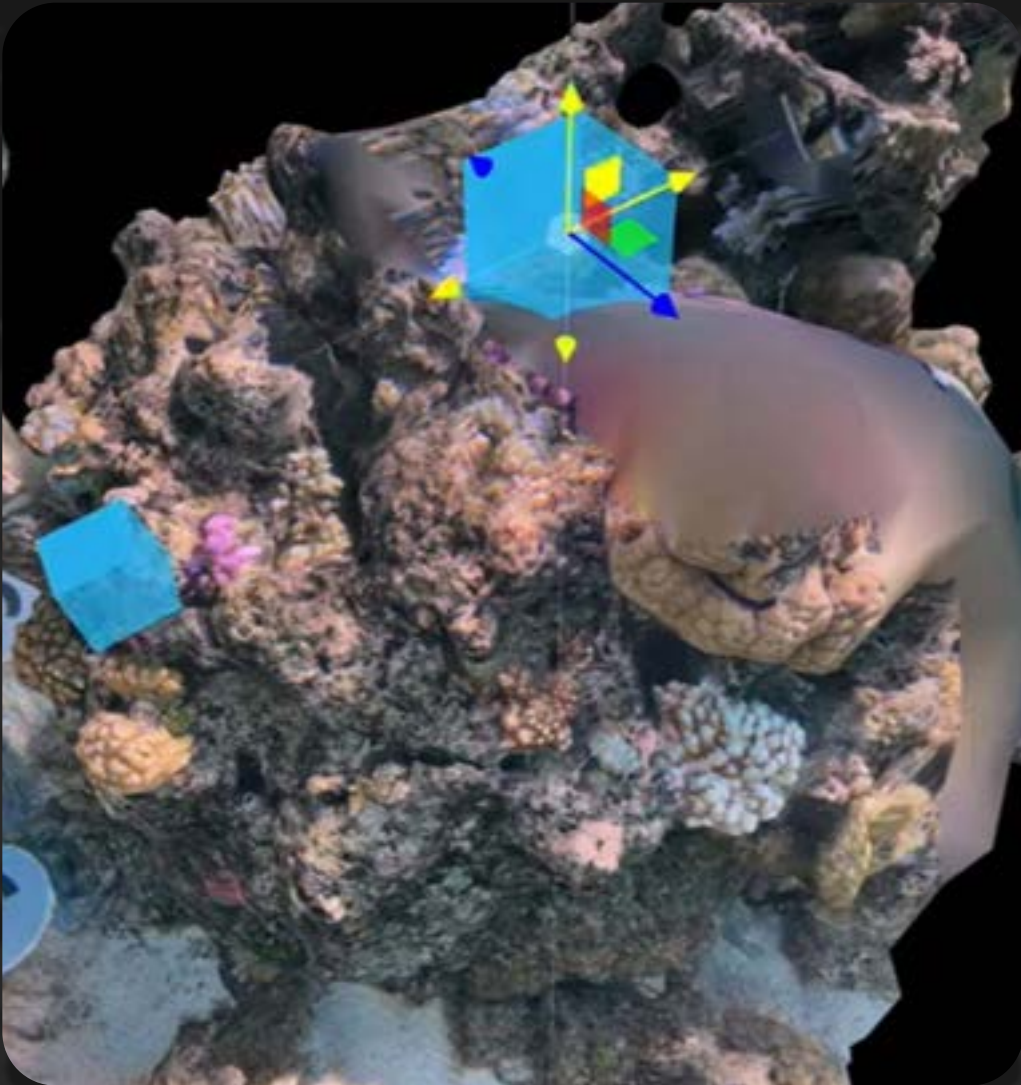
REEFAPP

A field data collection app that has sped up monitoring tenfold. Instead of writing on underwater slates, gardeners now use iPhones to collect data, photos, and videos to track coral progress from the nursery to the reef.



SPATIAL INTELLIGENCE

A purpose-built pipeline that transforms ReefApp data and imagery into detailed 3D reef models and enables advanced monitoring through AI-powered image analysis and photogrammetry, providing unprecedented insights into reef ecosystems.





<<LABS<<<<
INNOVATION>>>>
<<<<UPDATE>>>>

INTRODUCING SPATIAL INTELLIGENCE: OUR BIGGEST INNOVATION YET

One of the hardest parts of reef restoration is maintaining and monitoring our outplant sites. Unlike nurseries, outplant sites are complex, irregular, and slow to measure consistently and at scale.

Traditionally, outplant monitoring requires time-intensive dives that only capture a fraction of what there is to know about the reef.

But in 2025, CG Labs changed that.

The team has advanced and automated our photogrammetry workflow into an iPhone-based system that captures detailed, spatially accurate 3D models of the reef in a fraction of the time. What previously took hours underwater can now be captured in a single field session, reducing

dive time while increasing the quality of data collected.

Using an iPhone and ReefApp, the gardeners can now create full spatial records that can be revisited, measured, and compared over time. From simple reef footage, the system reconstructs complex ecological data, tracking survival rates, coral cover, reef composition, and growth with a level of consistency that wasn't possible before at scale.

Throughout the year, the team has been field-testing this system in real conditions—mapping sections of the reef by overlapping hundreds of images captured using ReefApp.

This unlocks a fundamental shift in

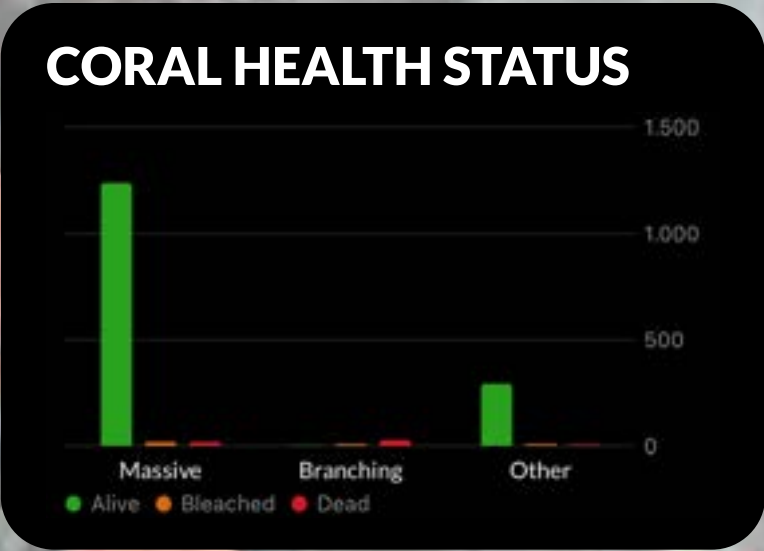
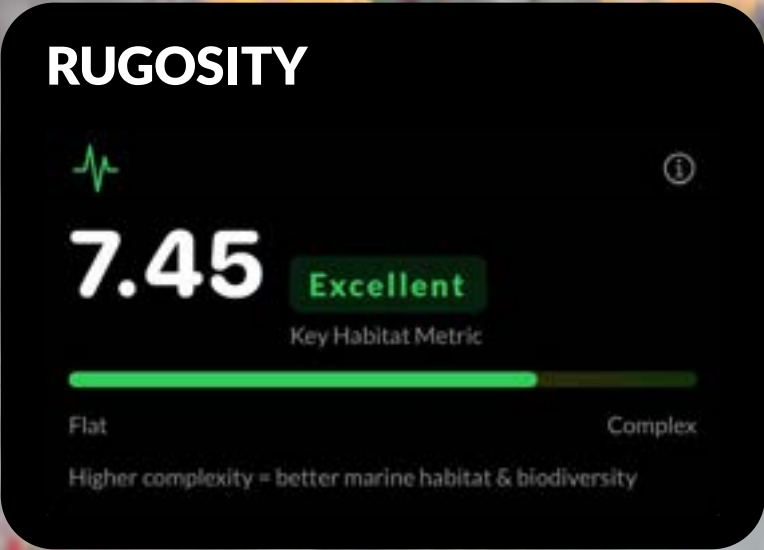
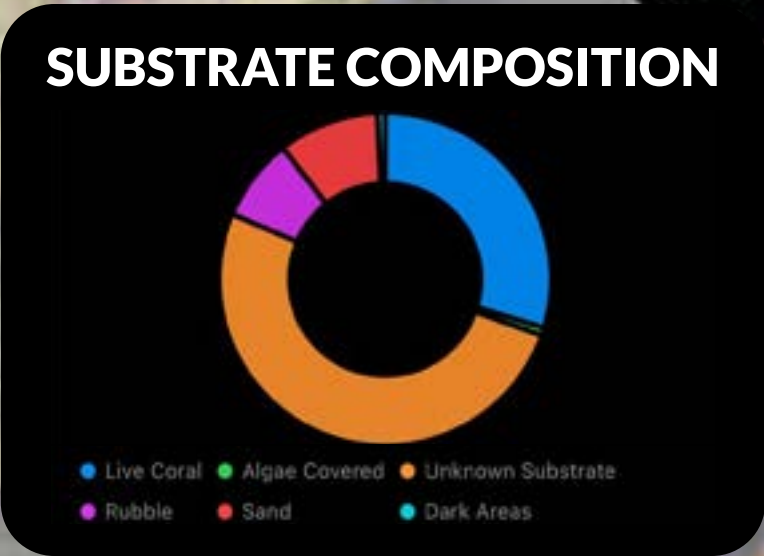
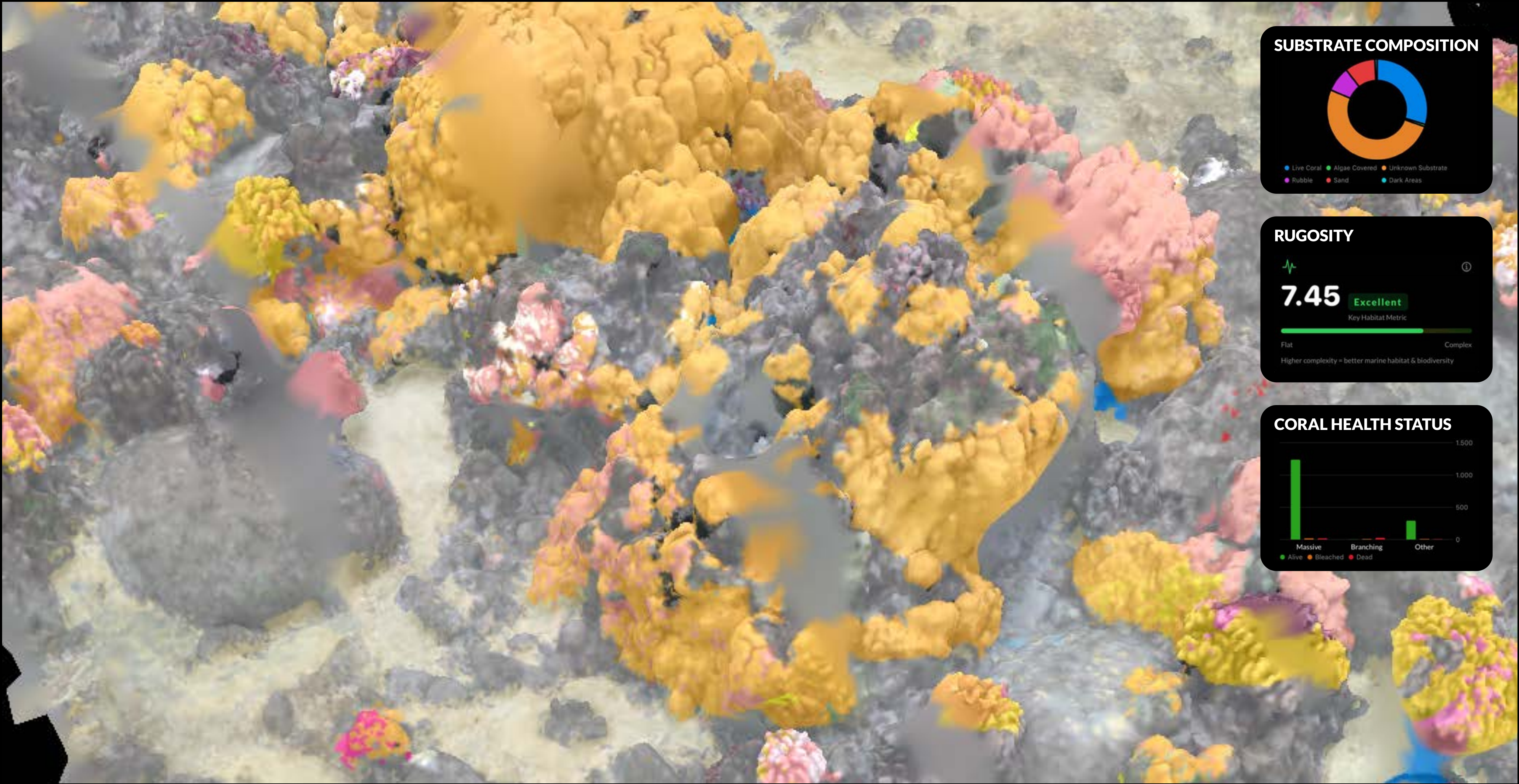
how we understand our restoration sites.

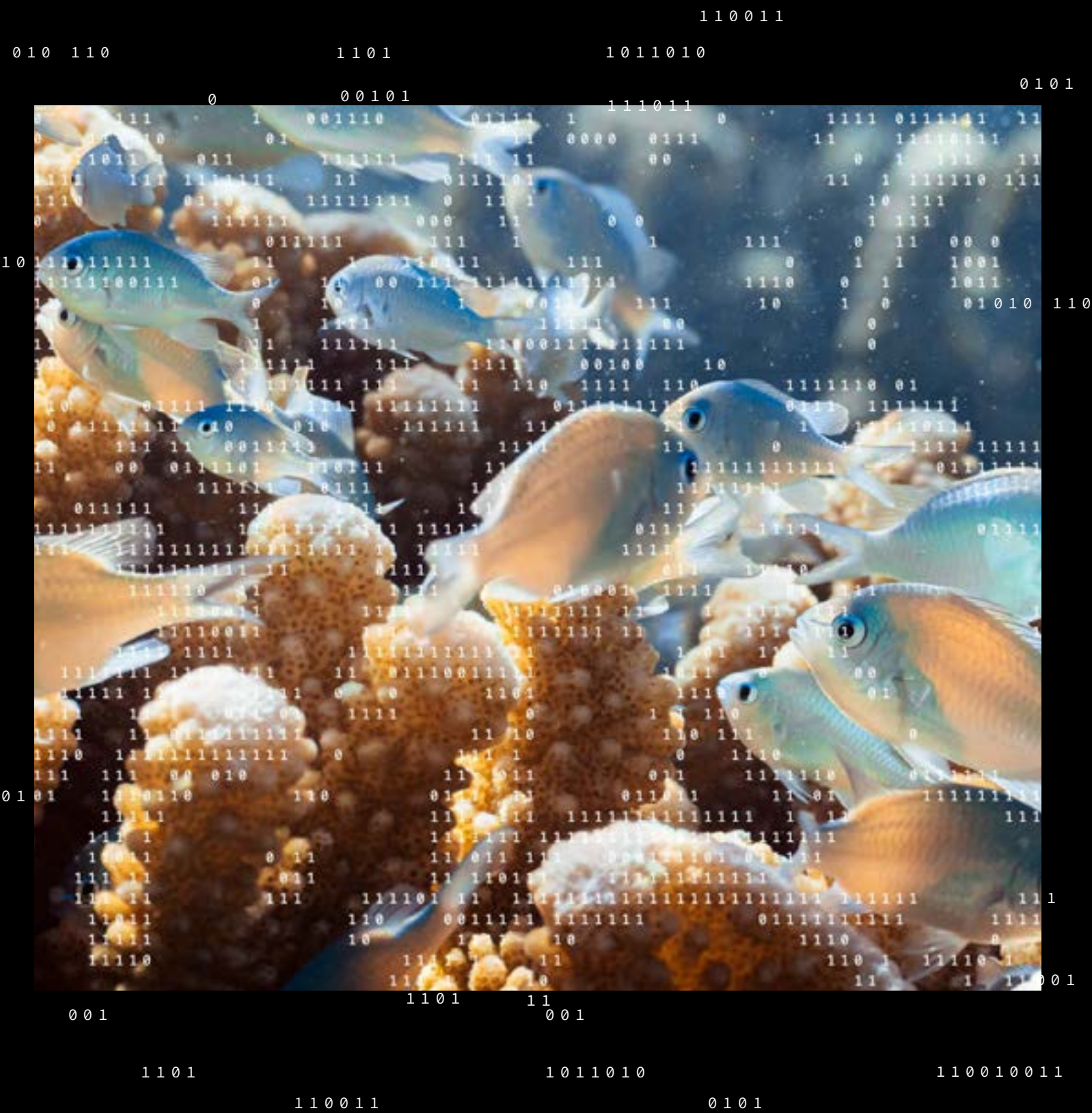
Instead of isolated snapshots, we can now build living digital representations of the reef that can hold spatially rich datasets representing change over time. Entire reef sections can be revisited and compared consistently across regions, creating a shared spatial language for reef health.

This has radically shifted what's possible for reef restoration and monitoring, making it possible for us to scale the consistency and precision of our work across vastly larger areas than before.



DR. HANNAH STEWART
DIRECTOR OF RESTORATION SCIENCE





<<CG LABS<<<
INNOVATION>>>>

eDNA: BRINGING LEADING RESEARCH TO THE FIELD

A healthy reef is never still. It hums, pulses, and shifts with colour and movement, an ecosystem so dense that even the water carries its signature.

Everything alive on the reef is constantly shedding traces of itself in the sea. Cells drift from coral tissue or microscopic material released as different species swim through the reef. This is the premise of eDNA, or environmental DNA. The process of filtering seawater to capture DNA cells shed by living organisms like fish, corals, and invertebrates.

Until recently, we measured the return of biodiversity at the sites where we plant corals using computer vision and bioacoustics through our AI-camera system. This year, in collaboration with University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB), we began field testing this emerging new monitoring tool, which gives a fast, big picture view of what’s happening within the ecosystem.

In 2025, we began sampling directly at our restoration sites in Mo’orea. Ordinarily, studies like these can take decades to unfold, but CG Labs is working with the UCSB team to bring leading-edge tools for practical use in the field much faster. Just a single sample of seawater can trace all the different species present on the sites.

Moving forward, we’re continuing to explore how eDNA can deepen our understanding of reef ecosystems, revealing hidden layers of microscopic data invisible to the eye.

“eDNA has the potential to provide very comprehensive data on the reef, very fast. You take a water sample, filter it, send it to a lab, and it comes back with an incredibly rich dataset. That’s what excites me: the potential for a very efficient way to monitor reefs.”

DR. RICH WILLIAMS
COMPUTATIONAL ECOLOGIST AT CG LABS



PEOPLE

A [4] FUNGIA [5] PLATYGyra [6] GONiOPORA [7]
SOPORA [9] ACROPOra [10] PLEROGYra [11] MON-
YONA [13] PLATYGyRA [14] POCILLOPOra [15] PO-

7



•[1] STYLOPHORA [2] ASTREOPORA [3]
OULOPHYLLIA [4] FUNGIA

• [10] PLEROGYRA [11] MONTIPORA [12]
PAVONA [13] PLATYGyRA [14] POCILLO-
POra [15] PORITES [16] ACROPOra



LOCALISING IMPACT IS THE BLUEPRINT

FOR THE BLUE ECONOMY





PLACING WORLD-CLASS RESTORATION IN LOCAL HANDS

+80
TEAM MEMBERS

+11
FULL-TIME SCIENTISTS

+58%
OF WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

In 2025, the team grew to 80 people across our three branches and around the world. We’re an unexpected mix of scientists, engineers, artists, and island kids, from different backgrounds, but all driven by the same creative and punk-rock spirit needed to change the world.

We believe that people who should be restoring the reef are those who know it best. That’s why we put our blueprint methodology and tools developed in collaboration with CG Labs into the hands of the people who live near the reef and already have a relationship with it. This unique combination of cutting-edge science and generational knowledge brings to the field, strengthening how we restore the reef.





“Every day it’s the fun, it’s the excitement, it’s the spirit that everybody brings to the team. And it’s pretty amazing seeing that what you’re doing is actually making a difference.”

KOLORA, RESTORATION MANAGER
FIJI



HONO, RESTORATION MANAGER
MO’OREA

“Restoration is like being a parent: you take care of your children—in this case, the corals. You make sure they don’t get sick so they can grow properly. Then you transplant them onto the reef and let them live their lives. Seeing the whole restoration site really gives hope for the future.”



CORAL GARDENING: OFFICIALLY THE WORLD'S COOLEST JOB

At the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) in Nice, France, in June 2025, our team took part in a series of events that brought coral gardening into the global conversation. The highlight was the French Polynesian government announcing its support to recognize coral gardening as an official profession, creating a path for more people to make a living caring for the reefs they call home.

“The Coral Gardeners, this local crew of passionate young rebels, in the best sense of the word, is an initiative I proudly support. Together we will be working to launch the very first training program for coral gardeners, opening the door for as many young Polynesians as possible to embrace this profession in the most beautiful office in the world.”

MOETAI BROTHERSON

PRESIDENT OF FRENCH POLYNESIA



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- [3] OULOPHYLLIA [4] FUNGIA [5] PLATYGYRA [6] GONIOPORA [7] ACROPORA [8] ISOPORA [9] ACROPORA [10]

MOVEMENT

- [1] STYLOPHORA [2] ASTREOPORA [3] OULOPHYLLIA [4] FUNGIA [5] PLATYGYRA [6] GONIOPORA [7] ACROPORA [8]

- [3] OULOPHYLLIA [4] FUNGIA [5] PLATYGYRA [6] GONIOPORA [7] ACROPORA [8] ISOPORA [9] ACROPORA [10] PLEROGYRA

- [15] PORITES [16] ACROPORA



HOW TO BUILD A GLOBAL MOVEMENT

Over the years, our grassroots project has grown into a global movement powered by millions. By making conservation accessible, we want to give everyone the power to revive the ocean, one coral at a time.



<<<<CG>>>>
<<<<PEOPLE>>>>

GIVING MORE PEOPLE THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE THE REEF

+3,467
PEOPLE DIRECTLY
EDUCATED IN 2025

+520
KIDS EDUCATED

+497
WORKSHOPS

In 2025, we educated thousands of people about our restoration work through community workshops, educational programs, and guided tours. We welcome everyone to the world of coral gardening, from school kids to fishermen, tourists, and government officials.

In French Polynesia, we continued our educational program with the local kids and surfers of Teahupo'o, where they tended their own garden in the Marine Educational Area of the lagoon. While in Fiji, the team ran regular awareness sessions at our partner site, Six Senses Fiji, where people got involved in

the mission every week. Over in Thailand, the team piloted their first land-based nursery tours, with plans to officially launch in 2026.

More than 2,000 people from around the world joined us for an ecotour in Mo'orea in 2025. The Fiji branch also launched Xperience tours, allowing guests to experience a day in the life of a coral gardener within a different culture and ecosystem. More than just funding the mission, Xperience tours generate deeper awareness and advocacy, inspiring people to share their experiences and take action.



LEBA, BRANCH MANAGER
FIJI



“I want future generations, my kids,
grandkids, to experience real reefs,
not have to go to a museum to see
what a turtle or coral looked like.”



BOOK YOUR TOUR





<<<<<<CG>>>>>>
<<<<<CULTURE>>>>>>
<<<IMMERSE>>>

KEEPING RESTORATION ROOTED IN LOCAL HERITAGE



Across all our branches, staying rooted in local culture while reaching the world is a key part of our movement.

In 2025, we had the honour of welcoming Nainoa Thompson, renowned navigator and president of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, along with the crew of Hōkūleʻa, in our coral gardens as they sailed to Moʻorea using stars as a map.

Their visit marked 50 years since the Hōkūleʻa canoe was launched to continue the art and science of traditional Polynesian voyaging. The canoe became a symbol of cultural revival and environmental stewardship.

As part of the celebrations for their voyage to Moʻorea, we hosted a workshop on coral gardening and created a nursery in their name, finding new ways within an old tradition, to care for the ocean.





“Teach the children to love
the Earth, and they will
change it.” NAINOA THOMPSON





<<<<<<CG>>>>>>
<<<<<CULTURE>>>>>>
<<UPDATE>>>
**BRINGING
CONSERVATION
INTO CULTURE**

+1 MILLION
FOLLOWERS

+100
AMBASSADORS

+65
MEDIA FEATURES

Breaking from the traditional conservation playbook, we have led the movement with creativity, art, and culture to inspire more people to care about the ocean.

In 2025, we reached a new milestone of 1 million people following on Instagram, building a growing community around coral conservation. Our mission was also

amplified by international media, such as TIME100, Financial Times, Paris Match, and ambassadors such as Juanpa Zurita, who joined us in Mo’orea with our partner Kenzo Parfums.

We brought the reef to some of the world’s biggest stages in 2025, including the UN Ocean Conference in Nice and New York Climate Week,

where we launched our new brand film and joined the first edition of THE NAT, the Met Gala for nature, alongside icons like Sylvia Earle, Billie Eilish, and Harrison Ford.

These are some of the places we platformed the reef in 2025:





In 2025, our project was featured across two Apple campaigns, bringing coral restoration into the broader cultural landscape.

As part of the Shot on iPhone campaign, we documented a day in the life at Coral Gardeners using their new iPhone 17 Pro, showcasing its Dual Capture feature, which simultaneously records what’s in front of the camera and the person behind. The final video was shared as a collaborative post with Apple’s Instagram account, giving

their 36+ million followers a tour of our coral gardens. We were also featured in Apple’s global campaign, Great Ideas Start On Mac, narrated by the late Jane Goodall. The ad highlights the idea that all meaningful work begins the same way—as a flicker on a screen. Our work was highlighted through our monitoring software, developed by CG Labs, running on a Mac. The campaign ran across broadcast and social platforms, reaching millions and introducing new people to the movement.

SHOT ON IPHONE

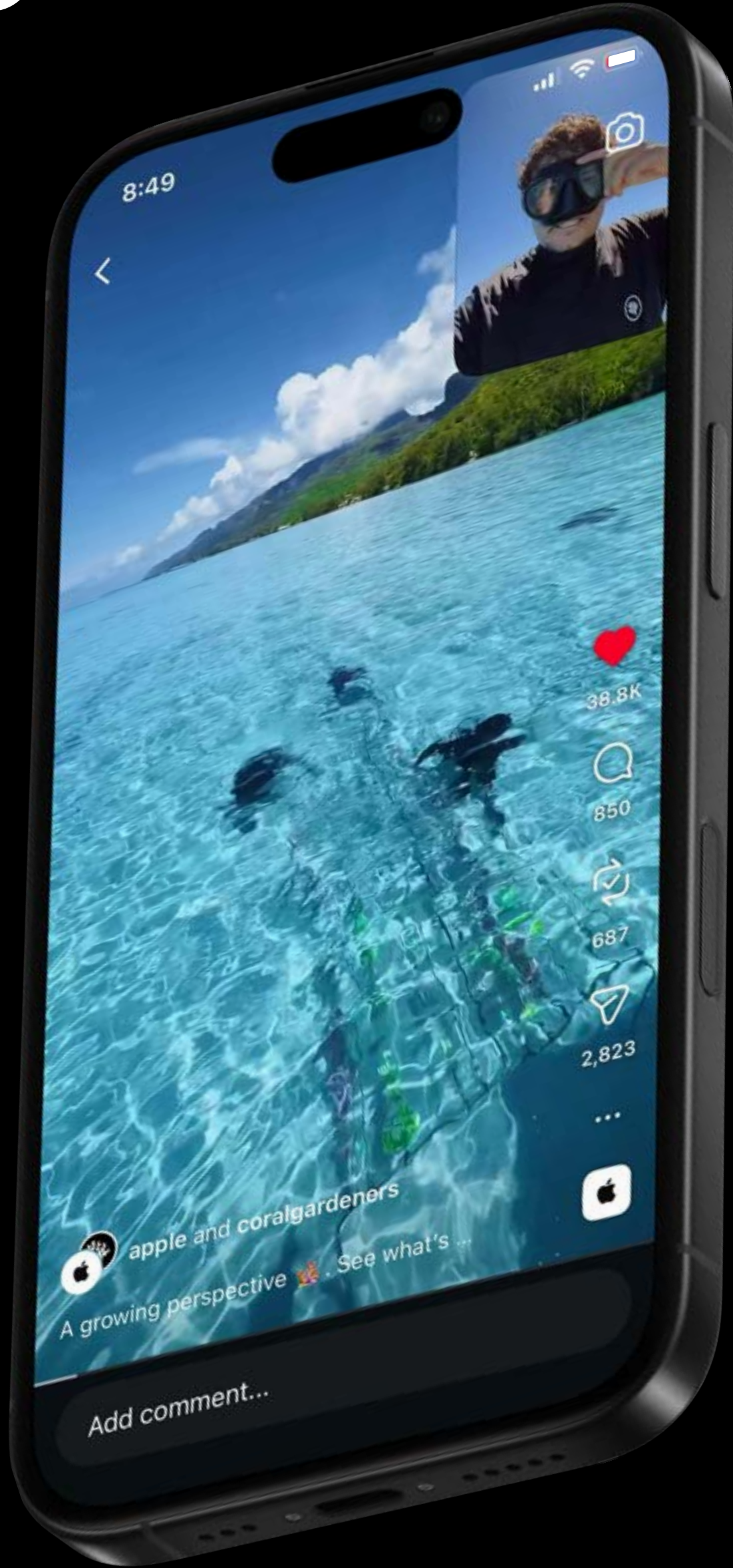
MAC CAMPAIGN

<<CG>>
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<<<<IMMERSE>>>>

CAMPAIGNS
WITH APPLE



apple and coralgardeners





<<CG<<<
CULTURE>>
<<PARTNERS<<

RESTORATION IS A COLLECTIVE EFFORT



Our work is possible thanks to interconnected relationships all contributing to ocean conservation in their own way.

In 2025, we continued to grow our network of like-minded brand partners, philanthropic supporters, and individuals who adopted corals and helped us scale our restoration footprint, further innovation, and reach more people for the reef.

Among our newest partnerships was our collaboration with SEA BEYOND, a Prada Group and UNESCO initiative focused on preserving coral reefs through science and education. Together,

we also created an educational module on coral reefs for secondary schools to inspire the next generation worldwide. We also launched L’Eau Pure Parfum with Kenzo, as their new ambassadors.

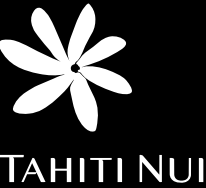
We’re deeply grateful to our partners for their support in advancing reef restoration.

To help revive the ocean and become a stakeholder for the future of the reef, contact us.

Coral Gardeners is officially recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization in the U.S (EIN 33-2816761)

DONATE NOW

CORPORATE PARTNERS



FOUNDATIONS AND PHILANTHROPISTS

ONLY ONE, KEVIN RICE, MARK PATHY, THE WANDERLUST FUND, FOCUSED ON NATURE, FLORA FAMILY FOUNDATION, THE KISSICK FAMILY FOUNDATION, SCHUMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, SCHMIDT MARINE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS, BRUCE AND CAROLYN COSTIN MARTIN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, ICONIQ IMPACT OCEAN CO-LAB





GENERATING A GROUNDSWELL OF SUPPORTERS

+15,564
NEW CORAL ADOPTERS IN 2025

In 2025, a record number of people adopted corals, growing our global community of supporters to over 56,000 strong—all helping to breathe new life into the ocean.

To connect the world more closely to our work underwater, we introduced site-specific adoption, allowing people to support the nurseries that need it most and follow the restoration cycle of the gardeners. Through our AI-powered platform, adopters receive a real photo of their coral once it's planted, along with regular updates from that site to track their impact.

Versace also joined the efforts in 2025 and adopted corals from our new site in Bora Bora, to give to its clients and introduce them to coral conservation.

[ADOPT A CORAL](#)



In 2025, we welcomed one of our heroes, Dr. Sylvia Earle, a renowned marine biologist and founder of Mission Blue, thanks to our long-time partner Rolex and its Perpetual Planet Initiative to help raise awareness about our latest branch in Thailand.

first Mission Blue Hope Spot, as part of a global network of marine protected areas. This brought us one step closer to a meaningful milestone that could secure greater protection for the reefs in the region, giving them a better chance to thrive again.

We spent a week with Sylvia, showing her our land-based nursery at our headquarters and diving underwater to explore the reef and the corals the Thai team had been growing. The visit became a platform for global storytelling, featured in the Rolex documentary series Reach for the Crown, and covered by media such as National Geographic and the Bangkok Post, alongside creators like Alice Aedy, Pier Nirandara and Rachel Moore, reaching millions.

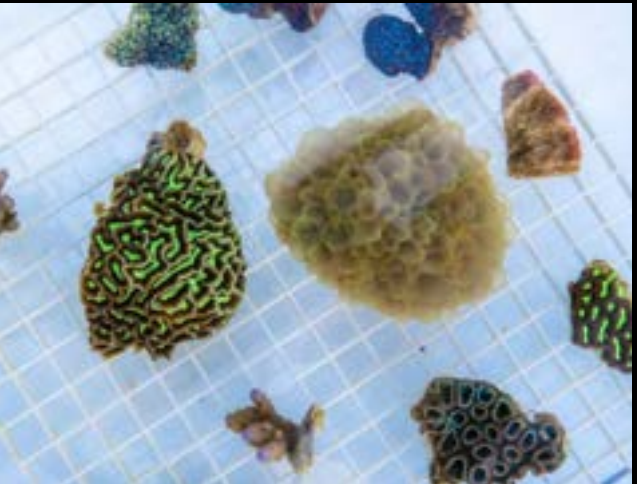
“One of the most important things that Coral Gardeners, Mission Blue, and Rolex are doing is celebrating a relationship with nature and understanding that we need to take care of the fabric of life that makes our existence possible.”

DR. SYLVIA EARLE

Having witnessed our work firsthand, Sylvia believes our branch could become Thailand’s

WATCH THE DOCUMENTARY

<<CG>>
<<<MILESTONE>>>
**SCOUTING FOR THE
NEXT HOPE SPOT—DR.
SYLVIA EARLE VISITS CG
THAILAND WITH ROLEX**





• [10] PTEROGYRA [11] MONTIPORA [12] PAVONA [13] PLATYGYRA
[14] POCCILOPORA [15] PORITES [16] ACROPORA

FUNDING

• [3] OULOPHYLLIA [4] FUNGIA [5]
PLATYGYRA [6] GONIOPORA [7] ACROPORA
[8] ISOPORA [9] ACROPORA



SAVING THE REEF ISN'T CHEAP

BUT WHAT'S THE COST IF WE DON'T?

Without coral reefs, life as we know it would be fundamentally altered. Coral reefs support marine biodiversity, protect coastlines, and hold untapped potential for medical discoveries. Funding the future of the reef isn't optional. Coral reefs are relied upon by millions of people and marine species, and protecting something this vital requires more than just a traditional NGO model.



09<FUNDING
<<CORAL<<
GRADENERS<<\$\$\$

A HYBRID MODEL FOR RESILIENCE AND SCALE

Coral Gardeners combines an NGO and LLC Model. Together, these two entities form a financial ecosystem designed to make reef restoration resilient, scalable, and less dependent on donations alone.

In 2025, we kept increasing our total revenue, raising funds for the reef through multiple revenue streams and reinvesting directly into our core missions. From brand partnerships and reef-inspired merchandise to immersive experiences, we’re turning creativity into capital to fund ocean conservation.



\$10M GLOBAL BUDGET

IN 2025 & ACROSS
MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMS

CORAL RESTORATION
& EDUCATION 45%

INNOVATION R&D
CG LABS 12%

FUNDRAISING
& OUTREACH 10%

OPERATING COSTS 24%

E-COMMERCE &
MERCHANDISING 09%

TOTAL REVENUE

\$7,195,429

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$7,087,353

NGO REVENUE

\$4,8M

Fund core missions
through fundraising,
donations and grants

LLC REVENUE

\$2,4M

Sustain the NGO through
e-commerce, merchandising
& partnerships

Every dollar we receive becomes action for the reef—from thousands of hours spent underwater, new monitoring tools created in CG Labs, and thousands of people educated.

But beyond the numbers, one metric matters most:

LIFE, UNDERWATER & ON LAND

• [10] PLEROGYRA [11] MONTIPORA [12] PAVONA [13] PLATYGYRA
[14] POCILLOPORA [15] PORITES [16] ACROPORA

• [1] STYLOPHORA [2] ASTREOPORA 10]
PLEROGYRA [11] MONTIPORA [15]
PORITES [16] ACROPORA

CON-

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CLUSION

[11] MONTIPORA [15]
PORITES [16] ACROPORA



A LIVING FUTURE

Reef restoration is no longer a question of possibility, but of speed, scale, and collective will.

As coral reefs decline under increasing climate pressure, restoration needs to accelerate, reach further, and involve more people than ever before.

Over the past eight years, we've tested, adapted, and proven our methodology in real conditions on the reef.

Our work goes beyond planting corals. We rebuild resilient ecosystems, developing tools

through CG Labs to expand restoration across the ocean and place it in the hands of the people closest to the reef.

In 2025, this became the blueprint that we're now ready to scale.

With thousands of people reaching out over the years wanting to get involved, we're opening up new ways for more people to take part in restoration.

We see a future that gives power to the gardeners, where anyone, anywhere can garden the world back to life.



PRODUCED BY

Catherine Plourde
Spencer Kelly

Ella Liascos
Malvika Agarwal

All pictures taken by CG Media House.

CG Impact Report 2025

